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Growing high-altitude master gardener program through collaboration

Story by Jen Werlin Extension Educator in Community Food Systems University of Idaho Extension, Teton County

AT A GLANCE

Piloted in Blaine, Teton and Valley Countries, the adoption of web conferencing technology enable educators to offer the first highaltitude short season master gardener course in Idaho.

The Situation

Extension community education programs have a strong tradition of providing in-person classes. While this remains the preferred method of learning for Idaho residents (according to the 2023 statewide listening session), 40% of learners indicated they are very interested in hybrid classroom learning environments.

Since 2014, Extension has been implementing a virtual hybrid distributed conference and classroom model. The hybrid delivery of Extension programs has been successful in reaching larger rural audiences, using fewer staff and resources while providing specialist and horticultural knowledge to rural communities across the nation. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, a local facilitator was required to coordinate the technology needed for a distributed conference model. However, postpandemic, familiarity with web conferencing technology has become widespread among the public. This cultural shift enabled the first-ever statewide coordinated effort to offer a hybrid master gardener learning experience focused on the high-altitude regions of Idaho.

Our Response

In 2024, under the leadership of Ron Patterson and Lena Allen in Bonneville County, the Idaho Master Gardener Program launched a statewide effort to standardize the foundational content of the program through the development of an online class on the Canvas learning platform. This course created consistent and convenient learning experiences for rural Idaho participants, which can be implemented by any University of Idaho Extension educator. Educators in Blaine, Teton and

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

Valley counties used this online course to create a customized hybrid course tailored to the specific needs of highaltitude regions with short growing seasons.

Students could access the virtual classroom asynchronously, following the foundational content in Canvas at their own pace. The high-altitude Idaho Master Gardener Program course also included 13 remote synchronous "lunch and learn" weekly meetings, offering peer-to-peer participant learning via Zoom. Each county was responsible for planning and hosting in-person classes with local stakeholders throughout the course. Idaho master gardeners are required to contribute volunteer hours to their communities, with local volunteer opportunities coordinated during the summer and fall.

Program Outcomes

The overall experience of participating in the hybrid Idaho Master Gardener Program course was measured through a pilot pre- and post-course survey. Of the participants, 69% rated the class as excellent, 23% as good and 8% as average. The primary outcomes of intended behavior change indicated that 92% of participants planned to manage invasive and noxious weeds and grow their gardens in raised beds. Additionally, 85% of participants planned to implement mulching, landscape planning, vegetable gardening and establish seasonextension infrastructure in their gardens.

There was a 77% increase in knowledge about the role of Cooperative Extension in their communities and the various programs available through University of Idaho Extension.

The mean score comparisons of the preand post-class surveys indicated that learning increased more in some areas than in others. The topics with the most significant increases in knowledge included pesticides, diagnosing plant problems, turf management, season extension, pathology and growing in micro-climates.

Percentage increase in knowledge gained:

- 76% Pesticides
- 77% Diagnosing plant problems
- 85% Turf management
- 85% Season extension
- 89% Pathology
- 99% Growing in micro-climates

In October 2024, these findings were presented at the American Association for Adult and Continuing Edu-cation Virtual Conference.

The Future

The high-altitude educators aim to formalize their pilot survey tool for a statewide audience. Working in collaboration with Ron Patterson and Lena Allen for access to statewide data via the Canvas e-learning course, further research will explore the impacts of the Idaho Master Gardener Program statewide. Institutional Review Board approval for a paired t-test quantitative analysis will be pursued through partnership and collaboration in 2026.

Cooperators and Co-Sponsors

The high-altitude short-season Idaho Master Gardener Program would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of Bonneville County master gardener staff and Erin Doty, the director of Extension publishing and Extension online education. Working together, they established the online Idaho Master Gardener Program course on Canvas, laying a firm foundation for program quality, accessibility and increased capacity for the Idaho Master Gardener Program statewide.



Master gardeners celebrating their graduation after completing the coursework and 30 hours of volunteer service.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Melissa Hamilton, Extension Educator • University of Idaho Extension, Valley County • 208-382-7190 • mbhamilton@uidaho.edu

Jennifer Werlin, Extension Educator • University of Idaho Extension, Teton County • 208-776-8235 • jwerlin@uidaho.edu

Grant Loomis, Extension Educator • University of Idaho Extension, Blaine County • 208-788-5585 • <u>gloomis@uidaho.edu</u>

Ron Patterson, Extension Educator • University of Idaho Extension, Bonneville County • 208-529-1390 • <u>rpatterson@uidaho.edu</u>

Lena Allen, Horticulture Secretary • University of Idaho Extension, Bonneville County • 208-529-1390 • <u>lallen@uidaho.edu</u>



University of Idaho Extension

Grow. Eat. Save.

