

Penn State Extension Latinx Agricultural Network – Goals and Accomplishments



Advancing Penn State Extension Hispanic/Latinx Outreach Efforts in PA

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We believe all people should have access to science-based education

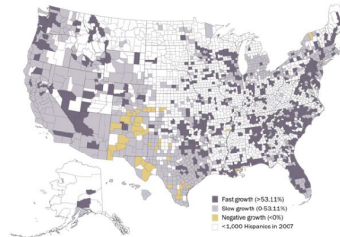


(Penn State Extension, n/d)

Introduction

- The **Hispanic/Latinx population in Pennsylvania** increased from 5.7% in 2010 to 6.6% in 2016 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, ACS, 2016).
- The **agriculture industry in Pennsylvania relies heavily on Hispanic/Latinx workforce**, and a growing number of next generation producers are Latinx.
- For at least the past ten years, several **Penn State Extension educators have worked in an ad hoc manner to offer educational programming in Spanish** for Hispanic/Latinx agriculturalists.
- However, a **framework within Extension and the College of Agricultural Sciences for serving the Hispanic/Latinx community has not been adopted.**

Countries with fast-growing, slow-growing and declining Hispanic populations, 2000 to 2007



Note: Fast growing Hispanic counties include counties where the Hispanic growth rate from 2000 to 2007 was greater than the median growth rate in the period for counties with an equal or greater Hispanic population in 2000 (0.811%).
Source: Pew Research Center (http://www.pewresearch.org/2010/04/09/08/latino-population-growth-and-dispersion-has-slowed-since-the-onset-of-the-great-recession/)

Fig 1. While many southern states experienced a slow or negative growth in their Hispanic population from 2000 to 2007, several counties in Pennsylvania experienced a slow to fast growth in their Hispanic population (Stepler and Lopez, 2016)

Past and Current Efforts

A few examples of the extension and research work that has been conducted to attend this population:

1. Spanish-session at the Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention. 10 years
2. Several trainings in Spanish (tractor safety, electrical hazards, pruning of fruit trees)
3. Study course for pesticide license
4. Field demonstrations
5. Community days
6. Mushroom industry short courses
7. Workshop series: "Bringing More Hispanic Farmers/Farmworkers to Extension Programming"
8. Research on Mushroom labor shortage
9. Research on Hispanic farmers in PA

Goal

Create a network that will enhance the ability of Hispanic/Latinx farmworkers, farmers, aspiring farmers and their families to earn a sustainable livelihood and obtain a high quality of life in the Pennsylvania agriculture industry.

Interested in learning more or getting involved?

Leave us your contact information at:



<https://goo.gl/forms/8gGDtRpOVyPueoes2>

Who are we?

Working team of faculty, Extension educators and graduate students with a desire to coordinate and advance extension and research service efforts for Spanish-speaking audiences.

Future Steps

- Extension impact grant → bring extension educators and extension faculty together to evaluate Penn State Extension's service to the Latinx community and propose policy changes to enhance that effort.
- Create a Latinx Ag Research Center (LARC)
- Re-structure our Latinx Ag Task force to manage projects corresponding to the branches highlighted in Figure 3
- Recommendation → college should put together wide effort to facilitate communication between research, extension, and education



Fig 3. Activity branches that could be included in the PSU Latinx Ag Task Force

Acknowledgements



PennState Extension



United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Specialty Crops Grant Program

References

ACS. American Community Survey (2012-2016). ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates. 5-year estimates. Retrieved from: https://factfinder.census.gov/aces/servlets/table?_lang=en&_ss=1&_ds=1&_tid=1&_all_geo_types=N&_all_geo_types=N

Stepler, R., & Lopez, M. H. (2016). U.S. Latino Population Growth and Dispersion Has Slowed Since Onset of the Great Recession. Pew Research Center. Retrieved from <https://www.pewresearch.org/2016/04/09/08/latino-population-growth-and-dispersion-has-slowed-since-the-onset-of-the-great-recession/>

U.S. Census Bureau (2011). The Hispanic Population: 2010. Retrieved from: <https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-04.pdf>

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Publications and Presentations

Huerta Arredondo, I.A. (2020). Latino/a Farmers in Pennsylvania and the Role of Cooperative Extension. Poster session presented at the Envisioning the Future of Extension Conference, Washington, D.C.

Huerta-Arredondo, I.A., Appleman, A., Medina, J.A. (2020). How Can Service Providers Support Hispanic/Latinx Farmers in PA? Workshop presented at the Pennsylvania Sustainable Agriculture (PASA) Conference, Lancaster, PA.

