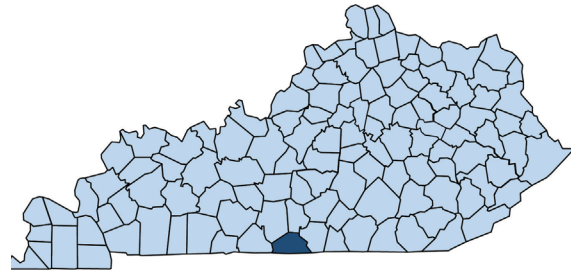


# REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



## Monroe County 2021



**DID YOU KNOW...** Agriculture and forestry generated over \$90 million dollar of income for Monroe Countians in 2020.



**Website:** <https://monroe.ca.uky.edu/>



**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/monroeces/>

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## Agriculture and Natural Resources



A video was produced on high tunnel strawberry production and made available on social media at the peak of the pandemic.

324

Number of people impacted by Advisory Councils, community organizations, and other volunteers

81

Number of people who gained knowledge of forage production, management and/or profitability which could include species, best management practices for species, forage harvest and storage, pasture renovation

## 4-H Youth Development

Youth Yoga is one of our 4-H programs which was offered at each elementary school during the summer school sessions. The youth in grades Kindergarten to fifth grade participated in a weekly yoga class for four weeks. Pre-program evaluations showed that 59% of the youth had never tried Yoga as a form of exercise and 25% did not know how to use their breath to help calm their feelings or to help them relax. The youth learned deep breathing techniques and practiced the techniques upon entry in the class.

The teachers commented that the youth were more ready to focus on assigned tasks following the classes. Post-program evaluations showed that 87% of the youth felt they could use their breath to help be more calm and relaxed. 83% would like to continue the yoga class.

The Monroe Co. Ag & Natural Resources Agent was able to provide in-person assistance during the Covid-19 pandemic. Approximately 280 individuals participated in the County Agriculture Investment Program. All of them attended an in-person informational meeting. The CAIP program provided over \$458,000 in agriculture investment monies to the participants.

Eighty-two of the CAIP participants also had to become Beef Quality & Care Assurance certified. The reporting agent held three in-person programs to train and certify them. The agent also held five in-person training sessions for 34 producers to obtain or renew their Private Pesticide Applicator certifications. Sixteen vendors were certified for the Senior Farmers' market Nutrition Program and the Women, Infants, and Children program. The SFMNP and WIC programs will inject over \$27,000 into our local farmers' markets.



Tompkinsville Elementary Students learn the benefits of Yoga.

100

Number of youth who indicated they talked about ways to be active in 4-H

40

Number of youth who report making healthy lifestyle choices

## Family and Consumer Sciences



Monroe Superintendent, Amy Thompson, accepts masks sewn for students.

15

Number of adults reached through volunteers conducting Extension programs and/or activities

50

Number of Extension programs/activities conducted by volunteers

## Horticulture

Bees play a major role in the pollination of plants and crops, and are extremely important commercially for farming practices. The Monroe Co. Ag & Natural Resources Agent began a honeybee operation on his farm in order to provide educational opportunities for clientele. Four beehives were installed April of 2020. Three videos on site selection and beehive installation were recorded and have reached over 500 people on social media. Three other videos were recorded in July of 2020 on how to inspect a beehive.

The Monroe Co. ANR Agent installed four additional hives in April of 2021. The beehive program has resulted in more people being made aware of the importance of bees to our crops and environment. This program has provided a habitat for eight colonies of bees and has increased pollination of nearby crops. Three other individuals have installed beehives locally as a result of this project.

The COVID-19 Pandemic presented a number of challenges for school systems. One of those challenges was ensuring that children who attended in-person classes would have a face mask. The Monroe County Superintendent contacted the Monroe County Homemaker organization and asked if the group would be willing to sew face masks for the students entering the school system in September. The fabric and elastic was provided by the school system.

The masks were cut by a local clothing manufacturer, and the homemaker and community members sewed 1900 masks for the children in the Monroe County school district. The basement of the extension office was set up so that those who wanted to participate, but did not have access to a sewing machine, could make an appointment and work on the project while adhering to social distancing guidelines.



Education videos were produced to demonstrate the installation of honeybees into a hive; beehive

73

Number of people who gained knowledge in honey production, marketing and proper maintenance

10

Number of beekeepers who increased their knowledge on establishing and maintaining hives, honey production, and marketing

## Community Economic Development

Because most of our traditional field days were canceled due to Covid, agents collaborated on the Mammoth Cave Area Virtual Field Day. The ANR/Hort agents in our ten county area worked as a team to develop educational videos of three operations. McKinney Farms in Butler Co. produces and sells bagged ear corn. Kevin Lyons in Monroe Co. demonstrated strawberry production in a high tunnel. Ricky Keen in Simpson Co. highlighted the advantages of using a cattle feeding pad.

The virtual field day was held using the Zoom platform. The 112 attendees were able to ask questions of the presenters. Over 96% rated the virtual field day as an excellent program, and 28% indicated they will make a change to their farming operation. One attendee stated, "I work days and I really appreciate that the program was in the evening where I could watch it with my family and learn together."



Drone demonstrations are a popular way for youth to learn about new ag technologies.

27

Number of farmers adopting new technologies in agriculture production

31

Number of people who incorporated technology to effectively manage farm operations

*... just a few ways Extension supports Kentucky*

- **23,971** Kentucky youth who participated in a project, activity or event in science, engineering and technology through 4-H programming.
- **4,890** Kentucky producers adopting new technologies in agriculture production.
- **3,898** Kentucky families who supplemented their diets with foods they grew or preserved.
- **4,161** Kentuckians participating in community trail projects.

## COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



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