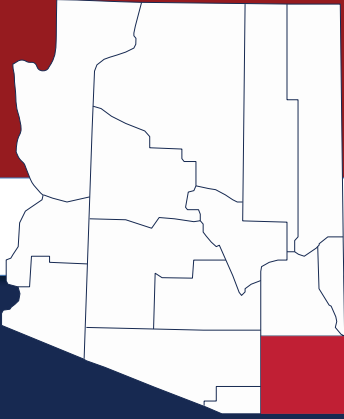
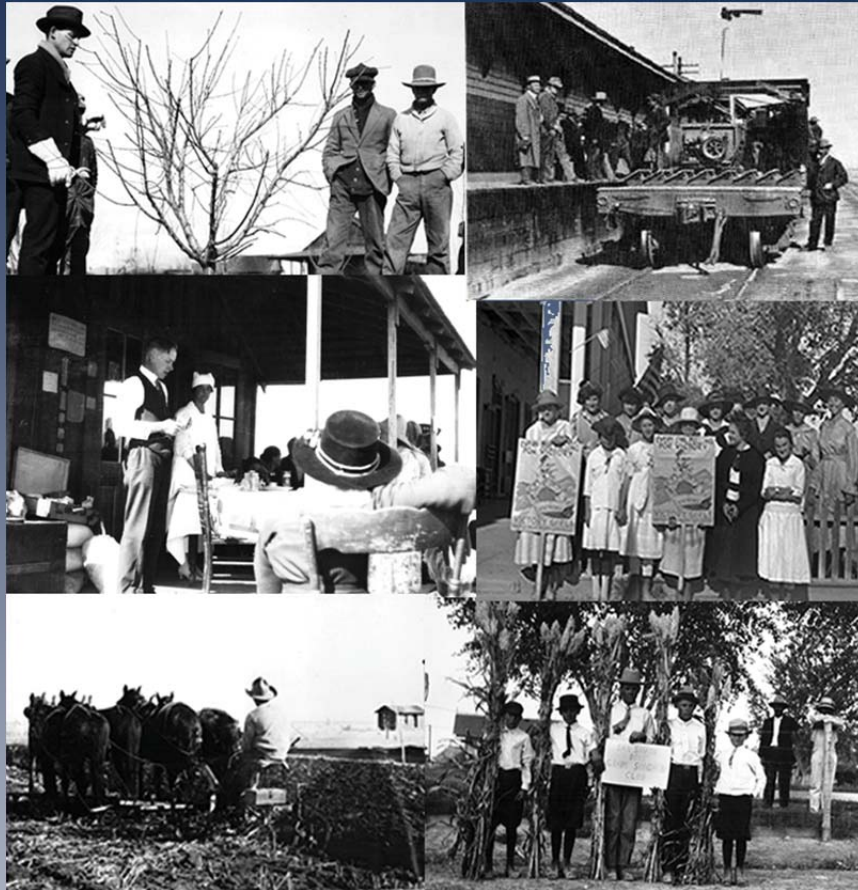


# Cooperative Extension



## Cochise County Annual Report 2014



**Improving Lives, Communities,  
and the Economy**



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF ARIZONA

# Celebrating

## 100 years ▶▶▶



Cooperative Extension enjoys a rich and proud history in this country. On May 8, 2014, we celebrated the Smith-Lever Act, which established the Agricultural Extension Service, known today as Cooperative Extension. Cooperative Extension is a unique educational partnership between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the nation's land grant universities and the county governments that extends research-based knowledge through a state-by-state network of extension educators. Working together, we recognize that we achieve much more than we can alone. While the authors of the enabling legislation for Cooperative Extension could not foresee the future, the mandates implicit within the legislation, is as applicable today as in 1914:

- **Serve Agriculture and the Public** - The Smith-Lever Act gave Extension a very broad clientele base—"the people of the United States"—yet also specified that its programs should be concerned with "agriculture and home economics and subjects relating thereto."
- **Define Agriculture Broadly** - The term "agriculture" was used in a comprehensive sense in the Smith-Lever Act and subsequent legislation to include producing, processing and marketing farm and forest products, plus those businesses and industries concerned with supplying the resources needs in the production and marketing process.
- **Enhance Human Development** - The underlying mandate is to provide educational programs for individuals and families which will enhance human development and maximize the individual's contribution to society.
- **Meet Local Problems** - Section 8 of the Smith-Lever Act establishes the need for additional assistance in areas faced with special or unusual hardships, and

acknowledges Extension's role in working with groups as well as individuals in meeting local problems.

At the heart of Cooperative Extension is the deep rooted belief that engaging people through applied research and education will improve the quality of their lives, communities and the economy. This mission is the driving force behind 100 years of Cooperative Extension in Arizona. Our ability to be relevant in the years to come is based on our ability to listen and respond to our "customers"--the people in our communities. We value our partnerships and believe community voices are critical to success.

