

# Franklin Parish Profile

Report to Stakeholders December 2019



## About the LSU AgCenter

The LSU AgCenter is dedicated to providing innovative research, information and education to improve people's lives. Working in a statewide network of parish extension offices, research stations and academic departments, the LSU AgCenter helps Louisiana citizens make the best use of natural resources, protect the environment, enhance agricultural enterprises, and develop human and community resources.

## Program Highlights

### Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR)

The Franklin Parish agricultural economy in 2018 ranked ninth in Louisiana for gross farm value. Field corn is our major plant enterprise with the parish leading the state for several years in acres planted. Beef cattle is our major animal enterprise. A core block variety demonstration with corn was conducted on a producer's farm to provide unbiased information on variety performance to help producers make variety selections for planting. Private pesticide applicator and Worker Protection Standard (WPS) trainings are offered to producers and agricultural workers which cover how to work with pesticides safely and protect the environment. Programs are given to parish youth during the annual Sheriff's Safety Day. Northeast Louisiana youth learn about agricultural commodities produced in our area during Ag Alley and Ag Adventures. Programs are given to the Lions Club, Rotary Club and garden clubs. Through individual contact with agricultural producers and homeowners, crop, aquaculture, animal and horticulture questions are answered, problems are identified, and management options are provided.



Community Garden participants

Wisner Grain Elevator

### 4-H Youth Development

In 2019, the 4-H club educational program focused on nutrition from the garden. Youth learned where their food comes from. Several of the activities included the plant parts we eat, nutrients they provide and learning about MyPlate. The activities are designed to help teach the youth about the importance of eating healthy. The youth are participating in activities and group discussions to learn about these topics. The Junior Leaders are a vital group in providing community service and leadership on the parish level. The shooting sports and livestock projects are the parish's largest after-school clubs. These projects continue to grow each year. The 4-H program has a dedicated group of adult volunteers that assist with the shooting sports, livestock, and 4-H club events throughout the year.

## Franklin Parish Extension Office

### Address:

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### Website:

[www.LSUAgCenter.com](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com)

### Office Hours:

8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

### Office Staff:

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## Programs

### Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR)

- Aquaculture
- Animal Production
- Crop Production
- Horticulture/Lawn and Garden
- Pest Management

### 4-H and Youth Development

- Citizenship/Leadership
- Science, Engineering, and Technology (SET)
- Healthy Living
- Life Skills

### Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS)

- Nutrition and Health
- SNAP ED

### Whom we reach:

5,500 youth (includes 268 4-H members enrolled in nine school 4-H Clubs and four after-school clubs).

2,884 adults (agriculture and natural resources).

### How we reach them:

4-H Clubs, school enrichment, field days, farm and home visits, on-farm demonstrations, publications, newsletters, class series, social media, email, website and workshops.

### Expanding our efforts:

45 volunteers from 4-H and ANR (Advisory Leadership Councils, 4-H school club leaders, after-school club leaders, ANR cooperators).

### Parish Facts:

LSU AgCenter's county agent provides research-based information on animal, aquaculture, wildlife and plant enterprises to Franklin Parish residents. The 2018 total dollar amount from these commodities were: Animal enterprises, \$12,912,594; aquaculture & wildlife, \$662,102; plant enterprises, \$141,598,529. Land area – 625 square miles; Population - 20,260; Population under 18 years old - 25.6%; Population 65 years old and over - 17.9%; Median household income - \$34,722; Persons below poverty - 27.3%.

### Local issues and plans for this year

#### Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana agriculture.

- Conduct horticulture workshops.
- Partner with Farm Project Community Garden offering training to participants.
- On-farm demonstrations.
- Write articles for local newspapers, develop webpage content, contribute articles to Horticulture Hints quarterly newsletter.
- Make farm and home visits.

#### Promote the wise use of natural resources and protection of the environment.

- Conduct training for private pesticide applicators and agricultural workers.

#### Build leaders and good citizens through 4-H Youth Development.

- Develop and implement service-learning projects throughout the parish.
- Address vaping/juuling with the junior high school parish youth.
- Address distractive driving (texting and face-driving) with high school youth.

### 4-H Youth Development (Continued)

Many of them have served as overnight chaperones for summer camp and 4-H University. Youth can participate in a variety of monthly contests, workshops and camps throughout the year. Some of the contests have advancement to regional or state competition. The 4-H exhibit show in August is a partnership with the Old Post Office Museum to showcase the talents of the youth. Many youths serve as club officers which allows them to gain leadership skills.



Great Outdoors Camp



Tractor Supply fundraiser event

### How we are funded

You are the local supporters and beneficiaries in the LSU AgCenter extension programs. Just 20% support keeps these programs in your community.

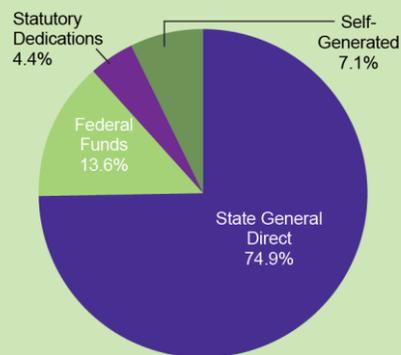
Your parish extension office offers programs in:

**Sustaining Louisiana agriculture, forestry and fisheries.**

**Building leaders and good citizens through 4-H Youth Development.**

**Family, nutrition and health to enhance the quality of life for Louisiana's citizens.**

### LSU AgCenter State Appropriated Funds FY 2019-2020



For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our website:

[LSUAgCenter.com](http://LSUAgCenter.com)