

Texas Water Resources Institute

Development of a Synergistic, Comprehensive Statewide Lone Star Healthy Streams Program FY 09 CWA 319(h) TSSWCB Project No. 09-06

Quarter no. 11 from 4/1/12 through 6/30/12

I. Abstract

This quarter, the beef, dairy, horse, and feral hog manuals were sent to the printer and are expected to be delivered early next quarter. Publication numbers are as follows: Beef (B-6245), Dairy (B-6253), Horse (B-6254), and Feral Hog (B-6256). AgComm is completing its final review of the poultry manual. Once AgComm comments are received on it and all edits made, it will be formatted and sent off for printing as well. The Extension Program Specialist has drafted all educational presentations as well. Dr. Redmon continues to deliver the beef program throughout the state. This quarter, components of LSHS were delivered to >550 people throughout Texas. Drs. Coufal, Jordan, and Cavinder will pilot the poultry, dairy, and horse programs, respectively, at upcoming meetings in October. The Extension Program Specialist continues to make progress on the online version of the manuals. To date, the beef, horse, and feral hog components have been developed and work is now working progressing on the poultry and dairy components. As the project begins to wind down over the next 4 months, work will now begin on developing the Final Report and carrying out the final components of the project.

II. Overall Progress and Results by Task

TASK 1: Project Administration

Subtask 1.1: *TWRI will prepare electronic quarterly progress reports (QPRs) for submission to the TSSWCB. QPRs shall document all activities performed within a quarter and shall be posted to the project website and distributed to all project partners.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI submitted Quarter 10 Progress Report on July 13, 2012.

85% Complete

Subtask 1.2: *TWRI will perform accounting functions for project funds and will submit appropriate Reimbursement Forms to TSSWCB at least quarterly.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. As of July 3, 2012, \$273,624 or 72% of federal project funds had been expended.

72% Complete

Subtask 1.3: *TWRI will host coordination meetings, conference calls, or TTVN meetings with the TSSWCB Project Manager and SCSC at least quarterly to discuss project activities, project schedule, communication needs, deliverables, and other requirements. TWRI will develop lists of action items needed following each project meeting and distribute to project personnel.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No coordination meetings were held this quarter.

85% Complete

Subtask 1.4: *TWRI will work with AgriLife Extension to develop a Final Report.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

0% Complete

TASK 2: LSHS Program Coordination

Subtask 2.1: *AgriLife Extension SCSC will hire an Extension Program Specialist responsible for carrying out all Subtasks for Tasks 2 and 3.*

100% Complete

Subtask 2.2: *TWRI and AgriLife Extension will utilize the framework of the TSSWCB project 06-05 LSHS Project Steering Committee to establish a LSHS Program Steering Committee to direct this synergistic project, serve as the review panel for the educational materials developed through the project, and provide endorsement of the final LSHS Program. This LSHS Program Steering Committee will meet as frequently as needed, likely semi-annually.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No further meetings of the full LSHS steering committee are planned.
- b. Endorsements were received from Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas, Texas Poultry Federation, Texas HORSE, Texas Association of Dairymen, Texas Pork Producers Association, Texas Wildlife Association, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service, and Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative.

100% Complete

Subtask 2.3: *The Extension Program Specialist will work with the Principal Investigators of the amassed body of work to compile the information and educational materials developed. This LSHS Program Development Committee shall meet as often as needed and serve to ensure that the Extension Program Specialist accurately captures and represents the species-specific information from the amassed body of work.*

100% Complete

Subtask 2.4: *The Professor/State Forage Specialist, with assistance as needed from TWRI, will work closely with Texas AgriLife Extension Service Regional Program Directors, County Extension Agents, Extension Specialists, and other Extension Leadership, as appropriate, to ensure that the LSHS Program is supported around the state to ensure delivery of this program upon completion.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The State Forage Specialist continues to work with Extension Leadership and other pertinent project partners to ensure program support and successful statewide program delivery.

85% Complete

TASK 3: LSHS Program Development

Subtask 3.1: *The Extension Program Specialist will compile the amassed body of work including, but not limited to, information and educational materials developed through TSSWCB projects 06-05, 06-08, 06-07, 05-06, and 08-07.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The compilation of the amassed body of information and educational materials is complete and has been incorporated into LSHS manuals, presentations, and the online database which is available online at <http://lshs.tamu.edu>.

100% Complete

Subtask 3.2: *The Extension Program Specialist will work with the materials (subtask 3.1) and the Development Committee (subtask 2.3) to develop standardized educational manuals on bacteria issues and BMPs for addressing bacteria runoff from grazing cattle, dairy cattle, poultry, horses, and feral hogs.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The beef, dairy, horse, and feral hog manuals have been sent to the printer and are expected to be delivered early next quarter. Publication numbers are as follows: Beef (B-6245), Dairy (B-6253), Horse (B-6254), and Feral Hog (B-6256).
- b. AgComm is completing final review of the poultry manual. Once their comments are received and all edits made, it will be formatted and sent off for printing as well.

90% Complete

Subtask 3.3: *The Extension Program Specialist will work with the materials (subtask 3.1) and the Development Committee (subtask 2.3) to develop standardized educational presentations on bacteria issues and BMPs for addressing bacteria runoff from grazing and dairy cattle, poultry, horses, and feral hogs to be used for in-person LSHS Program delivery. These presentations should be based on and flow from the Resource Manuals (subtask 3.2)*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The Extension Program Specialist has drafted all educational presentations.

90% Complete

Subtask 3.4: *The Extension Program Specialist will develop promotional materials to be used for LSHS Program delivery and to inform the public of the availability of the LSHS Program.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. LSHS brochure has been approved by the TSSWCB.

100% Complete

Subtask 3.5: *The Extension Program Specialist will work with TDA and Texas Certified Crop Advisors Program to establish CEU credits for the educational program to encourage participation by landowners and crop advisors in the program.*

100% Complete

Subtask 3.6: *The Extension Program Specialist will develop pre- and post- participant surveys to evaluate (1) changes in producer knowledge and awareness, (2) expected adoption of BMPs, and (3) any barriers to producer participation and successful implementation of the program to be used at in-person LSHS Program delivery events.*

100% Complete

Subtask 3.7: *The Extension Program Specialist, Professor & State Forage Specialist, Assistant Professor & District Agronomist at Overton, and the Assistant Professor & District Agronomist at Corpus Christi will pilot each of the five components of the LSHS Program at selected sites in East, Central, and South Texas. Watersheds selected for piloting of the LSHS Program shall be TSSWCB priority TMDL or WPP watersheds.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. This quarter, the LSHS concept was introduced through presentations at:
 - 4/5/12 - Lampasas – 24 people
 - 4/13/12 - College Station – 19 people
 - 4/27/12 - Schulenburg – 58 people
 - 5/24/12 - Hamilton, Freestone, Milam, Coryell, McLennan, Eastland, Falls, and Comanche Counties – 82 people
 - 6/7/12 - Southeast and South Central Texas Regional Watershed Coordination Steering Committee, Columbus – 24 people
 - 6/19/12 - Stiles Farm Field Day, Thrall – 92 people
 - 6/27/12 - Farm Bureau Meeting – 251 people
- b. Drs. Coufal, Jordan, and Cavinder will pilot the poultry, dairy, and horse programs, respectively, at upcoming meetings in October.

85% Complete

TASK 4: Develop Interactive Website to Increase Access to LSHS Program

Subtask 4.1: *Using the latest appropriate technology, the Extension Program Specialist and TWRI IT Associate will work together to develop an interactive website to make the educational materials developed under Task 3 easily accessible by the public, landowners, county agents, soil and water conservation districts, decision makers, and others. The Extension Program Specialist will also evaluate the feasibility of providing CEUs for participation in online modules and if found to be feasible, will work to make those available online as well.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The Extension Program Specialist continues to make progress on the online version of the manuals. To date, the beef, horse, and feral hog components have been developed. Work is now working progressing on the poultry and dairy components.

85% Complete

Subtask 4.2: *The Extension Program Specialist will develop and provide information for the website to the TWRI IT Specialist and update this information quarterly. The number of unique visitors to the website will be tracked to assess its impact and reported in each QPR.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. This quarter, the website was viewed by 139 unique visitors. Since implementation in September 2010, <http://lshs.tamu.edu> has seen a grand total of 935 unique visitors.

85% Complete

III. Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable or Unusual Developments

- N/A

IV. Projected Work for Next Quarter

- Initiate work on Final Report
- Continue to work with Extension Leadership to ensure program support and successful statewide program delivery
- Receive beef, dairy, horse, and feral hog manuals from printer
- Finalize poultry and send to printer
- Finalize LSHS presentations
- Continue program delivery throughout state
- Continue work on poultry and dairy components of the interactive website