High-Altitude Victory

Garden Course



Prepare your family to grow, eat & preserve fresh, healthy food... & save money doing it!

> A 3-week course May 13-29, 2025 Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12-1:30 pm

In-person at UI Extension Office at 445 N. Main St., Driggs, Idaho \$55 per individual or first family member (\$10 for additional family members)

Registration Deadline: May 11, 2025 To register or for more info, contact UI Extension, Teton County at 445 N. Main, Driggs, ID or 208-776-8235, email: teton@uidaho.edu Register online: https://tinyurl.com/TetonIVG2025

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2025 Idaho Home Garden Tips

2nd & 4th Tuesdays 7:00pm MT

Zoom: https://uidaho.zoom.us/j/92616335377

Feb. 11	Seed Shopping-what to look for when selecting seeds	July 8	Voles
Feb. 25	Managing trees & shrubs in the landscape	July 22	Chip bud grafting fruit trees
March 11	Delayed dormant spraying, spring insect control	Aug 12	Deer proofing your yard
March 25	Spring Weed Control	Aug 19	Late season flowers
Apr. 8	Soil Testing	Aug 26	Dehydrating your harvest
Apr. 22	Flowers for Every Season- Spring	Sept 9	Other species feces- understanding manures
May 13	Understanding and using fertilizer	Sept 23	Freeze drying
May 27	Regenerative gardening	Oct 14	TBD
June 10	Growing Grapes	Oct 28	TBD
June 24	Summer Flowers		







PLANT TALK:



Each class will be followed by plant talk Q&A session with Ron, Reed and Jared! Bring your gardening questions and stump the chump!



For More Information:

208.529.1390 lallen@uidaho.edu



IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

It is U of I policy to prohibit and eliminate discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, migion, sax, sexual minimation unit genter lamitary/expression, age, disability, or status as a Vietnan-era veteran. This policy applies to all programs services, and textiles, and includes, but is not limited to, applications, admissions, access to programs and services, and emproyment.

GRASS ID COURSE

JUNE 9-10 , 2025 | JUNE 12-13, 2025

INSTRUCTOR

Justin Trujillo, Author of A Field Guide to Grasses and Grass-like Plants of Idaho

COST

\$75 per person

LOCATION

Rinker Rock Creek Ranch Near Hailey, ID

Directions can be found here.



CREDITS

This course qualifies for 6 continuing education credits through the Society for Range Management.

QUESTIONS?

Justin Trujillo jjtrujillo2003@gmail.com

Dr. Tracey Johnson traceyj@uidaho.edu

REGISTRATION



uidaho.edu/rock-creek

University of Idaho Rinker Rock Creek Ranch



New Webinar Series! Restoring Landscapes: From Seeds to Success

"Riparian restoration and species selection"

- Levi Dawes of Wildlife Habitat Nursery
- 🧭 April 24th
- 🥝 11am PT/ 12pm MT
- First part of series

https://uidaho.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZINImplQQp-KS2tonZvGfQ

Join University of Idaho Extension for the

Idaho Young Cattle Producer Conference

June 23-25, 2025 | Burley

- Gain in-depth information on the Idaho cattle industry and valuable tools to be successful in the cattle business.
- · Open to cattle producers between the age of 18 and 40.
- Highlights include a tour of the cattle industry, meat cutting demonstration, updates on current issues facing the cattle industry, information on financing a cattle operation, how to utilize risk management tools, innovative range management practices, and endangered species issues.

