



Natural Resources
Program Focus Team

WATER QUALITY AND AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT IN PONDS

This training event is one of a series of themes, designed for county agents in partnership between Kansas State University Research and Extension's Natural Resources Program Focus Team and the Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment (KCARE).

Training Format

Due to Covid-19, county and district extension agents have been unable to meet in-person or continue their professional development goals. This training series was designed to offer the highest quality live presentations, resources, and expert speakers and panelists. All sessions were recorded and can be made available, and all supporting materials are on the KCARE website for download.

“Well done! These trainings were **full of useful information.**”

— Extension Agent and training participant

Theme 2 Sessions

This workshop series provided overviews on a variety of key issues related to livestock pond management. Each of these one-hour sessions consisted of a presentation by water quality experts, followed by Q&A with a variety of panelists.

Aquatic plant management in ponds

Presented by Charlie Lee, Extension Specialist, K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry

Water contaminants affecting cattle health

Presented by A.J. Tarpoff, Assistant Professor and Extension Beef Veterinarian, K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry

Blue-green algae and its dangers to livestock and pets

Presented by Steve Ensley, K-State College of Veterinary Medicine; Scott Fritz, K-State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory; Jody Holtaus, Meadowlark District Extension Agent; and Elizabeth Smith, Kansas Department of Health and Environment Bureau of Water



Theme 2 Participants

This training had **54 unique participants**, attending over three separate sessions, taking place in a two-week period. Half of the participants attended two or more sessions. Attending each session were a mix of county and district agents, KSRE specialists, and program coordinators. **Multiple Program Focus Teams (PFTs) were represented**, including members of the Natural Resources, Livestock Production, Farm Management, Crop Production, Community Vitality, and Horticulture PFT groups.



Online Format

More than 90% of survey respondents said that the **training resulted in a better understanding of the topic**, and more than 90% of respondents also said that the training met or exceeded their expectations.



Extension Community Resources

Nearly all respondents indicated in post-training polls that **they would use the additional resources provided** as supplemental information for each session. Participants said they would include the resources in their own presentations, newsletters, extension publications, online materials, radio programs, and in face-to-face meetings with producers.