

Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom and Kansas Farm Bureau announce theme for 2012 Be Ag-Wise Workshop

“Ag Counts,” a focus on math, is the theme for the 5th annual Be Ag-Wise workshops.

MANHATTAN, Kan., Dec. 2, 2011 – Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) and Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) are to host the 2012 Be Ag-Wise workshops in several locations in early 2012. The theme this year is “Ag Counts.”

The workshops, which are designed especially for agricultural education presenters at the county level, will give participants the opportunity to receive training for a variety of agriculture-based, hands-on learning labs; receive resource materials; share ideas; network with others; and practice their presentation skills.

The workshops are designed to assist volunteer agricultural educators in the counties such as Cooperative Extension educators, county Farm Bureau agricultural education volunteers, Conservation District managers, agricultural educators, youth presenters and teachers.

“Each year we have teachers, volunteers, Cooperative Extension professionals, and FFA youth and instructors attend these Saturday workshops,” said Cathy Musick, executive director for KFAC. “Attendees receive five hours of training and up to eight lesson plans they can take back to teach elementary students in their school district. Lesson plans can also be used for after school, summer school and day camp venues. One of the best parts of the day is when the attendees share ideas on how they have used agriculture as a tool for teaching math, science, reading and social studies.”

The theme for the workshops is “Ag Counts,” which focuses on practical applications of math, using agriculture as the teaching tool. Pumpkin Predictions, Mealtime Math, By the Pound, Change for a Dollar and Barnyard Math are all ways to teach elementary youth math principals using agriculture. The “fat bucks buffet” will be an exercise in budgeting of fat grams for the noon meal.

The dates and locations for the one-day workshops are: Jan. 14 in Emporia, Kan., at Girl Scout’s Heartland, Inc.; Jan. 21 in Manhattan, Kan., at Kansas Farm Bureau; Feb. 25 in Colby, Kan., at the Colby Community Center; and March 3 in Garden City, Kan., at the Southwest Area Research and Extension Complex; and March 10 in Wichita, Kan., at Farm Bureau Claims Office. The workshops will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There must be a minimum of 10 participants at each location in order to conduct a workshop. In the event that one of the workshops will not be held, participants who have registered to attend it may attend any of the other workshops.

More information and registration forms can be found on the KFAC website. Registration fees are \$50 per person and include lunch, refreshments and resource materials.

Registration forms and fees are due by Jan. 3 to the KFB Accounting and Human Resources department in Manhattan.

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