Today, Cooperative Extension continues its important role, serving communities and families, supporting agriculture and empowering youth to be leaders. Regardless of the program, Extension expertise meets public needs at the local level through the involvement of volunteers, partners, stakeholders, and advisory committees. Extension would not be what it is today without their dedication and service. We are most grateful for their willingness to be partners in our journey to improve lives, communities and economies.

We look forward to working with you, as together we create the next chapters of our continuing history!



"Cochise County Cooperative Extension is the University of Arizona's contribution to keeping rural Arizona educated and informed through their many programs for toddlers through seniors. They enhance the lives of the people who participate in their programs."

– Ann English, Cochise County Board of Supervisors

The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension represents a unique three way partnership of the federal, state and county government to provide access to the Land Grant University System to local citizens. Partners include the United States Department of Agriculture, the University of Arizona and Cochise County. Regardless of the program, Extension expertise meets public needs at the local level through the involvement of volunteers, stakeholders and advisory committees. Our roots in communities help us understand local needs and put university expertise and connections where they can make a difference - both in people's lives and in their livelihoods. Increasingly, Extension serves a growing, more diverse constituency with fewer resources, utilizing methods that are timely, relevant and cost-effective. These Extension-driven programs leverage and multiply each dollar of county and state support with additional outside funding. Included in this report are a few highlights of Extension's impact on this county and its people during 2014.

## Cooperative Extension, Cochise County

### Faculty and Staff (as of 2/15/2015)

**Susan Pater**, County Director, 4-H Youth Development Agent  
**Mark Apel**, Community Resource Development Area Agent  
**Kim McReynolds**, Natural Resources Area Agent  
**Randy Norton**, Agriculture Area Agent  
**Darcy Tessman**, 4-H Youth Development Agent  
**Evelyn Whitmer**, Family & Consumer Sciences & Health Programs Agent

**Kathryn (Cado) Daily**, Water Resources Coordinator, Water Wise  
**Joyce Flieger**, Oral Health Professional, First Smiles

**Cynthia Aspengren**, Program Coordinator, Nutrition Educator  
**Ana Bae**, Instructional Specialist, Brain Builders  
**Andrew Brischke**, Research Specialist, Rangeland Monitoring  
**Susan Bronson**, Instructional Specialist, Water Wise & Energy Smart  
**Jan Groth**, Program Coordinator, Sr., Horticulture  
**Sandra Hurlbut**, Instructional Specialist Sr., Water Wise  
**Ron Serviss**, Instructional Specialist Sr., Water Wise & Energy Smart  
**Natoyah Swift**, Instructional Specialist, Nutrition Education  
**Norma Trejo**, Instructional Specialist, 4-H Youth Development  
**Heather Vaughn**, Program Coordinator Sr., Nutrition Education  
**Wendy West**, Instructional Specialist Sr., Oral Health , First Smiles  
**Maria Williams**, Research Specialist, Rangeland Monitoring

**Valerie Davidson**, Administrative Assistant  
**Tricia Dunham**, Administrative Assistant  
**Connie Forsyth**, Administrative Assistant  
**Kamie Gonzales**, Administrative Assistant, First Things First Programs  
**Krissy Horn**, Associate Accountant

**Donna Blackburn**, Office Assistant, on-call  
**Bill Cook**, Program Coordinator, Sr., Horticulture, on-call  
**Connie Dunham**, Office Assistant, on-call  
**Jessica Erickson**, Research Specialist, Rangeland Monitoring, on-call  
**Emma Melo**, Health Educator, on-call  
**Matt Olson**, Instructional Specialist Sr., 4-H Youth Development, on-call  
**Sparkle Short**, Instructional Specialist, 4-H Youth Development, on-call  
**Jody Sharp-Webb**, Instructional Specialist, Horticulture, on-call

## Extension Advisory Board

Dennis Moroney, Chair  
 Ron Bemis, Vice-Chair  
 Sandy Arevalos  
 Gwen Calhoun  
 Aaron Cardona  
 Barbara Clark  
 Kathleen Gomez  
 Julia Johnson  
 Dwayne Owen  
 Alan Seitz  
 Nathan Watkins

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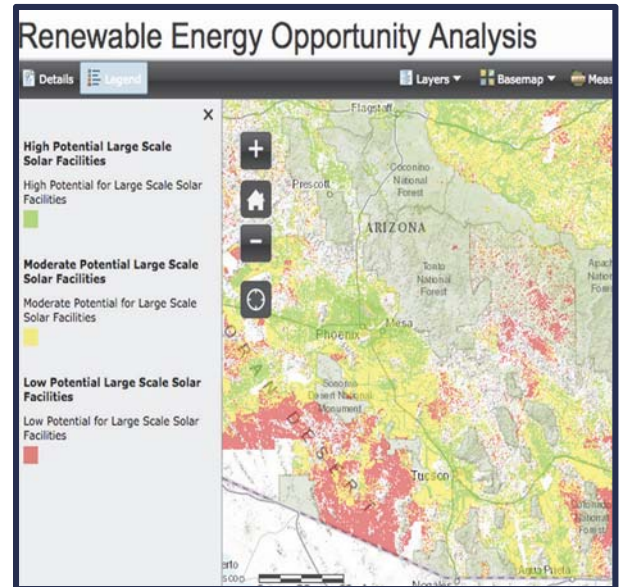
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 (Tuesday & Friday, 12-6 pm)



Land Use Planning and Sustainable Development programs help southeastern Arizona's decision makers, planning officials, small acreage land owners and community organizations define and contribute to the future of their communities by becoming better informed about the changes to their rural landscapes. This program provides educational opportunities pertaining to exurbanization, renewable energy, land use planning, sustainability and local food systems. In addition, it makes resources around these topics readily available through the internet. Sustainable community and economic development activities are vital to the economic and social futures of rural Arizona, and can help its residents to adapt to a changing environment.

