

Developing an Evaluation Tool for the  
Virginia Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Program

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## Abstract

This project focused on the development of an evaluation tool for the newly adopted Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program in the Virginia youth livestock program. Information and examples from similar projects were compiled to understand the tools already being utilized. Appropriate evaluation tool design was identified in order to meet the needs of different ages and stages of youth. Two evaluation tools were developed, one for junior aged youth ages 9-13 and one for senior aged youth ages 14-19. The evaluation tool wording and format were designed to be age specific. Demographic, Likert scale, and open-ended questions were utilized. The voluntary survey was administered at the conclusion of each training event. The surveys were collected and the data was analyzed. A total of 263 junior aged youth and 242 senior aged youth completed the survey at the conclusion of their respective trainings. The results indicate that both the junior aged and senior aged youth found the training to be beneficial but delivery systems could be enhanced and improved to make the training more enjoyable. Youth particularly gave positive feedback concerning the guest speakers, the hands-on learning stations, and live animal demonstrations. 83% of the total youth agreed they learned something new as a result of completing the trainings. Limitations of the survey include format, delivery, and analysis of the data. The training instructors are also a limitation considering how they formatted the training and how they administered the survey including the directions given and the amount of time allotted to complete the survey. In the future, the evaluation tool should be modified to not only capture youth satisfaction but impact and behavioral change as well.

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### **Chapter 1**

#### **Introduction**

##### **Background and Setting**

Youth quality assurance programs have been an integral component of positive youth development in many 4-H and FFA youth livestock programs nationwide. The programs focus on educating youth on the “good” practices of raising livestock for consumer production. Through the use of evaluation, these programs have evolved over the years to meet the educational needs and trends of the youth livestock industry.

Starting in 2014, youth participating in the state of Virginia’s 4-H and FFA livestock projects were required to complete a quality assurance training in order to be eligible to show and sell their livestock at the state level. This was completed through the Youth Meat Quality Assurance program, also referred to as YMQA which was designed as a face-to-face training event; certified instructors conducted the trainings which were broken down into modules focusing on “proper” or “good” livestock production practices. Feedback data on the trainings was collected using a survey as an evaluation tool. After utilizing the YMQA program materials for several years it was apparent to those that were familiar with the program that there was a need for change. This need for modification was brought to light through the data collected from the evaluation tool. Youth were no longer interested with the curriculum for several reasons, but one of the main reasons was because it hadn’t been revised or updated during the four-year period. Feedback given by participants stated the need for: hands on learning, interaction with live animals, age appropriate curriculum, updated information featured in the slides each year, and a chance to network and interact with other youth in Virginia enrolled in 4-H and FFA

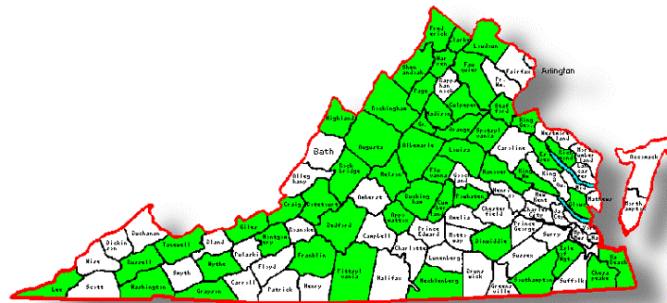
livestock projects. After several years of tedious work and research the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program, also known as YQCA, was adopted to satisfy Virginia's youth quality assurance program needs.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) was adopted by the Virginia 4-H and FFA Youth Livestock program in 2018. YQCA is a nationally administered, copyrighted curriculum that covers multi-species. The curriculum is age appropriate and is updated annually in order to educate youth on a broader spectrum. The curriculum also features hands-on learning activities and is delivered by certified trainers. To become certified trainers, interested Extension faculty volunteered and were then selected by the leadership team. After being selected, trainers completed an annual state level training via zoom and took a quiz on the rules regarding being a YQCA instructor. Instructors must have the ability to work with colleagues to present team-taught trainings, in a face-to-face setting that features hands-on learning stations and live animal learning opportunities. The program offers annual education and certification programs for youth ages 8-21, and is designed by Extension Specialists and industry leaders representing several states. Curriculum is distributed through an instructional slide deck. The slide decks are broken into two age categories: Juniors Only and Mixed Ages; Juniors Only is suited for youth ages 12 and under and is age appropriate and less detailed, while Mixed Ages is geared toward youth ages 8-18 and is well suited for older youth and features more details. The YQCA curriculum focuses on Food Safety, Animal Well-Being, and Character Awareness. YQCA offers both online and instructor-led trainings. However, in Virginia only instructor-led trainings are being accepted to satisfy the quality assurance program requirement. While there is a \$3.00 cost per participant to complete the certification, it has been covered for Virginia youth participants by grant funds. Over \$2500.00 in grant funds were utilized during the 2018 YQCA training year.

