



PURDUE COLLABORATIONS

Indiana Pesticide Review Board
May 20, 2026



HOW DO WE EDUCATE
12 THOUSAND PEOPLE
A YEAR?!?!

Nate Davis

Manager, Certification and Licensing

Office of the Indiana State Chemist

LOTS OF HELP!

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION
ANR EDUCATORS**

- Private Applicator Recertification Program (PARP)
- Continuing Credit Hour (CCH) Programs
- Core Exam Training
- Plain People Training and Exam

PURDUE PESTICIDE PROGRAMS (PPP)

- Initial Applicator Training
- Category Training
- Mandated Trainings
- Exam Manuals

This unique partnership between Purdue Extension, Purdue Pesticide Programs, and the Office of Indiana State Chemist helps protect the public by providing applicators with consistent education, training, and guidance for the safe and responsible use of pesticides.

Purdue Extension and OISC

May 2026

Henry Quesada

Professor, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources

Assistant Director of Extension and ANR Program Leader, Purdue CES



Purdue Extension

WHO WE ARE

OUR MISSION

We deliver practical, research-based information that enhances lives and livelihoods.

OUR VISION

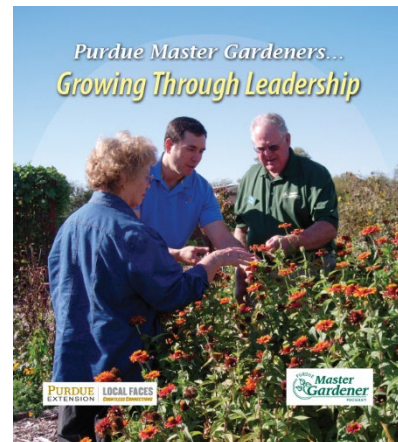
We will be a leader in providing relevant, high-impact educational programs that transform the lives and livelihoods of individuals and communities in Indiana and the world.

**What's our
Bumper
Sticker?**

**Indiana's
Educational
Partner for
*Life***

Extension Programmatic Efforts

- 4-H and Youth Development
- Community Development
- Human Health and Sciences
- Agriculture and Natural Resources



The Purdue Extension Process

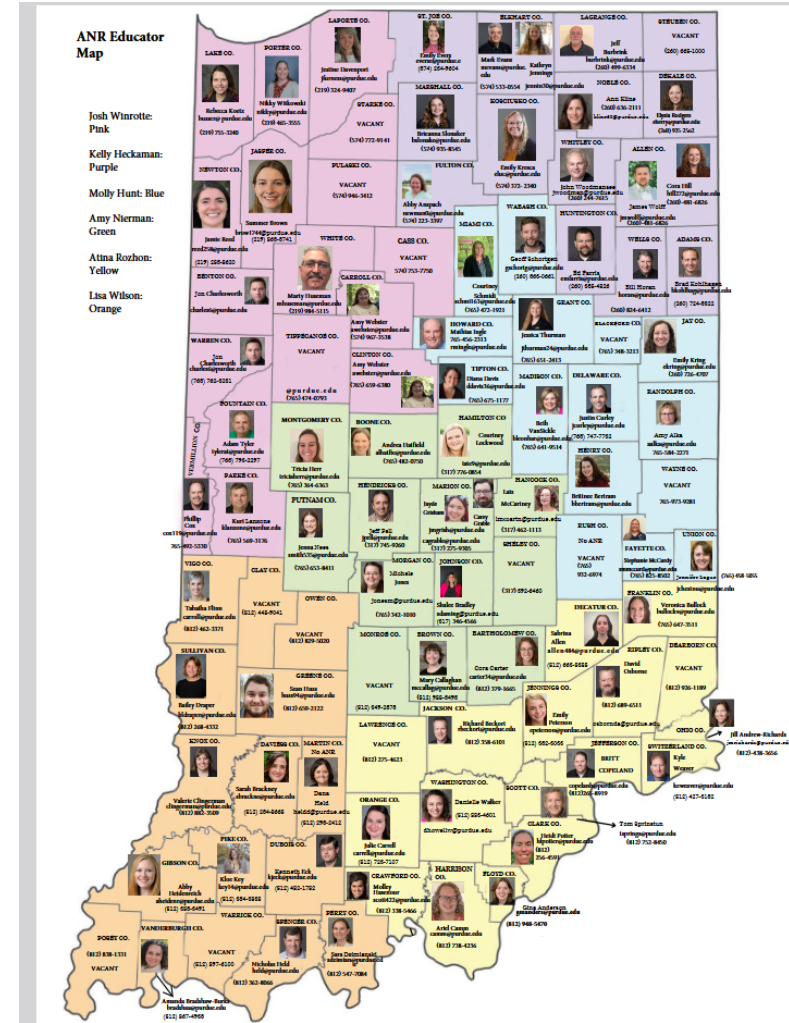
- Needs Assessment
- Design
- Delivery
- Assessment