- *Decision makers, planners, towns, county officials, utility companies, and solar developers in Cochise County and throughout the state are able to access an interactive online map that identifies areas of high suitability for utility-scale solar facilities, potentially saving thousands of dollars that might otherwise be spent on costly scoping and suitability studies.*
- *Planning Commissioners throughout the state have an online professional development resource at their disposal via the Arizona Citizen Planner 101 online course, that will have the effect of better decision-making with regard to land use and development proposals, and higher quality economic development.*



## 2014 – BY THE NUMBERS

- ▶ Conducted 5 workshops with 185 participants in Cochise County around the topics of local food systems, renewable energy opportunities, placemaking, land use, estate planning, and small acreage property management.
- ▶ Coordinated Externs in Sustainability program that had 11 student externs from the UA working alongside Extension personnel throughout the state, including 2 externs in Cochise County working in Family and Consumer Health Sciences and Youth Development.
- ▶ Assisted with Cochise County's update of its Comprehensive Plan throughout 2014, as well as the City of Bisbee's General Plan.

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**W**ater availability is one of the most important natural resource and economic issues in Cochise County. Groundwater overdraft threatens to impact the federally protected San Pedro River National Conservation Riparian Area and the headquarters of U.S. Army Intelligence at Fort Huachuca. As the groundwater table lowers, it can impact the San Pedro River (in 2000, ecotourism contributed \$17 to \$28.3 million to the local community) and reduce missions on Ft. Huachuca which contributes an estimated \$2.4 billion to the County (Maguire Company and ESI Corp, Economic Impact of Arizona’s Principal Military Operations, 2008). The University of Arizona Cochise County Cooperative Extension’s Water Wise Program is a key educational water conservation program in the county by providing solutions that empower citizens to conserve groundwater and helps communities and the economy remain strong.

*Here’s how Water Wise helps:*

- *With educational events teaching citizens about drip irrigation, rainwater systems, low water landscape plants and design, good watering practices, septic care; and annual Rainwater and Xeriscape Tours*
- *With specialized on-site home and business visits providing specific conservation actions and follow-up*
- *By partnering with Master Gardeners, municipalities, businesses, non-profits, citizens and schools on conservation projects*
- *With the Water Wise Youth Program and Ft. Huachuca’s Water Wise and Energy Smart Program.*



### 2014 – BY THE NUMBERS

- ▶ 5,277 adults and youth had direct contact with Water Wise educators
- ▶ 95% of on-site visit recipients made some conservation change on their property
- ▶ 198 educational events were conducted by the Water Wise Program
- ▶ Missions on Fort Huachuca – a \$2.4 billion contribution to Cochise County’s economy - are supported by the reduction of groundwater use
- ▶ Fort Huachuca meets its energy auditing annual goals with the potential of saving over \$1 million in annual costs

Contact: Cado Daily  
 Water Resources Coordinator  
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“Sierra Vista was an initial funding partner for Water Wise. As part of the Cooperative Extension mission, Water Wise continues to meet and exceed the critical community needs for water education for the public and the municipalities in our region.”  
 – City of Sierra Vista Mayor Rick Mueller

Cochise County 4-H Youth Development is an experiential learning youth education program for Cloverbuds (children 5-8 years old) and for youth, ages 9-18. Its practical life skills education in science and technology, healthy lifestyles and citizenship can reach any kid ... anywhere ... any time through 4-H clubs, camps, after-school and summer programs, educational events, and community service. We rely heavily on volunteers to reach more youth, lead educational programs, coordinate activities, and manage clubs and groups. Teens are taught how to avoid risky behaviors and make good decisions about their lives and their bodies through our Teens Advocating Sustainable Change (TASC), healthy lifestyle program. Through engaging, hands-on experiences, young people develop specific skills that are important for jobs and careers such as leadership skills, ability to organize and lead meetings, set and achieve goals, financial awareness, and social skills. These skills arguably lead to greater physical and emotional health and educational and occupational success.

Research from the Tufts Longitudinal Study of 4-H Positive Youth Development shows that 4-H participants are:

- Three times more likely to actively contribute to and give back their communities through time or money than other youth.
- Two times more likely to graduate from high school and go to college.
- 2.8 times as likely as other youth to report healthy habits.
- Two times more likely to pursue a career in science.
- 4.9 times as likely to expect to graduate from college as comparison youth.
- 4-H youth are more likely than their non 4-H counterparts, to enter the workforce better prepared to collaborate, think critically, solve problems, and be innovative.



