

LSU AgCenter Union Parish Profile

Report to Stakeholders January 2026



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

Nutrition and Community Health

Nutrition and Community Health agents and educators are improving the overall health of residents by helping to reduce chronic diseases which are related to poor nutrition and sedentary lifestyles and improving the health outcomes in which Louisiana has traditionally ranked so low. This community-based work helps individuals and families adopt the nutrition and physical activity principles we have long been teaching. The NCH agent provides research-based programs that address nutrition, health and wellness and community and economic development. These programs holistically address the family unit by providing educational programming that helps families live their most healthy lives, while promoting community and economic development.

4-H Youth Development

Union Parish 4-H has in-school and At-Large homeschool clubs in the parish's public, charter, and private schools reaching 250 youth in 4th-12th grades. Hands-on educational programs in science, leadership, and social skills are provided monthly to 4-H club members. 4-H Cloverbuds offers age appropriate, fun, and exploratory learning experiences for children in the third grade. School Enrichment is offered in a sequence of learning experiences for groups of youth in the classroom during school hours supporting the school curriculum. It involves direct teaching by extension faculty. Programs are specific, with an emphasis on science, engineering, and technology.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

The Louisiana coastline is eroding daily. Terrebonne Parish residents are concerned about this erosion and have decided to do something to address it. They have undertaken a comprehensive effort, which included participating in Acorns of Hope, a tree planting program in coastal parishes to help protect from storm surge and wind damage. More than 100 youth and adults learned about tree planting and planted 700 live oaks in the coastal areas of the parish. Another 2,000 trees were donated by the Tree Board and Apache Corporation Tree Grant Program and were planted by 275 residents.

PROGRAMS

4-H and Youth Development

- 4-H.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Animal Production.
- Beef Cattle.
- Horticulture/Lawn and Garden.
- Pest Management.

Nutrition and Community Health

- Healthy Communities
- Flavors of Health.
- Food Safety.

EXTENSION OFFICE

LSU AgCenter – Union Parish
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Email:
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Office Hours:



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

Website: www.LSUAgCenter.com
www.LSUAgCenter.com/Union

Social Media:
Facebook: Union Parish 4-H

Parish Chair:
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WHOM WE REACH:

2,000 Youth.
3,900 Adults.

HOW WE REACH THEM:

4-H Clubs, school enrichment, field days, publications, newsletters, class series, website, social media and workshops.

EXPANDING OUR EFFORTS:

84 volunteers from 4-H, Master Gardeners, Master Horseman, Shooting Sports, Livestock, and NCH.

PARISH FACTS:

LSU AgCenter county agents provide research-based information on plant, aquaculture, wildlife and animal enterprises to Union Parish residents. The total dollar amount from these commodities were: Animal enterprises, \$243,919,757; aquaculture and wildlife, \$4,994,643; plant enterprises, \$47,092,280.
Land area — 905 square miles; Population — 21,107; Population 65 years old and over 22.1%; Median household income — \$45,743.

LOCAL ISSUES AND PLANS FOR THIS YEAR:

Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana agriculture.

- Herd Health/ Production.
- Reproduction.
- Ranch Economics.
- Grazing Management.
- Hay Production.

Promote the wide use of natural resources and protection of the environment.

- Conduct Private Pesticide Applicator training and recertification programs.
- Provide soil and forage analysis.
- Conduct farm and home educational visits.

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

- Leadership Skills.
- Public Speaking.
- Parent Engagement.
- Mentoring and Guidance
- Healthy Living Lifestyles

Strengthen families and communities.

- Diabetic Nutrition.
- Conduct workshops on food preparation and food preservation.
- Gut health.
- Budget/ Stretch your food dollars/ still eat healthy.
- Weight and obesity.



HOW IS EXTENSION FUNDED?

- Federal funding from the USDA/ NIFA.
- State general funds from the Louisiana Legislature.
- Local support from parish government, including police juries and school boards.
- Self-generated funds.



WHAT ROLE DO YOU PLAY?

Our stakeholders at the parish level are the local supporters and beneficiaries of the LSU AgCenter cooperative extension programs. Their support keeps these critical programs in their communities.



EACH PARISH OFFERS PROGRAMMING IN:

- 4-H and Youth Development.
- Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- Nutrition and Community Health



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