



SOIL AND PLANT SCIENCE DIVISION

Technical Soil Services

South Central Region

Altus, Oklahoma, Soil Survey Office (SSO)

Jackson County AG Youth Day 2023

Purpose

On October 18 and 19, 2023, the Jackson County OSU Extension office hosted the fourth annual Jackson County AG Youth Day in Altus, Oklahoma. The two-day event allowed every fourth-grade student from all the schools in Jackson County, Oklahoma, to learn more about agriculture and how important agriculture is to their community, county, state, and world. Tyson Morley, Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) soil survey leader, and Tyler Kempf, soil scientist from the Altus, Oklahoma, MLRA SSO, assisted with planning, set-up, coordination, and clean-up. Over the course of the two days, 367 fourth graders from seven Jackson County schools rotated through nine learning stations.

Key Outcomes

The students were split into two groups and started their day learning about the history of farming equipment and how technology has changed the amount of land that can be farmed in a day. The other group got a live demonstration on how to milk a cow and how important milk is to their health. They also got to ask questions about “Sally,” the milk cow.

Other presentations were set up on a 15-minute rotation and included “Everything about Cotton” by the Oklahoma State Extension, “Soil Health” by the Jackson County Conservation District, “All about Wheat” by the Oklahoma Wheat Commission, “Beef Cattle Production” by the local veterinarian, “History of Lake Lugert and the Irrigation District” by the local historian, “Butter making” by the Oklahoma State Extension, and “Hunters Safety” by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife.

Lunch was provided to all students and teachers by local businesses involved in agriculture. Something new this year: all students and teachers were given a t-shirt free of charge, provided by AG chemical companies and farm equipment dealers.



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AG YOUTH DAY



Figure 1.—Presenters discussed their topics to students during the Jackson County AG Youth Day event.



Figure 2.—Students explored farm equipment and displayed butter they had made during the Jackson County AG Youth Day event.



Figure 3.—The expo center set up for presentations for the Jackson County Ag Youth Day event

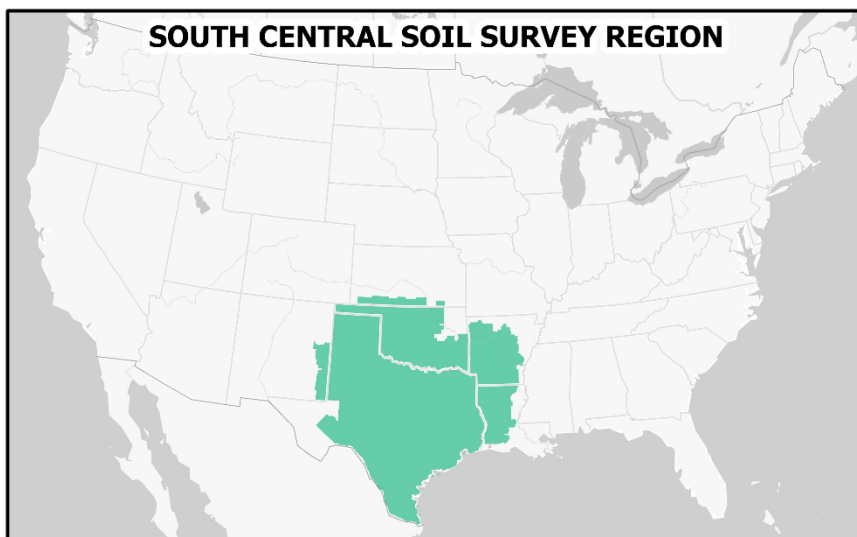


Figure 4.—A map of the South Central Soil Survey Region.