Field Extension

- Needs assessment, program delivery, evaluation, technical services
 - Over 1500 partners in Indiana
- Currently: 73 Field Extension ANR Educators

ANR	31
ANR/CED	21
ANR/SPEC	3
ANR/4-H	2
ANR/CD/CED/SPEC	1
ANR/CD/CED	5
ANR/HHS/CED	3
ANR/4-H/CED	6
ANR/CD/4-H/CED/	1



Campus Extension

- 138 extension faculty, extension specialists and support staff in 9 CoA Departments
- Translating cutting-edge research into practical applications
 - Extension leadership
 - Scholarly outputs
 - Relationship development
 - Service
 - Accountability



Phil Woolery. FNR



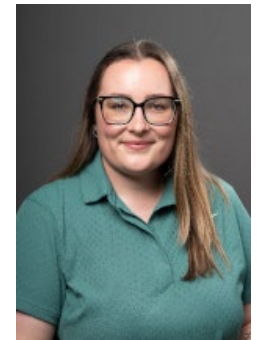
Tommy Butts. BTNY



Petrus Langenhoven. HLA



Dan Quinn. AGRY



Megan Bourns. AGRY



Shaun Casteel. AGRY

PACs and Extension

- Network of farms across Indiana
 - Applied agricultural and natural resources research
- Platform for extension programs
- Test real-world farming practices
 - Crops, pest/nutrient management, soil health practices, forestry practices
- Demonstrations: technology, best practices, long-term impacts
- Pipeline: graduate research training
- Field Days
 - Field + Campus + PACs + Partners > Farmers
 - OISC, NRCS, SWCD, FSA, Commodity groups



ANR impacts

	Educators		Specialists	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
Learning events	2,444	2,252	409	361
Direct contacts	225,162	233,847	58,495	44,224

“Scott knows that Mike was a big advocate of cover crops,” Tobias says. “He approached us about trying something different that might help our soils and our crop. We’re excited to see if the clover does provide any benefit for the corn crop growing there, if we can tell anything come harvest time.”



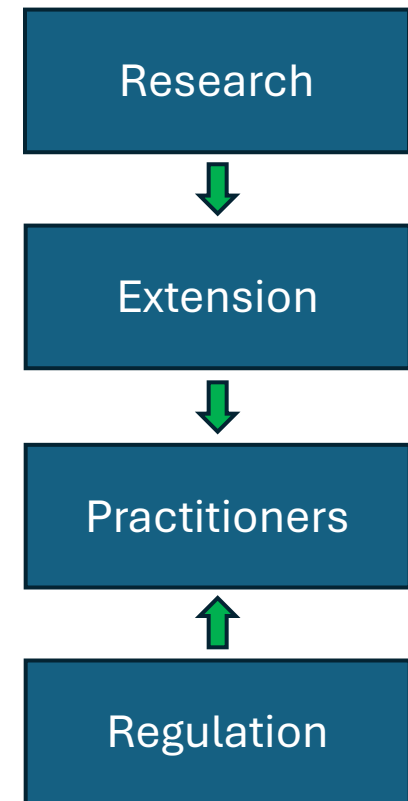
Purdue on the Farm is a collaborative effort across many agricultural entities, but relationships are at its core.