### 2014 – BY THE NUMBERS

5 Launch into Life Events: 1,900 student participants; 227 volunteers contributing 663 hours valued at \$14,950; AmeriCorps NCCC team time valued at \$54,120; and in-kind copy donations of \$3,900

Teens Advocating for Sustainable Change: Twenty-three teens donated 4,227 service hours valued at \$33,800 (\$8/hour) to the Douglas community.

494 club members, 185 day camp participants, 275 special interest, 3527 school enrichment.

142 live on farms, 395 in towns under 10,000 and 3,944 in towns and cities greater than 10,000. Approximately equal number of male and female participants

187 adult and 64 youth volunteers

Yearend evaluations of club members show 4-H is influential in developing responsibility, confidence and communication and subject matter skills.

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Darcy Tessman  
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Rangelands are extremely important to society for the goods and services they produce and for the ecological services they provide. There is a need to balance livestock grazing with natural resources. This is especially important as livestock producers have been reducing and managing herds as a result of drought conditions for the last 17 years. Workshops are held that teach various subjects relating to rangeland management, monitoring, livestock nutrition and other identified needs requested by clientele. Work is done collaboratively at both the local and state levels. In partnership with ranchers, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Forest Service (USFS), and Natural Resources Conservation Service, allotments are monitored for long-term soil and vegetation trends.

- *Ranchers and land management agency personnel have a better understanding of rangeland management and monitoring.*
- *Long-term rangeland monitoring data is available for USFS and BLM permittees to use in management decisions, and for federal employees to use in resource analysis.*
- *Healthy rangelands support livestock production, wildlife habitat, and other natural resource benefits for society.*



### 2014 – BY THE NUMBERS

- ▶ Conducted 9 workshops, field tours, and invited presentations on rangeland related subjects to 198 ranchers, agency personnel, students and the general public.
- ▶ 106 sites on 51 BLM allotments and 68 sites on 20 USFS allotments were monitored.
- ▶ Monitoring reports were prepared for each allotment and given to agencies and ranchers.
- ▶ \$152,268 was obtained in grants to support this program.

Contact: Kim McReynolds  
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The spread of state and federally listed noxious weeds on public, state trust and private lands threatens biodiversity and native plant species, decreases forage and habitat for domestic and wild animals, and causes economic hardship for landowners. Estimates indicate that invasive plants are spreading at about 4,600 acres per day on federal lands alone in the Western United States. Weeds have invaded approximately 17 million acres of public rangelands in the West - more than quadrupling their range from 1985-1995 (USDI-BLM, 2009). Southeastern Arizona has relatively small infestations of noxious weeds compared to other areas in the West. This continues to give us a unique opportunity to be proactive and control weeds so that it doesn't become economically prohibitive.

- *There are significant infestations of Russian knapweed, African rue, onionweed, whitetop, Saharan mustard, yellow starthistle and Malta starthistle in Southeastern Arizona. Partnerships with local agencies and the Coronado RC&D are essential in addressing the weed infestations*
- *Landowners who attend a workshop are able to identify noxious weeds that are growing in their local areas*
- *Workshop participants are trained in the proper treatment and disposal of noxious weeds, including sprayer calibration and complying with herbicide labels*
- *Coordinated community efforts will reduce the number of acres infested with noxious weeds*



## 2014 – BY THE NUMBERS

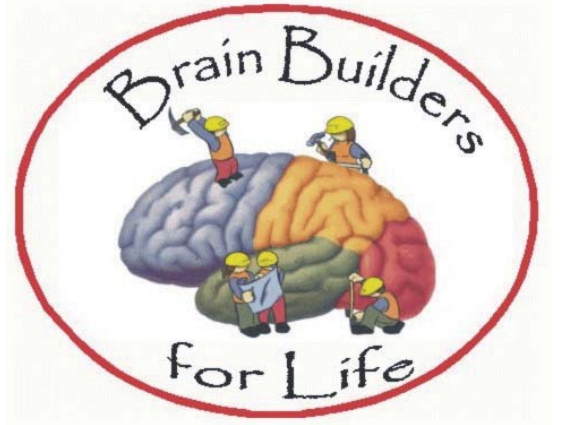
- ▶ 22 people attended a noxious weed workshop, and 51 people attended pesticide applicator training.
- ▶ Nine people passed the National Core Pesticide Applicators test and became certified applicators (of the 13 that took the test one month following the training).
- ▶ 1,456 acres were inventoried for the presence of targeted noxious weeds by grant funded contractors.
- ▶ 18 cooperators treated 238 acres of infestations with grant funded herbicide with a value of \$7,612.