YQCA trainings located in Virginia are upheld to the following requirements: training led by certified trainers, presentation of slide decks with YQCA curriculum, and hands-on learning stations featuring a variety of relevant topics.

The first Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program year in Virginia took place from May 5, 2018 to August 15, 2018; during this time a total of 19 trainings were completed: 18 successful training and one canceled training due to lack of participation. The trainings participation ranged from 7 participants to 177 participants. Over 835 Virginia youth, representing 57 units, were certified through the YQCA program. The 19 trainings took place in 18 counties with over 600 youth being trained in 9 counties within the Shenandoah Valley Region of Virginia.

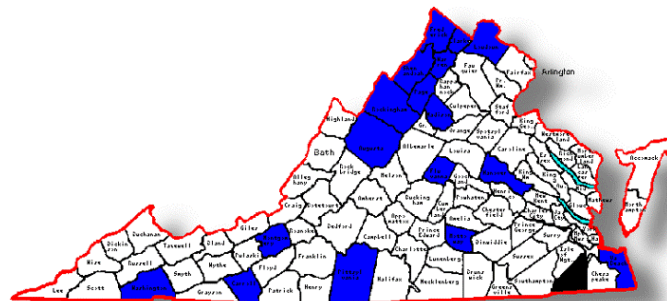
2018 YQCA - Units Represented at Trainings



Source: @pmpz.net (c)

Figure 1. Units Represented at 2018 YQCA Training (Katherine Carter, 2018)

2018 YQCA - Training Locations



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*Figure 2. 2018 YQCA Training Locations (Katherine Carter, 2018)*

### **Statement of the Problem**

Since adopting the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program, Virginia has had some significant training events across the commonwealth that have greatly impacted a number of youth enrolled in 4-H and FFA youth livestock projects. While these trainings have been impactful, the benefits of using the curriculum cannot be tracked unless data is collected. In order to successfully collect participant feedback and gauge the knowledge and skills gained from the trainings an evaluation tool must be developed.

The YQCA program is a fairly new program that a number of youth across the country are participating in. While over 835 youth in Virginia completed the certification, that is only a small fraction compared to the national statistics. The development of an effective evaluation tool here in Virginia has the potential to be used on a national level in order to evaluate other state's YQCA programing efforts.

### **Purpose of the Project**

The main purpose of this project is to design, create, and implement an age appropriate evaluation tool to be utilized at the conclusion of YQCA programs.

The first component of this project is to research effective evaluation techniques and compile useful information that is pertinent to the development of an evaluation tool. One of the focuses of the research portion of this project is to identify what other evaluation tools are already being used by other organizations and programs.

Second is to recognize the need for an evaluation tool that is geared toward the specific ages and stages of the youth in order to maximize our data collection. This can be achieved by utilizing adaptive language for age groups. The tool needs to be user friendly and all youth



participating in the YQCA program need to be able to effectively understand and complete the evaluation tool accurately.

Once the research has been compiled and designs identified, a set of pilot evaluation tools can be developed to collect data and feedback from youth participating in the YQCA program. The tools purpose will be to collect information for the leadership team that identifies the participants demographics, knowledge gained, and feedback on the training components. After the tool has been developed it would be beneficial for it to be reviewed by stakeholders involved with the YQCA program such as youth livestock and evaluation specialists, 4-H Agents, FFA Advisors, and the 4-H and FFA members in order to gain perspective.

Finally, during the spring of 2019, the evaluation tool would be distributed at the conclusion of each YQCA program in order to collect data and evaluate our programming efforts. The information collected would be beneficial to future programming efforts and how those programs are conducted.

The timeline for this project includes youth training events starting on December 15, 2018 and running through August 15, 2019. After the conclusion of the trainings, analyzed data would be anticipated by the end of the 4-H year in late September or early October of 2019.

### **Project Objectives**

The eight direct purposes of this project are:

- 1) Compile information and examples of evaluation tools used in youth development programming.
- 2) Identify appropriate evaluation tool designs based on ages and stages of youth development.