To apply:

University of Idaho

Extension

- Complete application at www.uidaho.edu/YCC by June 1
- 20 participants will be selected to attend

YOUNGC

PRODUCER CONFERENCE

 Conference registration is free; participants are responsible for travel and lodging

Questions? Contact:

Meranda Small, UI Extension | 208-983-2667 or msmall@uidaho.edu Or contact your local UI Extension office's livestock educator

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University of Idaho

College of Agricultural

and Life Sciences

Idaho Young Cattle Producer Conference June 23-25, 2025 | Burley, Idaho Schedule of Events

Monday, June 23

Tuesday, June 24

7:30-7:45 a.m. 7:45-10 a.m.	Welcome/Introductions/Ice Breaker Overview of Idaho Cattle Industry • Purebred: Art Butler, Spring Cove Angus Ranch (Bliss) • Cow-calf: Andy & Roy Prescott, Prescott Land & Livestock (Jerome) • Stocker: Lt. Gov. Scott Bedke, Bedke Ranches (Oakley) • Feedlot: Shawna Gill, Simplot Land & Livestock	8-10:45 a.m.	Risk Management, Financing and Resources • Risk Management Tools: Brett Wilder, UI Extension • Financing a Beef Cattle Operation: Bailey Storms, AgWest Farm Credit • Idaho Rangeland Education: Gretchen Hyde, Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission • Idaho State Department of Ag Farm & Ranch Center: Anna Lickley, Program Coordinator
	(Grand View)	10:45 a.m.	Board Tour Bus
10-11:30 a.m.	Marketing Panel • Steven Taylor, Producers Livestock Marketing Auction House (Jerome) • Rex Hoagland, CS Beef Packers (Kuna)	11:30 a.m.	Tour of Southern Idaho Cattle Industry True West Beef (Jerome), InterMountain Beef (Eden) and Dille Red Angus (Buhl)
	 Logan Peters, Agri Beef Co. Procurement (Boise) Matt Thompson, Live Ag (Blackfoot) 	5:30 p.m.	BBQ Dinner • Think on Your Feet with Past Idaho Cattle Association
11:30 a.m.	Lunch and Idaho Beef Council (BQA) Update	Part And	President and VP NCBA Kim Brackett and Past Idaho Cattle Association President Mark Pratt
12 p.m.	Idaho Cattle Association Midyear Meeting Attendees will attend the opening general session and workshops of the ICA midyear meeting		Overview of UI Extension resources for young producers: Meranda Small, UI Extension
Cam	Idaho Cattle Association Cattle Barons Bash	Wednesday, Jun	ne 25
6 p.m.	Attendees will attend dinner with ICA members and guests	7:30-9:30 a.m.	Industry Partners and Getting Involved • Idaho Cattle Association: Cameron Mulrony, Executive Vice President, Spencer Black, President, Morgan Lutgen, Director of Membership & Industry Engagement • National Young Cattle Producer Conference: Valene Cauhorn • Public land issues: Karen Williams, Natural Resources
			 Policy Director Idaho Farm Bureau Federation: Kylee Urie, Regional Manager
YCC	IL	9:45-11 a.m.	Cattle Genetics Session • Bull Selection and EPDs: Benton Glaze, UI Extension
YOUNGCATTLE	University of Idaho	11 a.m.	Wrap Up & YCC Class Graduation
PRODUCE CONFERENCE	Extension IDAHO CATTLE	12 n m	Adjourn





It's that time of year again—the Annual Teton County 4-H Scholarship Picnic Fundraiser is just around the corner!

Date: Monday, May 19, 2025 Time: 5:00–7:30 PM Location: Teton County Fairgrounds

This fun and family-friendly evening supports scholarships for local 4-H youth, and we need everyone's help to make it a success!

Ticket Sales

To support this important cause, **each 4-H member is asked to sell 5 tickets**.

Tickets were mailed to all 4-H families. Have not received your tickets ? Contact us ASAP.

- Family Ticket (includes immediate family: parents and children): \$40
- Single Ticket: \$15
- Please note on both the large portion and stub whether it's a FAMILY or SINGLE ticket.
- Give the large portion (marked FAMILY or SINGLE) to the buyer •
- Keep the small stub (also marked)

• Return all stubs, money, and checks to the UI Extension Office by: Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 4:00 PM

This deadline is important so we can get an accurate food count.

Checks can be made out to Teton County 4-H.

Tickets will also be available after May 15th at the Extension Office (445 N. Main) or over the phone at **208-776-8235**. Tickets will also be available on the night of the event via cash, check, or credit card (fees apply).

