

# FSMIP Final Performance Report

<b>Report Number/Period:</b>	October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2017
<b>Date:</b>	July 31, 2017
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<b>Recipient Name:</b>	Kansas Department of Agriculture
<b>Project Title:</b>	Egg-Grading Training and Resource Toolkit
<b>Grant Number:</b>	15FSMIPKS0015
<b>Total Awarded Budget:</b>	\$ 24,420.00
<b>Total Match:</b>	\$ 24,350.00

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## 1. MAJOR ACTIVITIES COMPLETED - Summarize activities performed and milestones achieved for each objective or sub-element of the narrative.

The FSMIP grant for 'Egg-Grading Training and Resource Toolkit' was executed by the Kansas Department of Agriculture in 2016 and 2017. The purpose of the grant activities was to provide workshops and resources that provided Kansas poultry producers with the knowledge of how to grade eggs in order to encourage uniformity and consistency in commercial practices, resulting in better marketing and an increase in profit. Major tasks, results, and successes are indicated below by objective outlined in the original grant proposal.

### Objective 1: Create an egg-grading resource notebook

The Kansas Department of Agriculture created an egg-grading resource manual that included:

1. Kansas Department of Agriculture's egg fact sheet for small flocks/farmers' markets
2. Kansas Department of Agriculture's safe handling practices for eggs handout
3. Kansas Egg Stamp information
4. Poultry disease screening handout
5. USDA Egg-grading Manual

Recognizing that poultry producers are largely located in rural areas with varying internet speeds and technology capabilities (some due to religious beliefs), a printed resource notebook was created and provided to workshop participants.

Date of completion: July 1, 2016.

### Objective 2: Host three regional egg-grading workshops to teach poultry producers how to grade eggs.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture hosted three, one-day regional workshops for poultry producers in Lawrence (eastern Kansas), Wichita (central Kansas) and Hays (western Kansas). The workshops included information on:

1. Food safety
2. Kansas egg stamp and licensing
3. Poultry disease screening
4. Egg-grading information
5. Hands-on egg-grading training

Kansas State University Professor Dr. Scott Beyer and graduate students conducted the egg-grading training and support. KDA Food Safety also presented on food safety requirements for selling eggs in Kansas, and how to obtain the appropriate licensing to sell eggs through various outlets in Kansas. Many times, grading eggs is an important consideration for selling to new venues, so both topics complemented each other and enabled participants to have a well-rounded knowledge base for marketing their eggs in the future.

A subsequent egg grading workshop is being conducted on November 15, 2017 at the request of the poultry industry. Specifically, the High Plains Food Cooperative in northwest Kansas, which markets a majority of their products to the Denver metropolitan region, is requiring members to become certified in food safety and increase their knowledge of egg grading requirements to better match consumer demand. Several members participated in the first series of workshops and recognize the need for further training of other cooperative members. The request for a subsequent workshop this fall from the cooperative's members is a direct reflection of the benefit of this type of training to poultry producers in Kansas.

Workshops were held on:

- Tuesday, June 7, 2016 in Hays, Kansas (25 participants)
- Tuesday, June 14, 2016 in Lawrence (33 participants)
- Tuesday, June 21, 2016 in Wichita, Kansas (22 participants)
- Wednesday, November 15, 2017 in Colby, Kansas (scheduled for 40 participants)

Date of completion: July 1, 2016.



**Objective 3: Provide poultry producers with tools to help them accurately grade their eggs.**

**Durable egg-cell gauge** – 5,000 gauges were purchased and distributed to workshop participants, research and extension offices, and will be available upon request. They will also be distributed at the subsequent workshop in November. The gauges are a critical tool that allow poultry producers to accurately grade their eggs utilizing basic tools at minimal or no-cost.

Date of completion: July 1, 2016.

**Egg candling unit cost-share** – Candling eggs is a useful method for grading eggs on a small-scale operation. Utilizing the FSMIP grant, KDA offered an egg candling unit cost-share program to Kansas poultry producers to alleviate financial burdens of securing the device for incorporation into their business. Only four cost-share applications were received despite multiple media advisories distributed by the Kansas Department of Agriculture. Most units were much cheaper than anticipated in the budget, lowering the total expenditures for cost-share funds more than anticipated.

Date of completion: January 1, 2017.

**Objective 4: Conduct 10 follow-up visits with poultry producers to assist with on-site egg grading training.**

- KDA Food Safety staff presented on egg grading requirements to poultry producers at three Kansas Farmers’ Market Workshops in February, 2017
- Dr. Scott Beyer, KSU Associate Professor, provided an egg grading training to KDA food safety staff

- Additional egg grading training is planned with members of the High Plains Food Co-op, many of which participated in the previous workshops. This workshop will occur on November 15, 2017 in Colby, Kansas, and is a direct request for additional training from people that participated in the original series of workshops in 2016.

**2. FINANCIAL SUMMARY- Comment on the level of grant funds and matching contributions expended to date on the project. Note the reasons for budget revisions, if made, and when FSMIP approval was granted. Report any program income generated, if any, and how it was utilized.**

The grant funds proved more than sufficient and allowed us to purchase additional air cell gauges for distribution. Many components of the federal request came in under budget, which meant that we did not need to utilize all of the funds we were awarded.

- Federal funds expended during reporting period
  - \$7,480 – Air cell gauges
  - \$1,847.59 – egg grading resource manual
  - \$1,500 – Presenter fees from June workshops
  - \$1,174.24 – Indirect costs
  - \$682.19 – Distribution of resource manuals to county extension offices
  - \$88.72 – Egg candling unit cost-share applications
  - \$143.69 – Travel expenses
- State match expenditures
  - \$10,620 – KDA staff time to plan, execute, and host workshops, and manage cost-share and promotional pieces related to the grant
  - \$2,565.27 – KDA contribution to egg grading resource manual
  - \$124.21 – KDA travel expenses