



2016 ANNUAL REPORT: CRISP COUNTY

University of Georgia Cooperative Extension is working hard for its constituents. The following are examples of our impact in the county over the past year.

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Crisp County agricultural production continues to grow steadily in the absence of an Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) agent. The Turner County ANR agent and Crisp County secretary are working together to meet the needs of the farmers. The annual peanut, watermelon, pecan, cotton, and weed production meetings have been set up, and two have been completed. Each production meeting gives the farmers an opportunity to listen to state specialists speak about recommended and updated production practices, along with research results from the previous year. The Turner County ANR agent served Crisp County farmers through March 1.

4-H IN CRISP COUNTY IS A COMMUNITY AFFAIR

Crisp County 4-H continues to partner with the Crisp County School System and teachers to help students build a bright future. Each year, our 4-H program strives to highlight the youth of Crisp County. This year has been awesome for Crisp County 4-H, and it couldn't have happened without the support of our community and surrounding counties. Every year we have a donor drive to



fund the 4-H program, and every year the businesses of Crisp and surrounding counties make it possible for the 4-H program to thrive. Our annual drive makes it possible for the 4-H'ers to attend Area Project Achievement, District Project Achievement, 4-H Fun Day and the awards banquet without any cost to 4-H'ers. For several years, the painting of the mini bus was not in the budget. This year the 4-H mini bus was painted the color of our 4-H emblem, white and green. Our donors and community officials have proven year after year that 4-H is a community affair in Crisp County. Crisp County Extension is grateful for our county administrator, county finance administrator, county commissioners, the public works director, the Crisp County Sheriff's Department, Cordele Dispatch, and WSST 22 for their ongoing support of our club.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Rebecca Stackhouse joined Crisp County Extension as the Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) agent in December 2016. Starting the new year, Stackhouse is learning the community and reaching out to make local connections to help her evaluate the needs and assistance that she can offer to the residents of her county through educational classes, seminars, events and challenges. She has embraced opportunities to use the local media, which includes WSST 22 and the Cordele Dispatch newspaper, to help her present useful information to the community concerning nutrition, financial skills or other life improvement skills. In the Cordele Dispatch, she is writing the "Extension Life Checks" twice monthly, looking to collect data by presenting hashtags on social media. The Extension office continues to deliver publications full of research-based information to various organizations, which enables Stackhouse to meet even more of the community in a short time. As the FCS agent, Stackhouse will work hard to provide expertise in the areas of training, research and publications to positively affect the lives of those in the community.

COUNTY AT A GLANCE

Population: 23,525

2016 Georgia County Guide, UGA

Georgia Health Factors Ranking: 124/159

2016 County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Georgia 4-H Enrollment: 519

Georgia 4-H enrollment system, FY16

Agriculture, Food, Fiber, Horticulture and Related Total Economic Contribution:

Jobs: 2,019

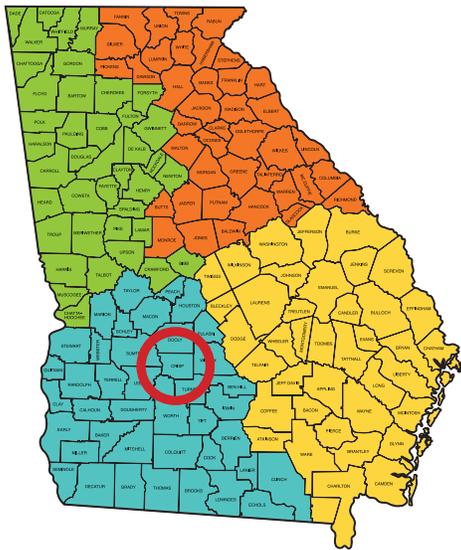
Output: \$422,060,067

2017 Georgia Ag Snapshots, UGA Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development

Farm Gate Value: \$99,478,629.72

Top Commodities: Cotton, Watermelon, Pecans

2015 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report, UGA Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

was founded in 1914 by the federal Smith-Lever Act. It's a unique partnership between UGA, county governments and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cooperative Extension System of land-grant universities. Today, UGA Extension serves more than 2.6 million Georgians annually through a network of specialists, agents and staff by providing unbiased, research-based information driven by local needs and clientele input. From publications to in-person workshops and events, Extension is ready to meet the needs of the state and its communities.

Learn more at:
extension.uga.edu

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Agriculture & Natural Resources

Goods and services related to Georgia's agriculture and natural resources affect each of the state's communities every day. Agriculture is Georgia's largest industry, with \$74 billion of direct and indirect economic impact. More than 411,000 Georgia jobs are involved directly in commodity or food- and fiber-related industries.

UGA Extension faculty and staff play a key role in the success of this industry by sharing university-based research for Georgians to use on the farm and at home. Recommendations in areas including soil fertility, pest management, plant and crop varieties, water quality, and herd health and management focus on maximizing production and profits while minimizing environmental impacts.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension agents also provide homeowners and communities with information on lawn care, landscaping, gardening and water conservation through a variety of workshops. Some agents also work with schools on projects like community gardens and farm-to-school programs. Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteers give thousands of hours of service to their communities by answering questions in county offices and creating educational opportunities.

4-H Youth Development

As the youth development program of UGA Extension, 4-H is also part of a national network. Georgia 4-H reaches more than 170,000 fourth- through 12th-grade students across the state and helps students develop the knowledge, life skills and attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society. This mission is fulfilled through hands-on learning experiences in agricultural and environmental awareness, leadership, communication skills, citizenship, energy conservation, health, and food and nutrition.

Georgia 4-H'ers are well known for sharing their knowledge and volunteering throughout their communities. At the school and county levels, students participate in club meetings organized by 4-H Youth Development Extension agents. At the state level, students participate in competitions, summer camps and conferences. Some 4-H competitions and events are also offered at the regional and national levels.

Research indicates that, as a result of participating in 4-H, members are more engaged in their academic studies, less likely to be involved in risky behavior, and more likely to graduate from high school and continue their education.



Family & Consumer Sciences

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension specialists, agents and staff assist in addressing real-life issues faced by Georgians of all ages. They provide programs and the latest information on obesity, chronic disease, food and financial insecurity, family stresses, unhealthy housing, food safety and preservation, nutrition and more.

To help promote the positive development and safety of preschool, school-aged and adolescent youth, UGA Extension offers resources for parents, caregivers and others. Extension professionals in this program area lead consumer economics trainings and programs such as ServSafe®, Relationship Smarts, and PRIDE, a parent and teen driving education course.

Extension also promotes healthy lifestyles through statewide programs. Walk Georgia – a virtual, fitness-tracking resource – encourages improving physical fitness and healthy lifestyles in order to better the lives of Georgians. Other health programs managed by UGA include the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed). These classes teach families how to stretch their food dollars, eat healthier meals and snacks, and reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses.