When you support Extension Animal Science, farmers adopt record keeping and reproductive management techniques, improving production and quality of beef herds, resulting in a stronger, local food system and economy.

Northern Kentucky Beef Reproductive Efficiency Program

Improving farm profitability of beef herds in Boone, Campbell, Grant, Kenton and Pendleton Counties as part of a five year research project.
The Beef Reproductive Efficiency Program is in the first of a five year project and has served **175 beef producers in Northern Kentucky**. The goal of the program is to **improve the reproductive efficiency and farm profitability of beef herds**. The instruction was conducted by University of Kentucky specialist, and area Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agents.

Cooperating farmers **recorded baseline data** prior to implementing reproductive management practices and **hosted on-farm field days** to demonstrate reproductive management practices such as artificial insemination, pregnancy testing and body condition scoring. **Follow up farm visits** are conducted by Extension Specialists and Agents to review reproductive management strategies, production records and to set individual farm goals.

Beef producers who have attended programs and demonstrations have learned and implemented **improved practices including: estrous synchronization, artificial insemination, synchronizing late calving cows, an improved vaccination program and initiated production records.**

Ninety-two percent of participants identified themselves as commercial cow/calf producers selling feeder calves.

Goals of the Beef Reproductive Efficiency program include:

- Reduce cost and increase profits
- Provide healthy, safe beef for local food system
- Demonstrate new reproduction management skills
- Improve reproductive efficiency of beef herds
- Increase calf weaning weights
- Adopt record keeping practices
- Improve pasture /forage quality
- Extend the grazing season
- Use more efficient reproduction methods and testing