Picnic Details

We'll be serving pulled pork and all the fixin's, with:

- Silent Auction Items and baskets provided by 4-H clubs
- Dessert Auction Back by popular demand! If your family has a special dessert, please bring it as a donation the night of the event.
- Prizes The top 2 ticket sellers will win a gift card prize! Let's get out there and spread the word
- Sign up today for Volunteer Hours





Friends of 4-H Recognition

Teton County 4-H extends a heartfelt thank you to our generous local partners who have supported the growth and success of our Shooting Sports program this year:

• Paul Raube at Longhorn Corral for his invaluable assistance in receiving supplies for the Pistol and Rifle Clubs. These items were secured through the 2024 NRA Foundation Grant, which awarded \$3,705 to help equip and strengthen our Shooting Sports programs.

• **Teton Valley Lumber** for their generous discount on materials used to build a new archery backdrop. This important addition supports the installation of archery at the Teton County Fairgrounds and helps ensure a safe and high-quality experience for our youth.

• **The Teton County Fair Board** for their crucial role in permitting, in-kind donations, and hands-on support in relocating the Teton County X-Treme Archery Club. Their ongoing partnership makes youth programming like this possible.

Thank you for being champions of youth development and advocates for hands-on learning in our community! Youth enrolled in **any Teton County 4-H club** are encouraged to participate in the **Native**

Bee AgRobotics competition. Invite friends from other clubs to join in this fun and exciting challenge! **Enrollment will cap at 30 youth** so sign up by **May 13th 4 PM**. Teams will consist of 3 members so 10 teams total!

AgRobotics

Native Bee Challenge Project Dates

- May 15, 2025 4:00 PM–5:30 PM
- May 22, 2025 4:00 PM–5:30 PM
- May 29, 2025 4:00 PM–5:30 PM
- June 18, 2025 10:00 AM–12:00 PM
- June 19, 2025 10:00 AM–12:00 PM
- June 25, 2025 10:00 AM–12:00 PM
- June 26, 2025 10:00 AM–12:00 PM
- July 9, 2025 10:00 AM–12:00 PM
- July 10, 2025 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Native Bee AgRobotics Competition

- **Date:** July 12, 2025
- Time: 9:00 AM-2:00 PM
- Location: UI Extension Teton County 4-H Office (445 N Main, Driggs)



From April 18 through May 5, customers can purchase a paper clover at checkout in Tractor Supply stores nationwide or online at <u>TractorSupply.com</u>.

Tractor Supply proudly began our partnership with 4-H in 2010 and we have since helped raise over \$20 million through our Paper Clover fundraisers. The success of these campaigns has impacted over 80,000 students by providing them with hands-on learning experiences through projects in STEM, agriculture, healthy living, and civic engagement.

100% of funds raised through our two Paper Clover fundraisers directly benefit 4-H and the kids and teens they work with - 90% of donations directly support 4-H youth in the state it was raised, and the remaining 10% supports national 4-H programming.

Teton County 4-H

Livestock Tagging Information

It's time for the **2025 Teton Valley Fair!** If you will be exhibiting livestock, remember that **all required paperwork must be completed and submitted** either **before or at the time of weigh-in.**

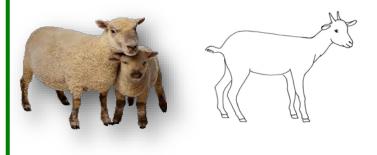
Required Information: All paperwork must include:

- 1. Animal sex, breed, and color
- 2. Date of birth
- 3. Tag number
- 4. Other necessary details

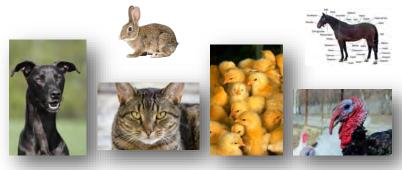
IMPORTANT: Animals cannot be tagged or weighed without proper paperwork.

Tagging Dates

Sheep/Goat - May 27, 2025 | 4:00-6:00 PM



Breeding & Non-Market Animals & Poultry Paperwork Due: May 8, 2025, by 4:00 PM



If you have any questions, please reach out to the **Teton County 4-H Office** 208-776-8235 or teton@uidaho.edu Thank you for preparing ahead and ensuring a smooth tagging process!

