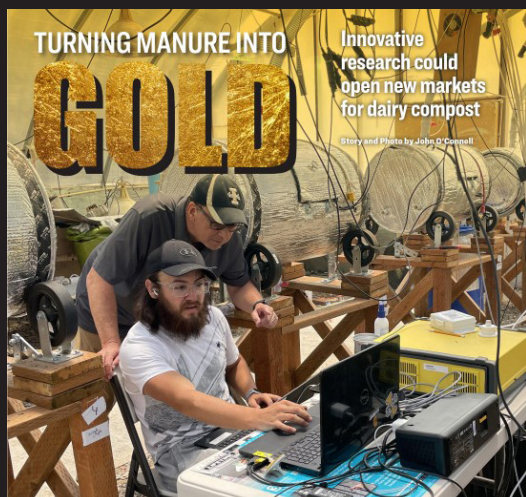


EXTENSION TRENDS: **GOODING COUNTY**

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2024 By the Numbers

- **8,682** direct contacts
- **3,252** youth participants
- **37** volunteers
- **452** volunteer hours
- **\$150,000** extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Gooding County: Cindy Bigler, Mark Bolduc, Ricky Fritz, Kay Hults, Donna Jensen, Carol Johnson, Daniel Knapp, Rebecca Larsen, Judi Lethlean, Marsha Neibling, Jamie Price, Chris Pruett, Priscilla Ruiz, Arlene Shaw, Megan Satterwhite, Larry Walton, Karen Wisniewski and John Wright.

UI Extension Educators



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2024 Impact

The Idaho Sustainable Initiative for Dairy (ISAID) project generated data on dual and double crops with corn silage, and composting dairy manure with amendments. A graduate student defended his master's thesis demonstrating the pilot composting systems' design, construction, testing and performance. Agricultural-related published articles included four journals, one e-book chapter and five conference proceedings representing UI Extension, Gooding County at the national and international levels. The Elevate Teen Retreat focused on workforce skills, jobs and careers, and financial education. Participant surveys showed an increase in knowledge and attitudes related to career choices, financial literacy and savings goals. A follow-up survey indicated that 86% of youth participants had a positive behavior change and kept using the skills learned during the retreat. The Science Exploration Education and Fair provided junior and high school students with opportunities to learn and practice the scientific method and how to work and present their projects on various science topics. The Idaho State School for the Deaf and Blind participated in this effort. Agriscience Fairs were held with 129 youth participants, 86 projects at the local fair, 11 projects at the state fair and two projects qualifying for nationals.

4-H in Gooding County

Gooding County's 4-H program involved 31 volunteers who managed 18 clubs with 198 youth members. The 2024 Gooding County Fair served as the platform for 718 projects in the areas of leadership, shooting sports, family and consumer sciences and large and small animals. Multiple teams participated at county, district and state contests, qualifying for national events. Contests included dairy judging (three teams to state, one team to nationals, high individual in placings at nationals); dairy showmanship (three individuals to nationals, representing Idaho at the World Dairy Expo for the first time in 30 years); livestock judging (three teams to state); livestock quiz bowl (one team to state that qualified for nationals, obtaining fifth place); livestock skill-a-thon (four teams to state); and shooting sports hunting discipline (five individuals to state and four qualifying for the national team). An additional number of youth not participating in clubs were reached with county 4-H program activities, including the spring break program and cake decorating classes. Glenda Knight, a 21-year 4-H volunteer, was awarded the 4-H Volunteer Distinguished Service Award by UI Extension. She will represent the Central District at the state level.

On the Horizon

Educator Mario de Haro Martí continues to generate data for the long-term ISAID grant, developing solutions for Idaho dairy and crop producers. The Extension Foundation awarded Idaho an initial grant to develop education and actionable initiatives for dairy producers to reduce the impact of the H5N1 Avian Influenza virus in dairies. De Haro Martí will lead this effort. Research on soil health and cropping systems' air emissions is underway and will continue in 2025 under the Innovative Agriculture and Marketing Partnership (IAMP) grant. Educator Cindy Kinder plans to expand the shooting sports program and help youth advance to state and national contests. She will conduct year four of the youth livestock program evaluation and create and offer an expanded Exploring Careers program. 4-H Coordinator Shanna Young plans to restart the Gooding County educational days and day-camps for all ages and hold Cloverbud days for youth ages 5-7. Classes will be held for a variety of FCS and STEM projects and efforts will be increased to recruit new members and volunteer leaders. A larger variety of spring break classes will also be offered in 2025.