Training the Trainer to *Improve Agricultural Production for Navajo Farmers and Ranchers on the Navajo Nation*

Nov. 9, 2014
Presented by Bryan Neztsosie
Made by Audre Etsitty, Extension Specialist and Amy Redhorse
With this 2014 Extension Grant, the Dine College Extension Professionals will work with farmers and ranchers to coach and facilitate producers to implement new management practices.

- Quick History and Facts:
  - 1968 - Dine College was established
  - 1996 – Land Grant Office was created
  - Each semester Dine College serves over 2000 students with two main campus and four community centers.
  - Navajo Nation is the largest land base tribe of 27,425 square miles and largest population tribe.
  - Navajo Nation consists of 110 chapters similar to county boundaries, with five governmental agencies of Northern, Eastern, Fort Defiance, Central and Western.
  - There are 65 Grazing Officials and 12 Farm Boards on the Navajo Nation.
“Improving Agricultural Production for Navajo Farmers and Ranchers through effective Tribal College Extension Service”

Funding by USDA NIFA Tribal College Extension Grant (2014 Extension)

• Goals: To effectively enhance producers current management practices in farming, ranching, and rangeland management by offering one-on-one education and support.
Barriers/Obstacles

• NN considered open rangeland $\Rightarrow$ overgrazing & disease outbreaks
• Comfortable with current practices
• Facilities and equipment to educate
• Regional workshops $\Rightarrow$ minimal implementation
• Travel time and locations for each producer.
Objective and Selection

Objective:
• Diné College Land Grant Office Extension will utilize the curriculum developed to educate producers through one on one support to enhance management practices.

Target Audience: Producers selected must already be an active producer
Over four years LGO will reach out to:
• 100 Navajo agricultural producers (a total of 25 producers annually) Agricultural Youth Camp (80 youth interested in ranching and farming) between the ages of 14 to 17.
• Navajo Nation Grazing officials and livestock producers
• 1862 Land Grant Institutions
Ag Camps
# Timeline for each year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Livestock / Range</th>
<th>Crop and Vegetable Production</th>
<th>Agriculture Youth Camp</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Identify Producers</td>
<td>Identify Producers</td>
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<td>October November</td>
<td>Crop evaluation, Identify markets, Conduct Workshops, Herd Health Management</td>
<td>Crop production planning, Conduct workshops, soil-water-plant relationship, gather all land use doc., develop conservation plans, Identify resources/funding</td>
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<td>December</td>
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<td>January February</td>
<td>Establish a Breeding plan, birthing record, collect birth weight, sheep and goat shearing</td>
<td>Establish a timeline to implement planting, irrigation and harvesting. Conduct research on where to purchase seeds. Pricing, equipment and tools necessary. Schedule planting and irrigations.</td>
<td>Develop youth camp application, itinerary, identify key collaborators, secure facilities and transportation.</td>
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<td>March</td>
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<td>April May June June</td>
<td>Conduct Spring vaccination and implement the breeding plan. Establish weaning plan.</td>
<td>Farmland Preparation, Maintain irrigation schedules, vegetable.</td>
<td>Recruitment youth participants Conduct the youth agricultural camp</td>
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<td>July</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Implement weaning plan</td>
<td>Harvesting and marketing produce</td>
<td>Establish reports and finding: Identify challenges and recommend charges.</td>
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# Workshops

## Livestock Workshop Schedule

**Friday, December 19, 2014 “Animal Reproduction”**
- Benita: Introductions, program expectations, goal setting, manual review
- Amy: Pre-questionnaire
- Specialist TBA: Breeding and soundness exams
- Amy: Post-Questionnaire

**Friday, November 21, 2014 “Record Keeping”**
- Benita: Introductions, program expectations, goal setting, manual review
- Amy: Pre-questionnaire
- Specialist TBA: Breeding and soundness exams
- Amy: Post-Questionnaire

**Monday, January 19, 2015 “Schedule F” Livestock and Farmer**
- Amy: Pre-questionnaire
- Accountant: Using agricultural (hay/horses/fuel/maintenance/veterinary care) record keeping to file taxes
- Amy: Post-Questionnaire

**Friday April 24, 2015 “Heard Health & Record Keeping”**
- Amy: Pre-questionnaire
- Presenters: LGO staff - Proper Vaccination program, Parasite management, Vet records
- Amy: Post-Questionnaire

**Friday, June 12, 2015 “Breeding”**
- Amy: Pre-questionnaire
- Specialist TBA - Preparation and synchronization
- Amy: Post-Questionnaire

**Friday, August 7, 2015**
- Recap, Evaluation & Assessment

## Farmer Workshop Schedule

**Friday, November 21, 2014 “Record Keeping”**
- Benita: Introductions, program expectations, goal setting, manual review
- Amy: Pre-questionnaire
- Presenters: LGO staff/U of A Extension Agent – Basic organizational skills to manage expenses
- Amy: Post-Questionnaire

**Monday, January 19, 2015 “Schedule F”**
- Amy: Pre-questionnaire
- Presenter: Accountant - Using agricultural (seed purchases/fuel/maintenance/labor) record keeping to file taxes
- Amy: Post-Questionnaire

**Friday April 17, 2015 “Soils”**
- Amy: Pre-questionnaire
- Presenters: LGO staff – Learn the importance of soil health
- Amy: Post-Questionnaire

**Friday May 1, 2015 “Irrigation”**
- Amy: Pre-questionnaire
- Presenter: Specialist TBA - water infiltration and application
- Amy: Post-Questionnaire

**Friday, August 7, 2015**
- Recap, Evaluation & Assessment
Thanks to Tribal College Extension Grant in 2011

• In a previous grant, 2011 Tribal College Extension Grant, the Diné College LGO Staff received the necessary training to enhance their knowledge in rangeland, livestock, and farmland management. Which qualified to provide effective technical assistance to ranchers and farmers.
Thank You for your time!

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