4-H CALENDAR

May

1st-4-H Scholarship Applications Due

8th-Horse, Rabbit, Dog, Cat, Poultry, Breeding Livestock Paperwork-Due by 4pm

15th, 22nd, 29th -AgRobotics Competition Meetings 4-5:30 PM UI Extension

19th-4-H Scholarship Fundraising Dinner

20th-Alpine 4-H Camp Counselor Meeting 4-5:30

20th-Alpine 4-H Camp Counselor Meeting 4-5:30

27th-Lamb/Goat Weigh-In 4-6pm Fairgrounds

27th-Alpine 4-H Camp Meeting 4-5:30

June

3rd-Alpine 4-H Camp Meeting 4-5:30

11th-13th- 4-H Alpine Camp

13th- Tin Cup Giving Opens

23rd, 30th- Record Book Help 10-Noon

18th, 19th, 25th, 26th -AgRobotics Competition Meetings 10-12 PM UI Extension

20th - ABC 4-H Friday Summer Day Camp- "Garden Camp"

27th - ABC 4-H Friday Summer Day Camp - "Farm Camp"

July

7th, 14th, 21st, 28th-Record Book Help 10-Noon

8th-10th-Alpine Horse Camp, Alpine Wyoming

9th, 10th-AgRobotics Competition Meetings 10-12 PM UI Extension

11th- ABC 4-H Friday Summer Day Camp- Aerospace"

12th- AgRobotics Competition: "Native Bees" 9 AM-2 PM UI Extension

18th - ABC 4-H Friday Summer Day Camp- "Wild Things"

19th- Annual Tin Cup Event 7-12 PM

25th- ABC 4-H Friday Summer Day Camp- "Survivor Camp"

August

1st- ABC 4-H Friday Summer Day Camp- "4-H Olympics" 4th-9th-Teton County Fair

September

29th-Teton County 4-H Awards Night

Alpine 4-H Horse Camp July 8th - 11th 2025

Registration Opens May 15th

Scholarship Applications OPEN NOW

Your Home Away From Home

At Alpine 4-H Horse Camp, we offer kids of all ages and backgrounds a structured opportunity for growth. Our enriched program is designed for campers to promote independence and self-confidence all while making new friends and learning exciting new skills. To find out more and to discover if our Horse Riding Camp is a good fit for your child, please read on or get in touch with us.

Important Camp Information

Application Due Date: June 27th

CAMP LIMIT - 120 4-H youth participants, plus accompanying leaders, parents, and family members. Registration will be accepted on a "first come", "first serve basis" with preference to Idaho residence;

CAMP FEE – \$100.00 PER PERSON attending camp. Please make checks payable to Alpine 4-H Horse Camp. This fee will be required for EACH AND EVERY person 5 years of age and older who is attending camp regardless of reason for being in camp. No exceptions.

There will be NO refunds issued unless cancellation in writing is received by June 30, 2022. Extenuating circumstances after June 30th must be presented, in writing, no later than seven days after camp, for consideration by the camp board for refund.



IDAHO SHOOTING SPORTS FUNDRAISER

Supporting 4-H Idaho Youth Heading To National Competition



Drawing June 7th, 2025 @ Idaho 4-H Shooting Sports State Competition.

\$10 Per Ticket



Prizes -Gun Cleaning kit, Impact Driver, Dual Rifle Bag, Frig Cooler, and much more.





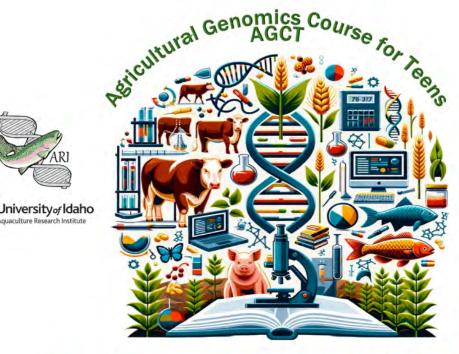
Support Brynlee Foley as she heads to Nationals in Archery, proudly representing Teton County 4-H! Purchase a ticket for \$10 to support her journey. Drawing Date: June 7th, 2025 Location: Idaho 4-H Shooting Sports State Competition Prizes Include: Gun Cleaning Kit, Impact Driver, Dual Rifle Bag, Fridge Cooler, and much more! Contact: Idaho4h@uidaho.edu or call UI Extension 208-776-8235 to purchase tickets.