Sánchez, E., Gorgo-Gourovitch, M., and Stivers, L. (2019). Creating a Sense of Belonging for Hispanic Farmers and Farmworkers in Agricultural Programming. *HortTechnology* 29:476-481.

Sexsmith, K., Huerta-Arredondo, I. (2019). Labor Shortage in the Mushroom Industry: Worker and Employer Perspectives. *Mushroom News*, 67 (10), 8-10.

Huerta Arredondo, I. & Sexsmith, K. (2019). “2019 Mushroom Employer Survey on the Labor Shortage”. Independently published technical report.

Huerta-Arredondo, I.A. (2019). Hispanic/Latinx Farmers in Pennsylvania: Characteristics, Farming Challenges, and Engagement Barriers with Non-formal Educators. Paper and poster presented at the Cambio de Colores Conference, Columbia, MO.

Huerta-Arredondo, I., Baugher, T., Bull, C., Gorgo-Gourovitch, M., Miller-Foster, M., Sanchez, E., Sexsmith, K., Stivers, L., and Rosenthal, E. (2019). Advancing Penn State Extension Hispanic/Latinx Outreach Efforts in PA. Paper presented at the Cambio de Colores Conference, Columbia, MO.

Huerta-Arredondo, I., Baugher, T., Bull, C., Gorgo-Gourovitch, M., Miller-Foster, M., Sanchez, E., Sexsmith, K., Stivers, L., and Rosenthal, E. (2019). Advancing Penn State Extension Hispanic/Latinx Outreach Efforts in PA. Poster session presented at the Penn State Extension Conference, Champion, PA.

Sexsmith, K., Gorgo-Gourovitch, M. Rajotte, E., Snipes, A., Pate, M., Huerta-Arredondo, I.A., Smith, E., and Armington, M. (2019). Labor Shortage in the PA Mushroom Industry, Worker and Employer Perspective. Poster session presented at the Mushroom Short Course, Kennett Square, PA.

Sexsmith, K., Smith, E., Gorgo-Gourovitch, M., Huerta, I., and Armington, M. (2019). Worker Perspectives on the Labor Shortage in the Pennsylvania Mushroom Industry. Poster session presented at the Penn State Extension Conference, Champion, PA.

Huerta-Arredondo, I. (2018). Strengthening the Relationship between Hispanic Farmers in Pennsylvania and Penn State Extension: A Needs Assessment Study. Poster session presented at the Gamma Sigma Delta and Graduate Research Expo, University Park, PA.

Penn State Extension Latinx Agricultural Network – Goals and Accomplishments

Huerta-Arredondo, I. Culturally Sensitive Approach to Hispanic Farmers in Pennsylvania through Agricultural Extension Education. (2017). Paper presented at The Rural Studies Conference, University Park, PA.

Baugher, T, Fonseca Estrada, M. Lowery, K., Nunez Contreras, H. (2017). Learning preferences of next generation Hispanic/Latino specialty crop growers. HortTechnology 27:263-268.

Huerta Arredondo, I.A., Miller-Foster, M., & Gorgo-Gourovitch, M. (2017). Hispanic's Knowledge of the Land-Grant Mission in the Mid-Atlantic. NACTA 61 (Suppl. 1), 57-58.

Impacts/Media Coverage

[Latinx Agricultural Network website](#)

Place to find resources for agricultural resources in Spanish as well as news from the Network.

Morning Ag Clips: PSU Extension Victory Garden program supports Latino community

Article: <https://www.morningagclips.com/psu-extension-victory-garden-program-supports-latino-community/>

“[Penn State Extension Master Gardeners](#) expected there would be a renewed interest in home gardening in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, they developed the 10-part “[Victory Garden Reinvented!](#)” webinar series to support gardeners across the country. In 2021, the Master Gardener program and the Penn State Extension horticulture team expanded this effort — aiming to reach the Latino community — and the webinars now are available in Spanish.”

Published on August 11, 2021, University Park, Pa.

Penn State News: Penn State Extension Victory Garden Program supports Latino community

Article: <https://news.psu.edu/story/665532/2021/08/09/impact/penn-state-extension-victory-garden-program-supports-latino-community>

“In addition to the webinars, nine fact sheets were translated by team members to provide additional information for gardeners and new farmers. Gorgo-Gourovitch noted that native Spanish speakers translated the webinar scripts and PowerPoint slides.”

Published on August 9, 2021, University Park, Pa.

