

# EXTENSION TRENDS: BINGHAM COUNTY

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## 2020 By the Numbers

- **6,179** direct contacts
- **1,388** youth participants
- **79** volunteers
- **\$154,049** extramural funding

## Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Bingham County: Jessica Lewis, Lloyd Tolman, Nola Cates, Ryan Searle, Kellie Park, Keith Salisbury and Brooklyn Carlile.

## UI Extension Educators



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## 2020 Impact

Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) Educator Julie Buck provides programming in the areas of food preservation, food safety, nutrition and health. In 2020 she served as a leader in three national organizations and published one professional article and three UI Extension publications. Buck taught an online Dining with Diabetes class and co-created a National Extension Dining with Diabetes email challenge. She taught online food demonstrations for Idaho State University Workforce Training and recorded a food preservation video. For 4-H Youth Development, Buck taught sewing project groups and day camps, taught high school students how to use an electric pressure cooker and mentored a Brigham Young University-Idaho student.

Reed Findlay has continued studying the thrips insect pest in alfalfa crops and extended his research by implementing a very controlled study in a greenhouse setting. This will enable him to calculate a more precise economic threshold for this pest. He has presented preliminary results of this work at the UI Forage Schools and at the National Association of Ag Agents annual meeting. This work is part of a team of field men, growers, specialists and educators in Blackfoot and Mud Lake. Findlay is also assisting recently hired UI agronomist, Jacob Spackman, in studying the agronomics of forage cereal production. This study will investigate use of the various grains such as teff, wheat, barley and oats as forage crops and how best to grow them. Findlay has again partnered with other educators and specialists to determine how teff grass responds to herbicides. This preliminary data can eventually be used to develop a herbicide label for this crop, making it easier for producers to include it in their rotations.

## 4-H in Bingham County

The 4-H Youth Development program in Bingham County reaches youth by taking classes to schools in outlying communities. Hands-on projects were Cooking 101 at two elementary schools and Idaho history. Efforts will continue to make 4-H more accessible to youth in more rural areas.

There were 368 4-H livestock projects by Bingham County youth and a total of 215 animals were sold at the 4-H fair.

## On the Horizon

Upcoming 4-H programming includes Dabble in Dissection and afterschool programming during the school year. FCS efforts include Dining with Diabetes and Food Preservation classes for adults, and Welcome to the Real World, Electric Pressure Cooking, and School Pantry Project for youth. Buck is collaborating with Bingham Memorial Hospital educators on an Idaho Project Filter grant to take nicotine prevention education to Bingham County third and fourth grade classrooms. Findlay will continue studying the viability and agronomics of teff grass in Idaho to develop an herbicide label. Teff is a C4 grass that has not been used as a pasture grass in Idaho. This year's results show that even a late planting of teff can match yields of traditional grass forage crops.