		Age (on 1/1/25):
Email:		
County (where enrolled).	Cell phone (# for day	of event):
Parent Name:	_	
Age Division (age as of January 1, 2025): Junior (8-10) Intermediate (11-13)	Senior (14-18)	
Disciplines: (Participants can register for ONE disciplines)		
Saturday, May 17th (select only one discupline optio	n)	
Equipment Check-in:		
Check in at 7:30 – 8:30 am, Disciplines start at 9:00	am. No check in will be dor	ne past 8:30 am.
BB - events include 3-Position and CMP Juniors C	Only	
Junior (\$15 early / \$30 late)	-	
Smallbore Rifle (.22 cal.) – events include 3-Positio	on and CMP	
Junior (\$30 early / \$50 late)		
Intermediate (\$30 early / \$50 late) Senior (\$30 early / \$50 late)		
Air Rifle (.177 cal.) - events include 3-Position and	Silhouette	
Junior (\$30 early / \$50 late)		
 Intermediate (\$30 early / \$50 late) Senior (\$30 early / \$50 late) 		
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xtension Verification

I verify this member is currently enrolled in each of the 4-H Shooting Sports discipline(s) being entered, and thus eligible to participate Extension signature Date

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodations need to contact the Fremont County Extension Office at 19 W 1^{er} N, SL Anthony, or call 208-624-3102 by May 3, 2025.





United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Ag. Genomics Workshop

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT AGRICULTURE, GENOMICS, AND BIOTECHNOLOGY?

WHEN:	June 30th – July 2, 2025 (Mon-Wed) – detailed agenda on back		
WHERE:	University of Idaho Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station (HFCES) 3059F National Fish Hatchery Rd., Hagerman, ID 83332		
WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:	How to isolate DNA? How DNA sequencing works? What is CRISPR? How is biotechnology used in agriculture, from disease diagnostics to plant and animal breeding?		
WHO:	Teens (Grades 10-12) interested in genetics and science Prior completion of high-school science course(s) recommended (chemistry, biology, etc.)		
COST:	\$50 / participant		
REGISTRATION:	Open until June 15, 2025 Online Registration Link - UI Marketplace https://4h.zsuite.org/external-event-registration/37171		
LODGING:	Lodging provided in Twin Falls (youth must be accompanied by adult)		
TRANSPORT:	Daily transportation provided in Twin Falls to/from course location (HFCES)		
Questions?	Please contact Mike Knutz (mknutz@uidaho.edu) or Jake Bledsoe (bledsoe@uidaho.edu)		

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IDAHO 4-H INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

summer exchange programs

We have two summer programs this year!

Norway: June 25- July 19 Japan/Korea: July 21- August 18

Bios are now available for all delegates!

Japan Delegate Bios

Sayaka (13 year old female) -Sayaka is a tidy and outgoing girl. She enjoys knitting, plano, softball, tennis, and karate. She is excited to make lots of memories with your family and teach you calligraphy!

Nakamaru (12 year old male) -Nakamura is a positive and energetic boy. He likes animals, karate, skiing, soccer, and TV. He wants to spend lots of time with his family and teach you karate!

Korean Delegate Bios

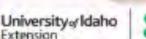
Na Yeon (16 year old female) - Na Yeon has a social and funny personality. She likes to travel, try new things, and learn about history. She looks forward to writing your family letters and seeing your school.

Minseok (17 year old male) - Minseok is a funny and talkative boy. He enjoys basketball, reading, cooking, singing/writing songs. He is looking forward to playing sports and spending time with the family.

For more information contact

Courtney Reimers Email: creimers@uidaho.edu Phone: (208)713-7750

Apply to host states4hexchange.org/apply/hos1













Contact for

Delegate

Bios

Ony 3 more Norway

Delegates



REGISTRATION FOR THE STATE CONTEST IS OPEN ON ZSUITE

The Northern District is proud to welcome all 4-H Shooting Sports members to the 2025 State Contest. This year's contest is held on Friday, June 6th and Saturday, June 7th, 2025, in the Coeur d' Alene, Idaho area. The following information is provided to help members and families plan for attending the event. We look forward to seeing you in June.

FRIDAY:

Shotgun (Trap & Skeet) – CDA Skeet and Trap, 1879 W Miles Ave, Hayden, ID 83835 Shotgun – {No equipment check-in, but safety inspection 8:30 am}

Air Rifle (3P & Silhouettes) – Kootenai County Fairgrounds, 4056 N Government Wy, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815. Equipment Check-in: (Air Rifle) Check in at 7:30 – 8:30 AM, (*Disciplines start at 9:00 am. No check in will be done past 8:30 am.*)

Air Pistol (Slow Fire Bullseye & Silhouettes) – Kootenai County Fairgrounds, 4056 N Government Wy, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815. Equipment Check in: (Air Pistol) Check in at 1:00 -1:30 PM, (Discipline starts at 2:00 pm. No check in will be done past 1:30 pm.)

