



# Kitchen Table Conversations for Ohio Women in Agriculture at the Farm Science Review

Neal, Gigi, Clermont County; Neikirk, Heather, Stark County; Sarah Noggle, Paulding County; Beth Scheckelhoff, Putnam County; Amy Stone, Lucas County; Agriculture and Natural Resources Educators; Dee Jepsen, State Leader Ag, Safety, & Health Program; Bridget Britton, Behavioral Health Field Specialist Ohio State University Extension

## OBJECTIVES

- Provide informal educational conversations on relevant, engaging topics of interest to Ohio's women in agriculture.
- Expand the outreach of the Ohio Women in Agriculture Resource Center during the Farm Science Review.

## DESCRIPTION

Kitchen Table Conversations (KTC) is a creative twist that uses an informal and conversational approach around the farmhouse kitchen table that is supported by peer-to-peer learning and fosters a learning network environment. Educational topics are geared around key and controversial topics of the given time. In 2020, the Ohio Soybean Council sponsored the sessions as part of the virtual Farm Science Review. In 2021, when the FSR was in-person, our KTC remained virtual, which worked well due to inclement weather that closed the event, and we could continue. In 2022, our KTC was hybrid with an in-person and virtual approach at our "kitchen table." In 2023, we took another spin to take our show on the road, hosting a "progressive kitchen table" event at six different topic sites on the event grounds. This doubled our sessions, and participation grew threefold.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- Anyone with a general interest in learning more about agriculture
- Female farm operators/co-operators
- Women in agriculture professionals
- Women land-owners

children farm chores  
land ownership  
future planning  
mental health

raising livestock

agriculture

small acreage farm stress

women

family

on-farm research

## TOPICS

- Relevant
- Engaging
- Participant derived

## PRESENTATION STYLE

- Informal
- Conversational
- Small Group
- Fewer slides
- More photos
- Leading questions
- Use of polls to capture key information
- Hands-on demonstration



## SPEAKERS

- Extension professionals
- Industry professionals
- Local farmers or agribusiness professionals
- Local business and non-profit leaders
- Agricultural organizations



Speakers should be knowledgeable on the topic but able to lead the conversation, offer educational support, and connect participants to key resources.



## PROGRAM AGENDA

- 2020-2022 45-minute sessions; 3 times each year
- 2023 30-minute sessions; 6 times
  - Welcome /Housekeeping
  - Introductions
  - Topic Conversation includes Q & A
  - Additional questions, discussion or comments
  - Wrap up

## MARKETING/PROMOTIONAL TOOLS

Our team used various promotional tools to reach the target audience. Examples of tools used include direct emails, flyers, events, and posts on the Ohio Women in Agriculture Learning Network Facebook page and a post on the Ohio Women in Agriculture blog site. The information was also included in the Farm Science Review program and website..



## RESULTS

- 2020 - 25 registrants participated in the virtual sessions
  - 2021 - 20 registrants participated in the virtual sessions
  - 2022 - 25 in-person and virtual participants
  - 2023 - 74 in-person participants
- Additionally, recorded videos can be watched anytime at the following QR link.