PROGRAM IMPACT

- Based on scouting reports, **79% OF FARMERS REPORTED THAT THEY ADOPTED A NEW PRACTICE OR TECHNOLOGY** after receiving Extension recommendations.
- As a result of the new practice, farmers reported **FINANCIAL IMPROVEMENT: INCREASED DOLLAR RETURN PER ACRE (40%), and REDUCED COSTS PER ACRE (40%)**.
- Farmers said **INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ON COVER CROPS (85%), FERTILITY (69%) AND CONSERVATION PRACTICES (54%)** would be most impactful to their operations.

OISC and Purdue Extension

- Partners since 1881~145 years
- Together: A system where regulation is backed by education, outreach, and research
- OISC: enforcing ag and environmental laws in Indiana
 - Product safety and accurate labeling
 - Protecting public health and the environment
 - Regulating pesticide distribution and application
 - Licensing and certifying applicators and business
 - Enforcing both state and some federal pesticide laws
- Relationship with Purdue Extension: co-production
 - Shared goal: safe and compliant agriculture
 - Joint programs: PARP, CCH, certification trainings
 - A platform to transmit regulatory information
 - Feedback loop between practice and regulation
 - Space/admin support
 - Connection to campus expertise



PARPs / CCHs

- Over 200 PARPs learning events per year
 - More than 20,000 private applicators
- We offer a multi-state pesticide category series between 2025-2026 on commercial credits
- ANR Educators should pass the CORE OISC test and one category of their choice within their first year of employment
- PARPs programming is a priority for Purdue Extension
 - Field Crops, Natural Resources, Horticulture, Livestock



2025 SEPAC Field Day

Mandatory topics

- Why: consistency, regulatory compliance, risk reduction
- PARPs programs must include one OISC-approved regulatory topic
 - Plus at least 2 hours of pesticide-related material
 - OISC sets the rules
- Change every year
 - Based on updates on laws, regulations, and compliance issues
 - This year: Endangered Species ACT (ESA)
- Usually cover
 - Pesticide law, label comprehension, pesticide safety, application techniques, environmental protection, IPM, PPE, recordkeeping/legal compliance
- They are delivered by the ANR Educators or OISC personnel



<https://stutsmans.com/endangered-species-act-what-you-need-to-know/>

Plain people connections

- Purdue Extension makes an effort to accommodate to special needs
- Amish population >60k. Elkhart, LaGrange, Adams, Daviess Counties and others
- We have a group of ANR Educators committed to support plain communities and other minorities in the state
 - Challenging: technology, transportation, communication
 - Trust building
 - On-farm research
 - Bridge to regulation
 - Cultural awareness: paper-based test
- The core OISC test is also available in Spanish



Multicategory commercial credit training in Daviess Co. Jan 2026

Communication and regulation

- Purdue Extension acts as a bridge to communicate regulatory and compliance issues to applicators
- There are several platforms/mechanism to achieve this:
 - Trainings: PARPs, CCH, licensing trainings
 - Field Days
 - Newsletters
 - Web
 - Social media
 - News outlets
 - HAT podcast
 - Email



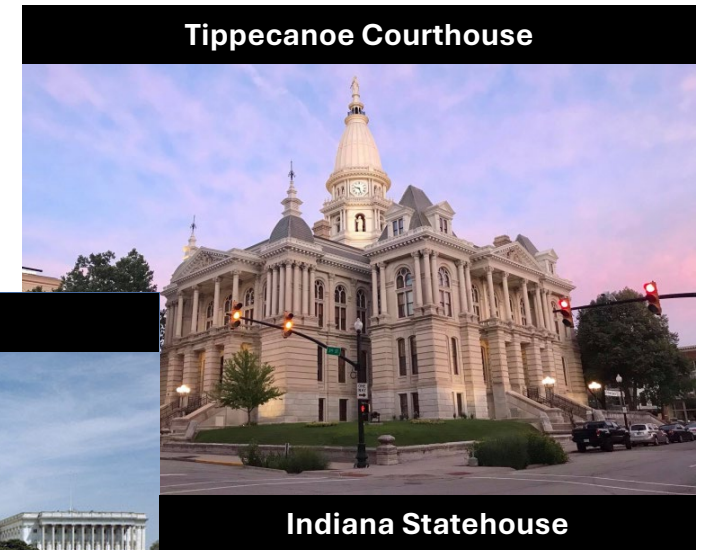
The 2025 Pinney Field Day Team

Extension Funding: A continuous challenge

- Funds come from:
 - Federal: Capacity grants
 - Hatch Act (1897): focuses on Ag. research
 - Smith-Lever Act (1914)
 - McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act (1962)
 - Forestry Research
 - Federal: Competitive grants
 - State Crossroads
 - Federal and State funding requires matching from Counties