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The Early Childhood Development programs in Cochise County help parents, childcare provider and those interested in children, understand prenatal care for parents, child health and safety, child development and what it takes to give our children what they need to be healthy and ready to learn. Our programs focus on the 0-5 year old population. These programs help parents and childcare providers learn skills about child development, health and safety, and nutrition with literacy and educational skills that help prepare children for kindergarten. Our innovative experiential learning techniques creates a fun learning environment for our brain building activities to stimulate young minds and help create a more positive social emotional setting for the children in their care. Early childhood programs show that participants have:

- *Shown improvements in educational process and outcomes for the child.*
- *Increased economic self-sufficiency, initially for the parent and later for the child.*
- *Reduced levels of criminal activity.*
- *Improvements in health and safety-related indicators, such as child abuse, maternal reproductive health, reduction in child mortality rates.*



#### 2014 – BY THE NUMBERS

- ▶ 734 program participants were taught the skills to enrich children's lives with direct training classes ranging from 1 hour to 16 hours through our Brain Builders, Child Care Health Consultation, and the Technical Assistance programs.
- ▶ Brain Builders program increased their knowledge by 76% of the subjects taught.
- ▶ \$167,953 was obtained in grants to support these programs.

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**N**utrition and physical activity education programs offered through the Cochise County Cooperative Extension promote healthy nutrition and physically active lifestyles that lead to healthier individuals and families in our communities. Our SNAP-Ed (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program –Education) program works in concert with the Arizona Nutrition Network (AzNN), a public and private partnership led by the Arizona Department of Health Services, Bureau of Nutrition and Physical Activity which partners with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. This program serves families and individuals that meet SNAP eligibility. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is designed to assist limited-resource audiences to acquire knowledge, skills, attitudes, and to change behaviors necessary for nutritionally sound diets, and to contribute to participant’s development and the improvement of the total family diet and nutritional well-being.

*People involved in SNAP-Ed and EFNEP Programs:*

- *Establish lifelong healthy behavior patterns.*
- *Are at lower risk for obesity, reducing health care costs.*
- *Have increased moderate physical activity each day.*
- *For each \$1.00 spent on the adult EFNEP program it produced a benefit equivalent to \$10.96.*



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“Because of Cooperative Extension, families with a higher than national average poverty rates and a higher prevalence of diabetes along the border, are receiving nutrition and health related education and resources that hadn't previously existed.”  
 – Sheila Rogers, Superintendent, Douglas Unified School District #27

**2014 – BY THE NUMBERS**

- ▶ There were 5,442 participants in SNAP-Ed and EFNEP programs who received 1-500 nutrition related messages.
- ▶ 192 volunteers provided 5,565 hours of their time with values at an estimated \$94,494.
- ▶ \$249,917 in grants was obtained for SNAP-Ed and EFNEP programs for Cochise County.
- ▶ 89% of the teachers involved in our programs are talking about healthy food and habits with their students daily.

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**F**irst Smiles Oral Health Program provides preventive dental health education, tooth brushing programs, oral health screenings and fluoride varnish application to children birth to age five. Tooth decay can be prevented by early intervention, dental visits, tooth **brushing**, flossing, healthy diets and oral health education. This program provides education and prevention services to childcare providers/educators on the importance of preventive oral health care and how to recognize and understand oral diseases and conditions. We facilitate child care providers to lay the foundation for a lifetime of good oral health with the implementation of classroom-based tooth brushing and providing oral health education and resources to the children. Additionally First Smiles conducts outreach to dentists and other health professionals to encourage them to address the oral health needs of children birth through age five.

- *Children ages 0-5 in Cochise County now receive early intervention to slow the progression of tooth decay and even prevent it. First Smiles provides early intervention and collaborates with health professionals across the county. Intervention programs, early childhood education and child care programs have proven to be an effective method for connecting children to oral healthcare in a timely manner<sup>1</sup>.*
- *Schools and centers receive oral health screenings and fluoride varnish applications for participating children. Fluoride varnish can reduce tooth decay by 37% to 63%<sup>2</sup>.*
- *Children who attend participating child care centers brush their teeth on a daily basis with fluoride toothpaste at school. Fluoride toothpaste reduces tooth decay among children by 15% - 30%<sup>2</sup>.*



#### 2014 – BY THE NUMBERS

- ▶ Educated 2,938 children ages 3-5 on the importance of healthy oral habits.
- ▶ Educated 2,971 adults on healthy oral habits for themselves and their families.
- ▶ Educated 132 health care professionals in Cochise County on providing early oral health intervention.
- ▶ Provided 2,442 oral health screenings and administered 2,215 fluoride varnish applications.
- ▶ Provided over 6,000 toothbrush kits to participants with instruction on proper daily oral health care.

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<sup>1</sup> The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (2011)

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control



**M**aster Gardeners, volunteers trained by Cooperative Extension, are an important part of consumer horticulture programming. Master Gardeners are trained volunteers who provide educational information to Cooperative Extension clientele. Cochise County Master Gardener Volunteers support the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension by providing researched-based information on environmentally responsible gardening and landscaping to the public. They teach good gardening practices through hands-on demonstrations, educational display gardens, an annual conference, and one-on-one consultations. Many Master Gardeners work right in the Extension office answering gardening questions on the phone and assisting walk-in clients. Along with their gardening knowledge, they contribute valuable skills like photography, writing, editing, event planning, teaching and leadership. To become a Master Gardener they complete the 14 week training course requirements and complete 50 hours of volunteer service. To maintain their certification, they must contribute 25 hours of volunteer service and 12 hours of continuing education each year after becoming certified. Today the need for these volunteers is greater than with increasing interest and demand for gardening-related advice.

