

Extension News

FEBRUARY 2008

Utah State
UNIVERSITY

COOPERATIVE
extension

UTAH STATE MAGAZINE RECOGNIZES EXTENSION



The Utah State magazine honored Extension at the conclusion of its 100th anniversary for a job well done through years of changing needs.

Author Marilyn Liddle first re-capped the organization's roots in her article, "USU Extension: 100 Years of Statewide Service," and then explained the expansion of

programs that are offered. Grounded with a charge for each land-grant college to teach, perform research and outreach to the "rural democracy," the article said that Extension was disseminating information even before 1907.

The article listed many programs that benefit the entire family and community, not just the farmer. Extension addresses issues such as healthy marriage and child-rearing skills for Utah stepfamilies, Spanish translation for the Latino population, bankruptcy prevention, help for people filing tax returns or starting a home business and keeping food safe from bioterrorism.

"The problems that have come with demographic changes in Utah call for serious answers," Liddle wrote. "They seem more urgent now, springing from social dysfunction and modern stresses. Extension experts, whose knowledge is based on solid research, are also changing to be ready to help."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Utah Onion Association Winter Mtg.
Feb. 19 - Brigham

Diversified Ag Conf.
Feb. 20-22 - Logan
www.diverseag.org

Sheep and Goat Education Day
Feb. 23 - Provo

America Saves Week
Feb. 24-29
www.utahsaves.org

Utah Weed Control Association Conf.
Feb. 26-27 - Provo
www.utahweed.org

HORTICULTURAL GROWERS AND PROFESSIONALS GATHER

The Utah State Horticultural Association (USHA) annual convention was held at the Health/Justice Center in Provo on January 21-23 and featured four out-of-state speakers, along with USU faculty and USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service staff.

About 75 growers and professionals attended guest lectures and other proceedings and approximately 40 of the attendees also toured several fruit packing and processing facilities in Utah County on Monday.

"Two of the out-of-state speakers commented to me that they were impressed by the good relationship between the Utah tree-fruit industry and USU Extension," Diane Alston, USU Extension Entomologist said. "They also were impressed by the strong camaraderie among growers."

Invited convention speakers included Denise Neilsen, horticulturist, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; Nikki Rothwell, entomologist, Michigan State University; and several other professionals who provided insight on horticultural issues. Other experts who participated in the program from USU were Brent Black, Extension fruit specialist; Kent Evans, Extension plant pathologist; and Marion Murray, Integrated Pest Management project leader.



USU EXTENSION CO-SPONSORS DIVERSIFIED AG CONFERENCE

USU Extension co-sponsors the fifth annual Diversified Agriculture Conference Feb. 20-22 in the Eccles Conference Center.

Keynote speaker is George Wright, marketing vice president for Blendtec Inc., www.willitblend.com. With \$50, Wright started a marketing campaign for blenders. After placing a few short videos on the Internet, the company gained national and global awareness. Wright will discuss how they did it, lessons they learned and marketing tips for small companies.



Workshops include enterprise analysis, getting grants, understanding individual management styles and communicating with customers electronically through Web sites e-mail.

According to Ruby Ward, conference organizer and Extension agribusiness specialist, the target audience is farmers who would like to improve their farm operations and anyone who wants to explore developing or expanding new products or markets in the area of agriculture. For further information, contact Ward at 435-797-2323 or visit www.diverseag.org.

RECORD ATTENDANCE AT UTAH GREEN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

Utah Green Industry Conference and Trade Show experienced the greatest attendance in its nearly 15 years of existence, attracting more than 1,600 participants January 28-30 at the South Towne Center in Sandy.

On Tuesday, the keynote speaker, Jeff Thredgold, a self-titled “economic futurist,” who consults for Zion’s Bancorporation, kicked off the trade show with his light-hearted look at the future of the U.S. economy and its impact on businesses in the West. The trade show and conference is a collaborative effort between the Utah Nursery and Landscape Association (UNLA) and USU Extension. It attracts people, who attend not only for their own learning, but also to obtain continuing education credits.

“Having Extension folks moderating the sessions adds an element of professionalism to the conference,” said Heidi Kratsch, USU ornamental horticulture specialist and program leader for the conference. “No one knows more about keeping sessions and speakers on track than those of us in Extension.”