Opening Ceremony / Ice Cream Social – Kootenai County Fairgrounds, (after contests) Location: Building 20 / Food Court, Kootenai County Fairgrounds (3-5pm)

SATURDAY:

Archery (FITA & 3D) – Farragut Public Shooting Range, 33644 N. Shooters Rd, Athol, ID 83801. Equipment Check-in: (Archery) Check in at 7:30 – 8:30 AM, (Disciplines start at 9:00 am. No check in will be done past 8:30 am.)

> Small Bore Rifle (3P & Silhouettes) – Farragut Public Shooting Range, 33644 N. Shooters Rd, Athol, ID 83801. Equipment Check-in: (SB Rifle) Check in at 7:30 – 8:30 AM, (Disciplines start at 9:00 am. No check in will be done past 8:30 am.)

Small Bore Pistol (Slow-Fire Bullseye & Silhouettes) – Farragut Public Shooting Range, 33644 N. Shooters Rd, Athol, ID 83801. Equipment Check in: (SB Pistol) Check in at 7:30 – 8:00 AM, (Discipline starts at 2:00 pm. No check in will be done past 8:00 am.)

Muzzleloading (50 Yard Bullseye & 25 Yard Novelty) – Farragut Public Shooting Range, 33644 N. Shooters Rd, Athol, ID 83801 Equipment Check-in: (Muzzleloading) Check in at 11:00 – 11:30 AM, (Disciplines start at 12:00 pm. No check in will be done past 11:30 am.)

2025 IDAHO 4-H STATE TEEN ASSOCIATION CONVENTION "STAC"



June 23-26, 2025

Registration opens April 15, 2025 in ZSuite

* Regular 4-H Registration (April 15 - May 17) - \$335 * Late 4-H Registration (May 18 - June 1) - \$395

* Non-4-H Members - \$395.00, * Late Non 4-H Members - \$435 Non 4-H Members go to: https://4h.zsuite.org/external-event-registration/33268 *includes Busing Fee, Meals, and Lodging on the University of Idaho Campus

What is STAC?

 STAC is a priceless opportunity for youth grades 8 –12 to experience college life, explorer career opportunities, and prepare for a lifetime of success with other Idaho teens.

What is the value of STAC?

- 4-H Scholarship money is available to attend! Contact your local county Extension office for information and in ZSuite Events.
- Transportation to and from campus included
- Three nights lodging and meals on campus
- Excellent speaker Lupita Fabregas, Director of the Missouri 4-H Center for Youth Development
- Workshops and Career Tours high quality workshops in various interest areas including: Art and Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Animal Science, Food & Nutrition, Health & Safety, Engineering and many more! This year we are visiting WSU Vet School, Pullman Regional Hospital, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories and many other local businesses on the Palouse.
- Professional staffing provided by U faculty/staff, collegiate staff and certified volunteers







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Save the Date!!

INTERMOUNTAIN LIVESTOCK Judges Training

Spanish Fork, Utah May 816 - 10th 2025

Open to youth and adults.

The cost to attend is \$150 and includes judging notebook, 4 meals and final day judging contest entry. For more information contact Scott Nash, snash@uidaho.edu

THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT: 4-H, FFA POSITION STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS IN A CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Suzanne Wright Studio Gannett April 22, 2025, USA Today

With 6 million young people participating in programs across all 50 states, 4-H is the largest youth development organization in the country. It was founded to instruct rural youth in improved farming and farmhomemaking practices through cooperative education at land grant universities.



The National FFA Organization, long known as Future Farmers of America, boasts 1 million members in grades 5-12 and college across all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. It also focuses on preparing kids for careers in agriculture, food systems and natural resources.

4-H's core programs "remain popular because they connect youth to their community and the land," says Jill Bramble, president and CEO of the National 4-H Council. "As the world of work continues to evolve, so do we." And that alone is a tremendous challenge. A Dell Technologies Research report from 2017 predicted that 85 percent of jobs that will exist in 2030 hadn't been created yet. As the agricultural field becomes increasingly high-tech and interconnected, it requires a well-rounded skill set. Both 4-H and FFA have pivoted their pro-



gramming accordingly.

