



AGRICULTURE



NEWS AND UPDATES

January 2025

Happy New Year! January is off to a running start. Students are back in session for the spring semester, and faculty and staff are busy developing programs to support our land-grant mission. As we settle into 2025, several activities and initiatives are underway for the new year.

The results are in from our statewide assessment survey to better understand community needs and develop a comprehensive strategy to modernize Extension in Oklahoma. Here are some of the key findings.

- Respondents included 600 Oklahoma residents and 645 individuals through the OSU Extension network.
- 92% of current Extension users are somewhat or extremely satisfied with OSU Extension.
- 89% of Extension users agree that "OSU Extension helped me solve a program and/or helped me improve my or my family's, community's or business's quality of life."
- 80% of Oklahomans are satisfied with their experiences with OSU Extension.

In addition, it has been at least a decade since OSU Agriculture updated its strategic plan. For the past year, we have been identifying priorities to align ourselves with OSU's strategic plan and position resources for the future.

Stay tuned for more information on the survey and strategic plan in the coming weeks.

Jayson Lusk

Jayson Lusk
Vice President and Dean
OSU Agriculture

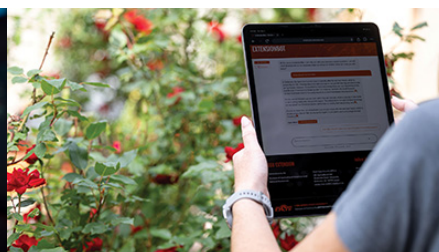
Dr. Lusk's Lens



Dr. Lusk makes bread with Brett Carver, OSU Department of Plant and Soil Sciences regents professor and wheat genetics chair, in the Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center baking lab and discusses the importance of the wheat industry in Oklahoma and the nation.

Mission Focus

OSU Agriculture is comprised of the Ferguson College of Agriculture and two state agencies: OSU Ag Research and OSU Extension. Learn the latest from our three mission areas.



Teaching

Ferguson College of Agriculture graduate will serve as the youngest speaker in the state's history.

[Read more about Kyle Hilbert](#)

Research

OSU Ag Research helps to increase science-based knowledge and develop technology to improve the lives of Oklahomans.

[Watch the Ag Research Video](#)

Extension

OSU Extension reaches new clients and connects rapidly growing digital audiences with an AI chatbot.

[Read more about ExtensionBot](#)

Cultivating Excellence

Past Issues

Convocation Awards

OSU Agriculture faculty and staff were honored at the 2024 University Awards Convocation.

[Read More about Convocation](#)



Mentoring Award

OSU honored OSU Extension southeast district director Claude Bess with the Leave the Ladder Down Award.

[Read More about Mentoring Award](#)

Distinguished Educators

Brian Freking and Brian Pugh received the OSU Extension Distinguished Educator Award during the OSU Extension County Extension Director conference.

[Read More about Educators](#)



Voices from the Field



“SUNUP” - Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

“SUNUP” introduces viewers to Joshua Campbell, the new OSU Extension beginning farmer and rancher specialist, and offers information on the 2025 Oklahoma Local Ag Summit event.

Sow & Grow



Best of “Oklahoma Gardening” - Plant Showcase

“Oklahoma Gardening” looks back at different plants featured on the show, including petunias, calibrachoa, creeping phlox, contorted filbert, lavender and more.

Photo Spotlight



Winter Wonderland

Agricultural Hall received its first blanket of snow in early January. ❄️

News & Events



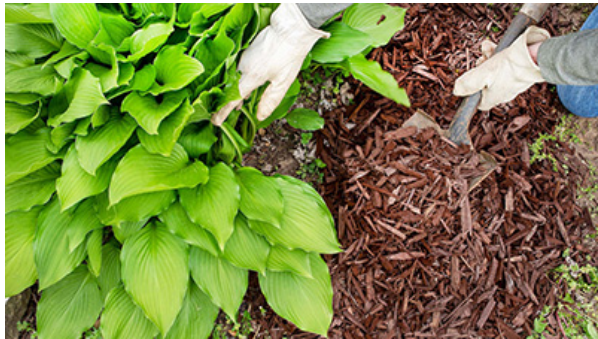
Lifestyle Behaviors

The cold and flu season is rampant now, so how can people protect themselves? A strong immune system is the key, and a healthy lifestyle is the best way to support that.



Pecan Pest Workshop

Seasoned and novice pecan growers are invited to participate in the Oklahoma Pecan Management Program's free 2025 Pecan Pest Management Workshop on Feb. 20.



Mulch in Landscape

Quality soil and adequate moisture are two must-haves for successful gardening. Mulch is another key factor that plays an important role in aesthetics and plant health.

[Read More about Mulch](#)



Winter Blues

The holiday rush is over, and many people will experience a touch of the winter blues over the next couple of months. Fight those winter blues with sunlight and fresh air.

[Read More about Winter Blues](#)

Give to OSU Agriculture



Help Feed the World

Supporting OSU Agriculture helps further initiatives to positively impact the lives of Oklahomans and the state's economy.

[Make a Gift](#)





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