Good Fruit Grower Article: Penn State ofrece recursos de agricultura en español en Facebook (Spanish):

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<https://www.goodfruit.com/es/penn-state-ofrece-recursos-de-agricultura-en-espanol-en-facebook/>

“Profesores y educadores de Extensión de Penn State en el Colegio de Agricultura crearon una página de Facebook 100% en español (<https://www.facebook.com/PennStateAgriculturaEnEspanol>) que proporcionará a productores y empleados de campos con recursos innovativos, basados en ciencia, de fácil acceso y en español, lo cual será muy conveniente durante el periodo actual de distanciamiento social.”

Latinx Agricultural Network formed at Penn State to address community's needs | Penn StatePSU

Article: <https://news.psu.edu/story/592288/2019/10/09/academics/latinx-agricultural-network-formed-penn-state-address-communitys>

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — A new strategic planning group at Penn State seeks to enhance engagement and continue to provide support to Pennsylvania’s Latinx agricultural community.

“We are delighted to be on the forefront of research, education and outreach efforts to our valued partners in the Latinx community,” said Carolee Bull, professor and head of the [Department of Plant Pathology and Environmental Microbiology](#) in the [College of Agricultural Sciences](#), who is among those leading the initiative.

“Our goal is to help Latinx growers achieve quality agricultural production, experience satisfaction in their workplaces, and enjoy a high quality of life.”

Morning Ag Clips Article:

<https://www.morningagclips.com/latinx-agricultural-network-formed-at-penn-state-to-address-communitys-needs/>

Latinx Agricultural Network formed at Penn State to address community’s needs

Group will build strategically on Extension’s history of outreach to the Latinx community

PUBLISHED ON October 29, 2019, UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — A new strategic planning group at Penn State seeks to enhance engagement and continue to provide support to Pennsylvania’s Latinx agricultural community.

BCTV article: Run on TV, social media and their daily e-newsletter

<https://www.bctv.org/2019/10/30/latinx-agricultural-network-formed-at-penn-state-to-address-communitys-needs/>

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Latino News Article (Spanish):

<https://www.latinonewspa.com/regionales/se-crea-la-red-agricola-latinx-en-penn-state-para-atender-las-necesidades-de-la-comunidad-latinx-en-pensilvania/>

Se crea la Red Agrícola Latinx en Penn State para atender las necesidades de la comunidad latinx en Pensilvania – Latino News Octubre 31, 2019

The Collegian Article:

<https://www.collegian.psu.edu/content/tncms/live/>

Penn State's Latinx Agricultural Network aims to help Latinx members of PA's agriculture industry - Christina Baker | For the Collegian Nov 2, 2019

Learn what Penn State Extension's Latinx Ag Network offers on [Facebook page](#)

Penn State News: <https://news.psu.edu/story/614335/2020/04/06/impact/learn-what-penn-state-extension%E2%80%99s-latinx-ag-network-offers-new>

Latinos News PA: <https://www.latinonewspa.com/pennsylvania/la-red-de-trabajo-penn-state-extension-agricultura-latinx-invita-a-personas-de-habla-hispana-relacionados-con-agricultura-a-conectarse-en-facebook/>

Morning Ag Clips: <https://www.morningagclips.com/learn-what-extensions-latinx-ag-network-offers-on-new-facebook-page/>

Fruit Growers News: <https://fruitgrowersnews.com/news/learn-what-penn-state-extensions-latinx-ag-network-offers-on-facebook-page/>

Extension Program Impacts

Penn State Extension marks milestone in outreach to Spanish-speaking growers | Penn State University

PSU Article: <https://news.psu.edu/story/572970/2019/05/06/impact/penn-state-extension-marks-milestone-outreach-spanish-speaking>

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — For close to a decade, Jorge Manzo has worked at McCleaf's Orchard, a fifth-generation family farm near Gettysburg in Adams County, where he is responsible for preparing a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables for market, including a few of his favorites — kiwi, blackberries and raspberries.

Like other growers, he understands the need to keep abreast of changes in the market and the latest practices and technology by participating in continuing education. However, as a Latin American immigrant, opportunities to learn in Spanish haven't been easy to find, a circumstance that sometimes places him, and even his employer, at a disadvantage.

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And he is not alone. According to the 2017 U.S. Census of Agriculture, the number of Hispanic principal operators in the country now stands at 90,344, up from 67,000, the figure reported in the 2012 census.....

Good Fruit Grower Article: 10 años de sesiones para los Horticultores Hispanoparlantes en PA - 29 de enero de 2019

<https://www.goodfruit.com/es/10-anos-de-sesiones-para-los-horticultores-hispanoparlantes-en-pa/>

Extension Outreach for a Promising Next Generation of Specialty Crop Growers (Extension Impact Video)

<https://agsci.psu.edu/research/extension-centers/frec/news/extension-outreach-for-a-promising-next-generation-of-specialty-crop-growers>

Posted: March 22, 2019

Penn State Extension is extending its outreach to a promising next generation of specialty crop growers from diverse backgrounds. Bilingual educational programs enhance the capacity of the specialty crop industry to increase economic and environmental sustainability. The Young Grower Alliance offers opportunities for "Next Gen" horticulturists to not only learn but also to lead and connect.

