

Some Examples from Northeastern Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Senate Agriculture Committee Listening Session
Terry Schettini, Multi-County Extension Director
April 4, 2007

- Invasive weed control
 - Multi-flora rose
- Investing in Well-rounded Youth
 - Local → Regional → State → National development of skills and leadership
 - Clubs/Fair, Schools/school enrichment & youth risk prevention
 - Local Government Days/Role-play real issues
 - State Achievement Days, Capitol Day, State Dairy, Livestock & Horse competitions
 - National 4-H Dairy Conference, National 4-H Livestock Judging Competition
 - Strong volunteer base (Over 100 each in Wayne and Susquehanna Counties)
- Alternative enterprises
 - Fiber Festival – has become a regional event
 - Small Farm Expo (Partnership with Rutgers and Cornell)
 - Farmers Markets, Tree Fruit, Vegetables, Greenhouse production
 - Agricultural Enterprises Extension Education
- Leveraging the Commonwealth's resources
 - Strong county support (facilities and staff)
 - Diversifying our resource portfolio (partnering with agencies and organizations)
- Looking to the Future of Agriculture
 - Proactive visioning and support for a strong and vibrant rural economy before it is too late (Multi-disciplinary effort)



College of Agricultural Sciences
Priority Areas for Research and Extension
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1. Renewable Energy

- ❖ Support the Biomass Energy Center, charged with addressing the complete value chain of biomass energy systems within a bio-based economy.
- ❖ Improve production of biomass feed stocks.
- ❖ Integrate biomass production into sustainability agrosystems.
- ❖ Engineer solutions for conversion of biomass into energy.
- ❖ Identify new uses for materials remaining when energy has been extracted.
- ❖ Transfer technology to public and private sectors to facilitate job creation, energy independence, and agricultural profitability.
- ❖ Demonstrate and research bio-diesel and bio-hydraulic technologies.

2. Pest Prediction and Response

- ❖ Address emerging issues in crop, livestock, and forest production and pest protection.
- ❖ Continue to build science foundation for national soybean rust prediction.
- ❖ Broaden prediction capacity to anticipate and isolate outbreaks.
- ❖ Develop and disseminate new response and recovery options.

3. Environmental Issues

- ❖ Create a policy center for Agriculture and Environment Science to address the interplay of agricultural production and processing with environmental quality.
- ❖ Harmonize agricultural production with environmental goals through sustainable crop, livestock and forest production practices.
- ❖ Facilitate science-based policy by connecting with local, regional, state, and federal interests.
- ❖ Identify critical new research to meet local needs.

4. Food Safety and Quality

- ❖ Food safety research, training, and certification for consumers, retailers, processors, and producers.
- ❖ Research food quality and consumer preferences.

5. Job, Economic and Community Development

- ❖ Assist communities with needs assessment, community planning, community decision making, e-government initiatives, and emergency preparedness.
- ❖ Research and assistance regarding individual and community land-use decisions.
- ❖ Assessment and assistance with agribusiness profitability, agricultural business management and planning, entrepreneurship, work force development and value-added development.
- ❖ Expand local leadership, youth, and family training and programming.
- ❖ Reach out to new audiences at the rural-urban interface.