STATE 4-H AMBASSADOR THANKS SALT LAKE COUNTY MAYOR



A State 4-H Ambassador made a visit to Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Carroon Jan. 7 to share her message about the youth organization and thank him for his support.

Amelia Kranendonk, who is applying for her second year as an ambassador, shared a batch of her mother’s “famous” chocolate chip cookies with the mayor and spoke with him about her 4-H experience. Carroon gave her a Salt Lake County pin to wear on her green 4-H jacket after they discussed their similar participation in youth horse competitions.

“The mayor is such a loyal supporter of 4-H,” said Vicki Kranendonk, mother of Amelia. “It was quite nice to thank someone who is in the position to keep that support coming.”

The proud mother said that 4-H has been the best thing for her family in Rose Park. She said that they have gained life-long friendship and her children learned confidence in speaking and conducting meetings in front of people throughout the state.

UTAH SAVES WEEK FOCUSES ON BUILDING WEALTH, NOT DEBT

The Utah Saves program is helping Utahns realize they don’t have to be rich to build wealth. The simple message of the Saves Campaign is to help people create lifelong financial security by building wealth, not debt.

Through Utah Saves Week, Feb. 24 – March 2, Utahns are encouraged to take financial action and make commitments to save, invest and build wealth. During the week, Utah Savers are being rewarded with free events across the state.

“We are all smart people and know what we should be doing to save money, but most aren’t doing it,” said Ann House, Utah State University Extension bankruptcy prevention educator. “We have the information telling us to save and to stay out of debt, but we are still not doing it.”

Utah Saves, an initiative of USU Extension, United Ways of Utah and dozens of other community partners, is a free service to any Utahn. The program offers tips and tools to help consumers set goals and develop strategies to reach them, free e-newsletters and “wealth coaches.” Free classes and activities are being held in many Utah locations. Visit www.utahsaves.org or dial 2-1-1 for a listing of local events.

WELCOME ERIN FRANK



Please welcome Erin Frank as the new Plant Disease Diagnostician at the Utah Plant Pest Diagnostic Laboratory as of January 2. Erin is originally from Colorado and completed her bachelor's degree in soil and crop sciences at Colorado State University, where she worked with fungal, bacterial and viral diseases on onions and beans. She then received her master's degree in plant pathology from Kansas State University conducting research on prairie grass. Erin has studied a range of fungal species for her master's research and is also trained in molecular techniques, such as DNA analyses. She says she is looking forward to diagnosing plant diseases and being a part of Extension.

WELCOME KYLE JACKSON

Extension is pleased to welcome Kyle Jackson as the USU Educator in Morgan County, with a water quality and 4-H assignment. Jackson was born and raised ranching cattle in north eastern New Mexico. He graduated from Clayton High School in 1997 and then attended Ricks College for a year before serving a mission in the Japan, Hiroshima Mission. Upon returning from Japan, he obtained an associates degree in agronomy from BYU- Idaho.

Jackson attended USU for a year and returned to BYU-Idaho to get his bachelor's degree in agriculture business, science and technology. In 2006, Jackson acquired his master's degree in range science from New Mexico State University. He worked for New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service as both the 4-H and ag agent in Colfax County for nearly two years before coming to Utah State University. Jackson says he is happy to be here with USU Extension.



TAKE A LOOK AT THE RECENT EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Publications Completed in January 2008

[Meeting the Energy Needs of the Horse](#)
[Foal Hoof Care Fact Sheet](#)

Visit the USU Extension publication site by clicking [here](#).

HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT EXTENSION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Professional positions with Extension are currently open and we would like your help in spreading the word. Below is a list of positions needing to be filled. Please forward this list to anyone you know who might be interested in applying.

Northern Region

[4-H FitFactor Intern - Davis County](#)
[4-H Agent - Tooele County](#)
[Bear River Watershed Coordinator](#)
[Family and Consumer Science Educator - Salt Lake County](#)

Southeast Region

[Family and Consumer Sciences/4-H Agent - Summit County](#)

Southwest Region

[Family and Consumer Sciences/4-H Agent - Sanpete County](#)
[Family and Consumer Sciences/4-H Agent - Wayne County](#)
[Extension Assistant Professor and Agriculture/4-H Agent - Millard County](#)
[Staff Assistant - Washington County](#)

Visit the USU Extension employment site by clicking [here](#).