

Ohio 4-H Foundation Grant Impact Report

Title of Grant:: Ag. Reality

Applicant Name & Title: Rebecca J. Cropper

Unit Reporting:Brown County

Amount Funded: \$ 500.00

Amount Used: \$ 500.00

Grant Funds Remaining: \$0.00

Calendar Year of Grant:2008

Type of Grant (please mark all that apply):

State Grant	Priority Area Grant
Cashman Grant	Lewis/Barnhart/Jenkins Grant
Cleveland Grant	Ebling Urban Extension Grant
Helt Family Grant	Nationwide Volunteer Development Grant
Sauder Grant	Wadlington Grant
Ulrich Grant	

Please use as much space as needed to answer the following requests for information.

Please give an overview of your project. Assume the reader knows nothing about the program.

The Agriculture Reality program was developed to help students in Farm Business classes understand basic farm management principles. The students were "provided" a 300 acre farm. They are "given" operating capital based upon their grade point average and used the capital and their farm management skills to decide upon their production practices. Twenty agri-businesses, lenders and small farm businesses interacted with the students throughout the course of the day to help them develop their business plan for their farm operation. Prior to the actual event, a seminar was conducted for the students by two representatives from Farm Service. These individuals explained the budget sheets and how to use them in their farm enterprises. The students visited with the agri-business representatives and the financial institutions as they made their decisions on farm inputs and labor. The students were provided with farm maps done by the Soil Conservation Services in Highland and Brown County. At the end of the day each of the presenters visited with the students about their current careers and daily job tasks.

Please list the objectives of the project and evaluate the measurable objectives achieved. Explain how you measured those objectives.

Increase the participant's awareness of the economic principles involved in operating a farm.

Develop an appreciation for careers in agriculture.

Describe the population(s) or target audience(s) served. List how many individuals benefited or were impacted by this program.

106 students in Vocational Agriculture Farm Management classes from Highland, Adams and Brown Counties.

Which of the 8 critical elements were realized in the program and how was this accomplished?

Youth develop marketable skills for lifelong success. The students were actively engaged in determining what they would do with their farming operation. They had to use critical thinking skills, decision making skills and communication skills as they sat down with bankers, and agri-business representatives.

The following data was gathered:

Pre program	After the program	
Program 1 Western Brown, Georgetown, Fayetteville Before the program students had a basic understanding of practices involved in the management of a production agriculture enterprise. 2.87	4.03 on a 5 pt scale	Students completed a likert scale
Effectiveness of the Agriculture Reality Program: Program 1:	8.32 on a 10 pt scale	
Program 2 2.42 Hillsboro/Fairfield	3.08	
Program 3 Ohio Valley/Eastern Brown 3.53	4.42 on a 5 pt scale	
Student statements	"I learned more about running a farm, "I learned how challenging it is to manage an enterprise and how many steps you have to take.	

Provide a **detailed** budget and actual expenditures. Original receipts or copies are not necessary, but be sure that your expenditures are detailed with specific dollar amounts. \$500.00 was used for paper, stencils and printing costs for the handouts associated with the program. These included budgets sheets for over 20 crop and livestock enterprises, expense and income reporting documents for the students, copies of the farm plans and sheets for produced for each station.

If this is a continuing program, please describe future plans/program objectives. The objectives will remain the same as new juniors are involved in the program. One of the strengths of the program is the support from the agri-businesses and lenders who collaborate with this program.

Rebecca J. Cropper _____ 12./15/09 _____

*Photos are available upon request.