

Catelyn Turner – A&P Promotion Narrative

Current Appointment - OSU ANR Extension Educator I in Monroe County since April 15, 2019

Biographical Narrative

Monroe County is in southeastern Ohio with 13,654 residents. Most of the county is rural, with a large portion of the population involved in multiple facets of the agricultural industry, including beef producers and timberland owners. For the past two years, I have served as the Agriculture and Natural Resource (ANR) educator. With a Bachelor of Animal Sciences and a Master of Agricultural and Extension Education degrees, both from the Ohio State University. I recently obtained my master's degree during the summer semester of 2020, while maintaining my work schedule and meeting the diverse needs of my clientele and participating in the O.N.E. onboarding program.

I have served as the county plan of work and community needs assessment steward. My sole responsibility was gathering data from county residents concerning their perceptions on the success of the county versus the areas where additional support may be required. The needs assessment had a 47.2% response rate. It was determined that the importance of keeping and creating local business was an essential priority with rural community economic development coming in second. These statistics have become apparent over my last two years as the ANR educator with the significant rise in calls and questions regarding starting and maintaining successful agricultural businesses. To address the concerns, our office required increased staffing. As the Hiring Process backup steward, I have participated in the hiring process of one program assistant and one Family and Consumer Science educator.

In a county with a heavy agricultural population of beef and timber producers, my areas of specialization are livestock/animal science and natural resources/environment. Over the past two years of communications with the residents of the county, additional themes of interest have emerged including integrated pest management, pollinator protection and production, and gardening.

In cooperation with colleagues in other counties and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, I work to identify needs and to develop and promote programs that fall into the categories of agriculture and natural resources. I offer programs in pesticide safety, fertilizer application, fruit and vegetable production, timber production, and livestock production. With the population of females in the county being greater than males, women in agriculture programs have become popular and well-attended. The programs that were offered in 2019 reached full registration. This is also true regarding the county Master Gardener program, of which I am the County Coordinator, with a ratio of 17 women to five men.

To better serve the livestock producers in my county, I continue my professional development and have obtained certifications over the past two years. In 2018, I became a certified trainer of Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) and BQA Transportation. I am also a certified Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) supervisor as of the spring of 2019 and have aided local pork producers to obtain their PQA certification. I also attended the Fecal Egg Count program offered by Noble county in 2019 and received my FAMACHA certification.

Major Accomplishments: Programs and Teaching

During the transition from my position as the ANR/4-H program assistant to ANR educator, I began my teaching experience by offering the statewide CARTEENS programs to local youth through coordination with the local courts. I was responsible for teaching safe driving practices and administering the pre-existing pre-post evaluation to participants and their parents.

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In 2019, I participated in teaching at the Artificial Insemination School located at the Eastern Agricultural Research Station with colleagues from surrounding counties. My presentation focused on the importance of incorporating the use of and understanding EPDs (Expected Progeny Differences). The presentation reached 21 participants from different states across the United States, who traveled to attend the three-day school. I taught at the Ohio Pastures for Profit program that was offered by the Noble County SWCD and Extension office, providing the presentation on management-intensive grazing that reached 19 participants. To provide programming for local beef producers located in Monroe and surrounding counties, I offered Beef Quality Assurance Training and helped coordinate a Beef School located at the Eastern Agricultural Research Station.

In 2020, I worked with the ANR educator in Belmont County to coordinate the pesticide and fertilizer application recertification programs for Belmont and Monroe counties. I developed an informal curriculum about livestock protection from ticks for this program, utilizing microscopes and samples of different tick species for hands-on learning. Between the two programs that were held in the month of February, 31 private applicators received credits and recertification. I also helped coordinate the Pastures for Profit course offered through Carmen Canvas and provided a presentation on Getting Started in Grazing, reaching the 123 students who are currently enrolled. This course will be completed in March 2021.

Major Accomplishments: Creative and Scholarly Work:

In 2019, I participated in on-farm research with the Noble and Belmont county educators and created a poster/abstract for the American Forage and Grass Council. The research focused on the utilization of growth regulators and urea on dry matter production of cool-season grasses.