US Capitol



Tippecanoe Courthouse



Indiana Statehouse

Purdue Extension Transformation

- **Why?** Budget cuts, technology, relevant programming, demographics, and competition
- **How:** Team approach, relevant programs, specialization, communication, increase engagement with campus specialists and departments, enhance collaborations
- **Rethink how we do:** Plan Commissions, USDA NASS reporting, EMG volunteers management, handling of stakeholder questions, emergency response
 - Opportunity to work across programs
 - Technology: program delivery, clientele support, team coordination, communication



What to expect for 2026?

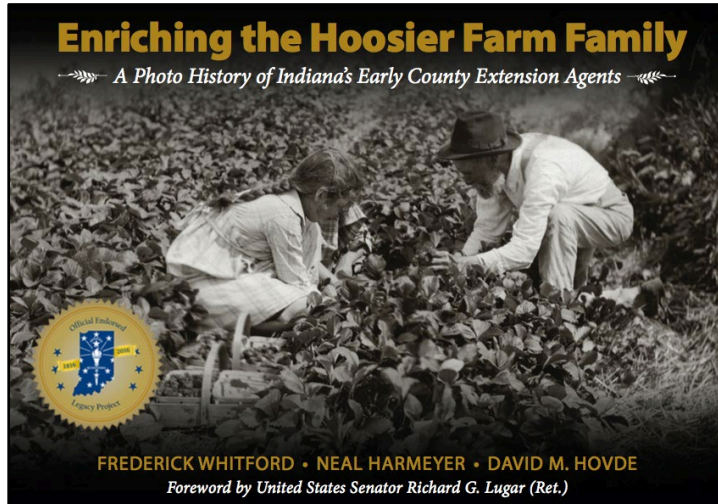
- Consolidation the new Purdue Extension model
- Relevant programming: based on needs, evaluation, impact
- Adjustment to new goals and evaluation process
- Increase collaborations with campus extension faculty and specialists
- County relationships
- Communication
- Professional Development: AI
- ADA compliance
- Expanding Expertise Database to all Extension
- Partnerships
 - Changes related to OISC: New database, new regulatory topic: Endangered Species Act
 - Indiana Conservation Partnership
 - Commodity groups



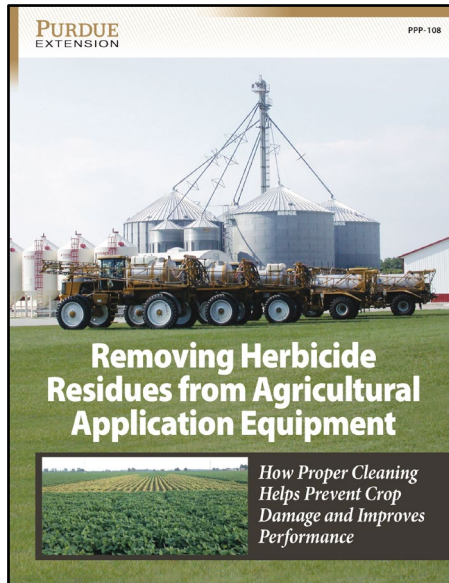
December sunrise in Tippecanoe Co.

Thank you

Purdue Pesticide Programs



- 11,000 farmers certified, 36,000 contacts over 5 years, and >200 county programs annually makes Private applicator recertification the largest outreach program in the College of Ag.
- Outreach includes 200-250 presentations annually to growers, commercial industries, and the public.
- Five history books on Indiana agriculture and extension.
- 3 textbooks written
- 3-4 new extension publications published each year.
- 32 Initial in-person and online pesticide certification training yearly.



Department of Botany & Plant Pathology

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