Cochise County Master Gardeners:

- Improve the natural environment through public education that leads to wise use of natural resources.
- Increase residents’ access to University of Arizona Extension through their broad and continuous public presence and referrals and access to research based information.
- Helps educate Cochise County residents with the latest horticultural information from the University of Arizona.
- Practice and educate about environmentally friendly landscapes which leads to reduced pesticide and water used on the landscapes.



**2014 – BY THE NUMBERS**

- ▶ Twenty six Master Gardener volunteers reported 834 volunteer hours and 283 continuing education hours for 2014.
- ▶ High Desert Gardening & Landscaping Conference attended by 96 people. Sixty-two survey responses: 56.5% said they were able to update their skills; 64.5% said they acquired news and/or advanced skills; and 77.4% said they increased their knowledge upon which to base their decisions/actions in related areas.
- ▶ Eight community presentations sponsored by MG in conjunction with monthly association meeting.

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Production of field crops in the Cochise County area is very diverse including but not limited to corn (silage and grain), small grains (wheat and barley), dry beans (pinto and other assorted types), cotton, and grain sorghum with a market value of over \$42 million. Recent technological advances such as transgenics, innovative pest control chemistries, improved varieties and hybrids, and site specific management technologies, to name a few, have the potential to help growers gain competitiveness in a global production marketplace. Implementation of these new technological advances can be daunting for the grower. Our responsibility in Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Experiment Station is to develop sound recommendations through research and demonstration of how best to implement these new advances in an economically and agronomically sustainable fashion.

- *On-farm research helps growers and consultants learn how to objectively evaluate products and management practices leading to improved risk management, enhanced agricultural profitability and environmentally sustainability.*
- *Field Trials and Grower Field Days help participants to use research based information in making sound production and marketing decisions which leads to researched based practices resulting in greater production efficiencies, increased profitability, and improved soil and water resources.*



### 2014 – BY THE NUMBERS

- ▶ Evaluation data of the new Bt technology for corn earworm control has demonstrated a minimum of 5% yield increase.
- ▶ Research has validated the effective use of precision agriculture techniques for site specific management of soil borne pests such as parasitic nematodes under field production scenarios of corn and cotton. Utilization of these techniques has demonstrated potential reduction in pesticide use of up to 50% and dramatically higher control efficiencies.
- ▶ Results from cotton variety trials in the region have identified new, higher yielding cotton varieties for high desert cotton production scenarios that also produce higher than average fiber quality resulting in 3-5 cent per pound price increases realized by local producers.

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# *Celebrating 2014 Honorees from Cochise County*

The following pages feature individuals from Cochise County that were honored during our Centennial Celebration in 2014. We thank them for their extraordinary contributions, leadership, and service.



## **Dr. G. T. "Gerry" Bohmfalk**

Gerry has been an outstanding supporter of Extension for over 20 years. He is a strong advocate for Cooperative Extension programs in the county and statewide. Gerry is a graduate of CENTRL Class VIII. In his application he wrote "We are being overwhelmed by non-rural leaders making decisions and policy that affect us. We are not well represented in either quantity or quality of leadership. We need to change that." A true mark of a leader is their ability to put into action the changes they wish to see in their world. A few years after graduating from Class VIII, Gerry served as President of the CENTRL Alumni Association and was an active and dedicated member of CENTRL's Board of Directors for over 15 years. He served as the Board President from 2000 to 2010 working to improve the quality of the leadership experience and

to maintain an actively growing Alumni network to strengthen the voice for rural Arizona. Gerry and his wife Cynthia have both served as volunteer leaders for the 4-H program. He has been vital part of our County Junior Livestock Auction, serving on the committee to conduct the auction, as well as a buyer. Over the years, Gerry has provided support to 4-H through his business and personally. He is always encouraging other businesses to support 4-H and has helped increase our donor base. Gerry has been actively involved in the Extension agriculture program through the Apple Growers Association, Ag Day and various other programs. His active participation and leadership has truly been an asset for Cochise County and Arizona Cooperative Extension.



## **Don and Laura Burnett (deceased)**

Don and Laura Burnett were an integral part of Cooperative Extension Programs for over 30 years. Don was the first chair of the Cochise County Cooperative Extension Advisory Board which started on February 18, 1965 and he served as chair through 1978. When he stepped down from the Board, Laura came on as an advisory board member serving from 1978 through 1985, and served as chair from 1982-1985. She also served as an officer with the Arizona Extension Board. Don was an active cooperator within the agriculture programs, served as a 4-H Volunteer for 31 years, and was a member of the Cochise County Fair Association. Laura was a 4-H Volunteer for 28 years, a chaperone

to State 4-H Roundup, and for 24 years as a 4-H camp nurse and cook. Both Don and Laura served as advisors to the County Junior Leaders, judged at numerous demonstration and public speaking events, they opened their home and farm facilities for 4-H events whenever needed, served as county fair superintendents and supported the large and small stock auctions. They received the Extensionist of the Year award in 1985. Laura passed in 1987 and Don in 2010. Together and individually, their leadership had a tremendous impact on thousands of youth and adults through the 4-H program and they demonstrated amazing dedication and support by giving countless hours to benefit all our Cooperative Extension programs.