Future-Proofing Farming

The biggest shift has been from a primarily production-agriculture focus to a broader scope that includes science, technology, engineering, business, and leadership aspects of agriculture.

"4-H is at the forefront of integrating emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, robotics and drones," Bramble says. "These innovations are transforming the future of agriculture and food systems."

4-H launched the Beyond Ready workforce readiness initiative last October with a goal of reaching 10 million youth annually by 2030, preparing rural, suburban, and urban students with the skills to tackle complex global challenges in sustainable agriculture and resource management. "Youth need to possess leadership, problem-solving, critical thinking and time-management skills," Bramble says. "They also need to learn how to leverage social media and marketing techniques to connect with consumers, employees, donors, and other stakeholders. "FFA has introduced more virtual, and hybrid learning options and updated competitive events by collaborating with industry partners for opportunities such as the National Turfgrass Science Invitational. FFA also offers international travel opportunities for its state officers to expose them to global agriculture. The organization is also expanding its efforts to create a more inclusive environment. "We've made significant strides over the past decade to adapt to a rapidly changing world while staying true to our mission of preparing students for leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education," says Christine White, FFA's chief program officer.

Youth Are Energized

Parents may worry about agriculture's perceived difficulties or lack of prestige, but it's a vibrant sector of the economy. And the employment outlook is strong: A 2024 report from Purdue University found that there are currently two open positions in agriculture for every qualified candidate. "With more than 350 careers in agriculture, there are many pathways for students to choose from that align with their passions," White says. Some students are inspired by entrepreneurial opportunities, while others are drawn to careers in financial literacy, marketing, and supply-chain management. "Agriculture resonates with this generation's desire to have careers with meaningful outcomes," White says. "They can see how their work directly impacts people,

whether it's improving food access, advancing environmental solutions or creating



technologies that shape the future."

Katie Culbert is a National 4-H Youth in Action winner and first-year student at Harvard University, where she's pursuing a dual major in biology and political science. "I don't think people realize that this industry is the world's largest employer and impacts lives on a huge scale," Culbert says. "I plan to pursue a career in agriculture because it means I will have the opportunity to make a direct impact on society and do my part to support food security." Culbert is most excited by opportunities in research and legislation and sees her pursuits as a continuation of her family's traditions. "My father and grandfather are both physicians. But my great-grandfather and my great-greatgrandfather were farmers," she says. "I think my career will bring me full circle because the foundation of good health is







NATIONAL 4-H

WHEN

September 28 - October 1, 2025

Actual Travel Dates: September 27th - October 2, 2025

WHERE

World Dairy Expo

Madison, Wisconsin

WHAT IS IT?

This Event is packed with exciting things to do. Here is a short list of activities that will take place:

- Education Seminars
- Professional Guest Speakers
- Farm Visits
- Tours of Dairy Facilities
- Attend the World Dairy Expo
- Great opportunity to show your love for the Dairy Industry

TO LEARN MORE VISIT

https://national4hdairyconference.org/

APPLICATION Apply by May 15, 2025 in ZSuite

ELIGIBILITY Must be first time attendees

Must be a 4-H member currently enrolled in at least the third year of 4-H Dairy or Dairy Foods Project

Must be between 15 -- 18 on September 1 of the year they attend the conference.

COST

Average cost of the trip is \$1600.00. Families can typically expect to pay around \$0 - \$800 out of pocket dependent on scholarship funding available.

CONTACT Teresa Tverdy 208-308-6558 ttverdy@uidaho.edu

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TETON COUNTY

EXTENSION UPDATE

UPCOMING EVENTS

HIGH ALTITUDE VICTORY GARDEN COURSE

May 13-29 Tuesdays/Thursdays 12-1:30

Prepare your family to grow, eat & preserve fresh, healthy food.

IDAHO YOUNG CATTLE PRODUCER CONFERENCE

June 23-25 Burley Idaho

4-H ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

May 19 5-7:30 PM Teton County Fairgrounds

See flier for information and volunteer sign up page 9

4-H AGROBOTICS COMPETITION

July 12, 2025

Refer to flier on page 10 for information and details.

ALPINE 4-H HORSE CAMP

July 8–11 Alpine 4-H Camp

See information on page 12

Beyond Ready

SHEEP AND GOAT WEIGH-IN

May 27, 2025 4-6 PM Teton County Fairgrounds

Refer to page 11 for further details

CONTACT US

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO EXTENSION, TETON COUNTY

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