In 2020, I completed my master's project titled "Artificial Insemination Training Manual for Extension Professionals". The 25-page manual focuses on eight objectives including: the benefits of artificial insemination, utilizing expected progeny differences, anatomy of the reproductive tract, pasture management, estrous synchronization, semen handling, technique and preparing for calving. I created multiple original infographics within the manual to reflect current research. The intended use of this publication is for educational purposes and will only be offered to participants of the Artificial Insemination School and students of the animal sciences department focusing on reproductive physiology. The primary goal of the manual was to create a compilation of resources from various extension services and provide research-based information that can be implemented into a producer's artificial insemination program. The secondary goal of creating the manual was to allow extension professionals across the state to also offer the Artificial Insemination School, by providing the curriculum in a format that is replicable. Immediate, medium, and long-term outcomes of the program were determined as increased awareness of different aspects associated with protocol implementation, successful navigation of the inseminating rod through the cervix, and implementation of artificial insemination into producer's protocols, respectively. To determine the listed outcomes, I also created a post-program evaluation tool to be utilized by extension professionals. The evaluation allows Extension professionals to maintain relevancy in future schools by utilizing outcome questions determined by research in adult learning.

AgUpdate from the Hills of Monroe is a quarterly newsletter that is physically mailed out to 244 clients and promoted through various internet-based sources such as the Monroe ANR Facebook page, which I am the creator and editor of, and the Monroe County OSU Extension webpage. I am also the administrator of the

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local Broken Timber Outdoor Educational Center Facebook page which provides free educational seminars and training to the community through the work and management of multiple volunteers and grant funding.

Over the past two years, I have written three articles featured in the “All About Grazing” column located within the *Farm and Dairy* newspaper. The topics have ranged from cattle production, poultry grazing and the importance of veterinarian-client-patient relationships and all surround the focus of grazing.

Major Accomplishments: Service

As an educator, it is not only important for me to provide resources and education to the community but to also be supportive of their endeavors. I am active with multiple groups and committees such as the Monroe County Beekeepers, the Barnesville Feeder Calf Association, the Master Gardeners Volunteer program, Broken Timber Outdoor Educational Center. I participate in youth education through the local school district and their agricultural programs, while also assisting our 4-H educator to teach Youth Quality Assurance. My involvement in these groups allows me to provide organizational skills to their business proceedings and keep records of their accomplishments throughout the year.

In furthering my specialization, I am a member of the state Beef Team. I spent time in 2019 at the Farm Science Review, educating passers-by of the livestock tent. I also serve on the planning committee for the East Central Grazing Alliance, a multi-agency and multi-county team planning field days to clientele concerning livestock and utilizing grazing management systems.

Plans for the Future

My plans for teaching and programming are focused on reaching the timber owners of the county. These individuals comprise two-thirds of the total landcover with ownership of approximately 200,000 acres of forestland. In cooperation with the local SWCD, I intend to expand upon the 2020 Call Before You Cut program by offering more timber-based programming and utilizing the two Certified Tree Farms located within the county.

Upon completion of my master’s degree, I have learned the importance of the evaluation tools utilized by Extension professionals. This experience provided the opportunity for me to create one for the Artificial Insemination school. I intend to implement its use at the next offered program, which may not be until 2022 at the Eastern Agricultural Research Station. Discussion has started on offering a school in Jackson county in the fall of 2021.

My passion resides with small ruminants and poultry, two agricultural sectors that are growing in popularity within the county as reflected in 4-H project interests and individuals in the community seeking out food security by raising smaller/easier to manage livestock. It is my desire to offer more programs to both the adults in the community as well as the youth who are participating in the local FFA/4-H programs. I would like to offer FAMACHA training and replicate the Fecal Egg Count program.

I have volunteered to be a part of the planning committee for the 2021 Extension Annual Conference. I am also looking forward to participating in state-level teams and committees in the upcoming years.

I desire to keep progressing as an ANR educator, both in my ability to provide relevant research-based programming to my clientele and continuing my path towards an Educator IV prior to the faculty track.