## **Elizabeth (Betty) R. Craig (deceased)**

Betty Craig, longtime secretary at the Cochise County office in Willcox, retired in 1967 after 39 years of service. She worked for 19 agents over that time. In the memoirs of Bertha Virmond she recalls Betty as part of a great office force. Betty was janitor, swept the big office and carried coal from the alley to make a fire every winter morning. She knew how many meetings were held or attended. She kept records of attendance, subject discussed, and would add "souls saved." This meant how many used any of our suggestions. It also meant writing a progress report, monthly reports and the "awful" annual report for both the county agent and the home demonstration agent. In a retirement announcement by Carmy Page, Agriculture Agent in Charge at the time, stated "To say that we will miss her is an understatement. It

is difficult to evaluate her loyalty and the great value of the information she has acquired through the years. She has done a great job." Carmy and Betty worked together for 19 years. In 1965 Miss Craig was awarded a "Medallion of Merit" for her more than 35 years of service by UA President Harvill. In 1985 as part of the UA Centennial celebration in Cochise County the City Council proclaimed "Betty Craig Day."



### **Joe Lane (deceased)**

Joe came to Arizona in 1940 when his grandfather purchased the O Bar O Ranch in Bonita. He went to elementary school in Willcox, Ariz., high school at the New Mexico Military Academy in Roswell, N.M. and received his Bachelor Degree in Agriculture from the University of Arizona in Tucson. After his graduation in 1957, he served in the U.S. Army as a First Lieutenant in the Armor Division in Killeen, Texas until 1960. Joe owned ranches in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado. He always considered himself a Cattleman and spent the majority of his ranching career on the O Bar O Ranch north of Willcox at Bonita, Ariz. He sold this ranch in 1983 to devote his full time to government service in Arizona. Joe served in the Arizona Legislature from 1978 to 1988 and was Speaker of the House of Representatives in the 38th Legislature (1987-1988). He subsequently served as the Governor's rural liaison for about six years under Governors Fife Symington and Jane Hull. He thought it was important for the rural people to have a good spokesman in the Governor's office. This position and his time in the legislature are the two accomplishments he is most proud of. Joe was Director of the Arizona Department of Agriculture until his retirement (1997-2001). Joe was very active and contributed his time to numerous organizations. Joe became president of the Cochise-Graham Cattle Growers' Association, and then president of Arizona Cattle Growers' Association (1976-77). He was one of the first cattlemen to realize that raising good cattle was not enough, that economic survival for the rancher depended on somebody showing up in town and protecting the rancher's interests. He decided he could be that someone. In 1979 Joe was able to get legislative approval and funding for the hiring of a second 4-H Youth Development Agent in Cochise County. He received the University of Arizona, College of Agriculture Lifetime Achievement Award in 1997 and was named Cattleman of the Year in 2007 by the Arizona Cattle Grower's Association for a lifetime of service to Arizona and Agriculture. Joe was a tremendous supporter of Cooperative Extension and was influential in solving agricultural issues.



### **Louise Moser**

Louise Moser was originally from Pennsylvania and studied Public Health Nursing at Robert Parker Hospital School of Nursing and at Syracuse University. She worked as a Public Health Nurse in New York State and Arizona and was the Director of Greenlee County Health Department when she retired. She served on the Preschool Board of Directors of various community organizations and continues to be very active in her church. Louise was a pioneer, forging the way for the Family and Community Educators and helping to build the Stewart Family and Community Educators (FCE) near Willcox, AZ. She was especially active in the Stewart Family and Community Educators, serving as president several times as well as treasurer. While leading this group, she and her fellow members put in numerous hours hand making large quilts that were raffled yearly to provide scholarships to emerging youth in the community who were interested in Family and Consumer Sciences. In addition to making these large quilts, she was instrumental in making smaller quilts for children in foster care, temporary housing, in the child protective system or children in the hospital. Louise shared her expertise with her community by teaching innumerable lessons and organizing training on health and nutrition. Several times she served as a judge for the county fair. She continues to make quilts with various groups for charity. In 2011, during the Horseshoe fire, she made and donated snacks for the firefighters fighting the blaze. Louise Moser is a role model and the face of early Extension. She continues to give selflessly to assist others. It is an honor to have her as part of the Extension Family.



### **Claire Owen**

Claire graduated from Willcox High School and then went on to the University of Arizona. Claire and his father farmed at Monzingo's Corner, and after his parents moved to Australia, he joined Bud Gunterman forming the G&O west of Willcox on the G-Bar Ranch where he did the range improvements. With his wife Janet having to drive all the way into town "on that terrible road" to teach school, they moved closer to Willcox, acquiring Winchester Farms and Feedlot, where they grew corn, sugar beets, lettuce, milo, and alfalfa hay. Claire has worked in ag business all his life. He has always loved the challenge of agriculture — being outdoors, learning about and growing new plants. He never considered being anything but a farmer. Claire has given endless hours of his time serving on many boards supporting agriculture and his community. He served on the Cochise County Extension Advisory Board from 1982 to 2007, serving as chair for many of those 26 years and was named Extensionist of the Year for the state in 1989. Both Claire and Janet were 4-H Volunteer Leaders when their two sons were in 4-H and remain strong supporters of the 4 H program. Claire was a founding member of Project CENTRL serving on the Board from 1982 through 1994 and as President from 1992-93. Since its formation in 1970, Claire has served on the Southeast Ag Day committee, serving as its chairman for many years. He has been a Farm Bureau member since 1960, serving as its county president and on state boards. He was awarded its "Heritage Award," honoring individuals for giving to their industry at both county and state levels. In 2010 he received the Ag Business Peron of the Year from the Willcox Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture. In 2012 Claire and Janet received the Friends of CALS Award. He has always been an outstanding spokesman for Cooperative Extension and the Ag industry, whether it's farming and ranching, apples, corn, or any aspect of agriculture.



### **Carmy G. Page (deceased)**

Carmy Page was the county agent in Cochise County from 1948 through 1976. He served during a period of time when the population in Cochise County increased by nearly 100 percent from 1950 to 1966 and was predicted to double again by 1980. Beef cattle production was the largest single agricultural enterprise then and is still to this day. Carmy was involved in many farm and ranch research and demonstration projects and introduced information on new ways of doing things. Because of his network of contacts and personal knowledge he was a good source of help to the agriculture community. In the mid 60's Cochise County was the only place in Arizona where chile peppers were commercially grown, supplying both local and interstate markets. Carmy is remembered as being rather meticulous and very

academic in his approach to the work that he was assigned. He was always positive, friendly and anxious to help.



### **Dora A. Teran (deceased)**

Dora was a true inspiration to those who knew her. She was an amazing influence to so many kids. She strived to be a role model for each child she met and was genuinely devoted to making a difference in their lives. She shared herself with each one giving them her love and support, challenging them to take control of their lives, and giving them hope and dreams for the future. Dora served as a Cochise County 4-H volunteer for 15 years. She was actively involved in the County 4-H Council, an advisor to the Teen Council, a project leader and served as part of the statewide J.O.L.T. staff. She coordinated the county fair buyer's luncheon for numerous years and always brought her special touch to produce an exceptional luncheon. Dora was truly one-of-a-kind. It only took minutes within meeting her to realize just how special

she was. Having been through over a decade of J.O.L.T with all 3 of her own children as well as the countless campers she treated as her own, Dora was a true Semi-Adult. Never too serious with her side-splitting sense of humor, a heart filled with love and a mind full of wisdom and life-experience, she had a knack for relating to youth. Year after year, she guided teens, eager to make them laugh and feel welcome. She did this with effortless grace and kindness. Youth and adults alike, she touched, and often changed the lives, of the many people she built relationships with. In 1996 Dora was selected as the Cochise County 4-H Outstanding Leader and in 2004 she was inducted into the State 4-H Hall of Fame. In November of 2007, she succumbed to a year-long battle with cancer. In true Dora fashion, with a passion for life and living it to the fullest, she fought until the very end.



### **Bertha (Berpie) J. Virmond (deceased)**

Bertha Jane Virmond was born in a sod house in Ellis County, Kansas. In 1924 she came to Arizona to begin a career as a home demonstration agent for the Extension Service. She settled in Willcox and bought a Model-A Ford. Her job and the car earned her the tagline "that government woman with the Model-A Ford." Everyone knew who it meant. She worked in Cochise and Santa Cruz counties driving about 700 to 1,000 miles a month from her Willcox office. She would wear out two Fords and three Chevys before retirement. In the early days with no refrigeration, food preservation was very important. She introduced pressure cookers and canning in cans with sealers as well as the usual glass jars. She taught safe food preservation, nutrition, clothes-making and other subjects to adults and youths. Many

homemakers remember this courageous and inspiring woman and recall much happiness during a difficult time. Longtime Webb Mothers Club Homemaker, Mamie Grizzle, said "Miss Virmond made homemakers clubs so fulfilling and met our needs so well during a difficult period that clubs sprung up all over the county." During World War II she helped scrap metal drives and fat collections. After her retirement was approved in Washington she resigned as a county worker and was appointed "Agent at Large" which included working in every county in Arizona except Mohave. She judged fairs, 4-H achievements and filled in for ailing agents or vacationers. They kept her working for two more years before starting her retirement in 1946. Her first retirement check was for \$63. In 1965 she was honored by the U of A with a "Medallion of Merit, Home Demonstration Agent, Emeritus." Her memoirs written in 1976 give a descriptive picture of her territory and work. The UA Library has a copy in its Special Collections.

**In Appreciation of Their Outstanding Dedication and Service to Cooperative Extension**