Penn State Extension Team Receives National Award for Excellence in Programming

<https://agsci.psu.edu/diversity/news/spotlight/penn-state-extension-team-receives-national-award-for-excellence-in-programming-for-young-beginning-and-small-farmers>

The National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) presented an award for excellence to Penn State Extension Educators for “Supporting Pennsylvania Farmers in the Start-Up, Re-strategizing and Establishing Years.”

2018 Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention: Production Techniques for Fruits and Vegetables – Spanish Session

PSU Article: <https://agsci.psu.edu/diversity/news/spotlight/2018-mid-atlantic-fruit-and-vegetable-convention-production-techniques-for-fruits-and-vegetables-spanish-session>

No Empty Chairs at Bilingual Workshop on GAP and Pruning Fruit Trees

PSU article: <https://extension.psu.edu/no-empty-chairs-at-bilingual-workshop-on-gap-and-pruning-fruit-trees>

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Morning Ag Clips Article: <https://www.morningagclips.com/no-empty-chairs-at-gap-tree-pruning-workshop/>

Over eighty people packed this successful workshop on food safety and pruning held at the Penn State Fruit Research and Extension Center and the Hollabaugh Orchard farm in Biglerville, PA. Spanish was the primary language for all the participants.

Community Ag Day in Northampton County: <https://www.morningagclips.com/psu-extension-holds-general-community-meeting/>

Local Penn State Extension Lehigh Valley efforts held a general Community Meeting on April 24 at the Lynfield Community Center in conjunction with Bethlehem Councilwoman and HGSK Firm Community Liaison, Olga Negrón. The goal of the meeting was to raise awareness among the Latino community about the services provided by Penn State Extension.

Penn State Extension delivers bilingual produce safety educational programs

Morning Ag Clips Article: <https://www.morningagclips.com/penn-state-extension-delivers-bilingual-produce-safety-educational-programs/>

Goal was to develop a suite of educational materials in English and Spanish

PUBLISHED ON November 19, 2019

WEST CHESTER, Pa. — With funding from USDA NIFA award number 2017-70020-27236, Penn State Extension educators from the Food Safety and Horticulture teams developed bilingual Produce Safety educational materials and delivered trainings to Latino Fresh Produce Growers and Farmworkers in Pennsylvania.

2020 Pennsylvania State Winner for Extension Education Poster at the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) Awards: Labor Shortage in the PA Mushroom Industry - Worker and Employer Perspectives
https://www.nacaa.com/awards/apps/all_award_winners.php

Grants

USDA-NIFA Beginning Farmer/Rancher project titled "Supporting Pennsylvania New Farmers in the Start-up, Re-strategizing and Establishing Years" (Award number 2015-70017-22852)

USDA-NIFA Specialty Crop Block grant project titled "Sustainable Production and Market Innovations for Next Generation Young and Hispanic Specialty Crop Growers" (Project number ME44144963)

USDA-NIFA Specialty Crop Block Grant project titled " Sustainable Production and Pest Management Innovations for Next Generation Young and Hispanic/Latino Specialty Crop (Project number ME#44166076)

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USDA-NIFA Specialty Crop Block Grant project titled " Sustainable Production, Business Management, and Farm Safety Innovations for Beginning and Minority Specialty Crop Producers" (Project number ME#44187248)

USDA/NIFA- PA IPM proposal titled “Specialty Crops-IPM Education for Hispanics in the Mushroom Industry”

USDA Food Safety project titled “Bilingual Produce Safety Educational Programming for Latino Fresh Produce Growers and Farmworkers in PA”

Penn State Extension Innovation grant titled “Extension Horticulture Outreach Program for Latino/a Growers and Farm Workers”

Penn State Extension Multi-State grant titled “Identifying Strategies to Improve Workplace Communication on Pennsylvania Tree Fruit Farms”

PA Watersheds grant titled “Extending Safe Drinking Water Education to Spanish Speaking Audiences in Pennsylvania”

NE SARE project titled “Creating a Sense of Belonging for Hispanic Farmers in Extension Programming (ENE15 139)

Penn State Extension Impact Grant titled “Evaluation of Penn State Extension’s Service to the Latinx Community and Development of Strategic Policy Changes to Enhance that Effort”