- 3) Create and design an evaluation tool that collects data and feedback from youth participating in the YQCA program.
- 4) Collect feedback on the potential evaluation tool from specialists, colleagues, and youth participants.
- 5) Finalize the evaluation tool using adaptive language for age groups to be utilized in the Spring of 2019.
- 6) Use the evaluation tool at the conclusion of Virginia YQCA Training during the 2019 training year.
- 7) Collect and analyze data collected through the use of the YQCA evaluation tool.
- 8) Report findings and make recommendations to the leadership team.

### **Definition of Terms**

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)- a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 21 with a focus on three core pillars: food safety, animal well-being, and character development.

Youth Meat Quality Assurance (YMQA)- a program designed to teach youth the basics of animal husbandry and general management practices in raising a project animal. This program provides a foundation of animal management for youth of all ages. The mission of this youth meat quality assurance program is to maximize consumer confidence and acceptance of the food products produced via youth livestock projects.

### **Limitations of the Project**

The limitations of the project would include the evaluation tool format, distribution methods, and technology used to administer the surveys, collect the data, and analyze the results. With a number of instructors leading the certifications and administering the evaluation tool, it is

indeed a limitation as to how the survey is administered to youth. This includes providing the same instructions, announcements, and the same amount of time given to complete the evaluation tool.

### **Significance of the Problem**

With the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program and its curriculum being relatively new nationally and a new requirement to Virginia, it would be considered relevant to develop an evaluation tool that compliments and gauges its programming efforts. During the 2017-2018 4-H program year over 16,000 youth food animal projects were enrolled in Virginia 4-H (Virginia 4-H, 2018). It is important that we reach as many of the youth enrolled in these food animal projects as possible since they are, in fact, supplying a product to consumers. We can do that by providing them with the best possible quality assurance curriculum and hands-on activities which can only be improved through feedback provided by an evaluation tool.

Quality data collected could serve as a marketing tool to promote the program to additional youth. This will allow the program to reach more youth who could benefit from a quality assurance certification.

As we continue to provide this program it is imperative that we understand, listen to, and track the needs of the youth participating in quality assurance programs in order to offer them the resources they need to succeed.

## **Chapter 2**

### **Review of Literature**

In 2013, a group of Extension professionals in Wisconsin developed an evaluation tool comprised of a 29-question survey (Appendix A) to evaluate the Meat Animal Quality Assurance (MAQA) program. The survey consisted of “a four-point scale measuring youth perception of the extent to which their MAQA education experience contributed to growth in their ability and practices in the areas of Animal Care and Management, Animal Health Products, and Animal Handling as well as Sportsmanship, Communication, and Agriculture Careers” (Ivey, et. al., 2015). The survey had youth evaluate their abilities and performance prior to their MAQA certification and after their MAQA certification. It’s apparent that great thought went into the design and development of the survey. The directions were clear, the survey was laid out efficiently and for the most part was easy to read and comprehend. The questions were broken down into eight categories that asked direct questions concerning the youth’s knowledge and abilities. There was a short sampling of demographic questions featured at the conclusion of the survey. The 2013 survey used by the Wisconsin Meat Animal Quality Assurance program analyzed results that determined “almost all questions showed increased knowledge of more than (50%) after they attended MAQA educational sessions” (Ivey, et. al., 2015). The evaluation tool results (Appendix B and C) “indicate that participation in MAQA had a positive impact on participants’ self-assessment of their abilities and increased their sportsmanship and leadership/mentoring behaviors” (Ivey, et. al, 2015). Due to the nature of the evaluation results, there was indication that youth who completed the MAQA program had increased behaviors and abilities which made them more prepared and efficient producers. The evaluators also argued that the results of this survey “shows the value of quality assurance programs and adds some research to this current topic. There would be value in conducting additional and more extensive

studies to further investigate quality assurance programming” (Ivey, et. al. 2015). According to Kirkpatrick, there were four steps of evaluation of training: reaction, learning, behavior, and results (Kirkpatrick, 1996). Reaction refers to the participants experience with the training; did they enjoy the learning experience? Step two, learning, focuses on what the participants actually got from the training; what did they learn as a result? Behavior discusses how a participant’s behavior has changed as a result of the training. And finally, results discuss what benefits were gained. In this case, how did the Virginia youth livestock program and agriculture benefit from youth receiving a quality assurance plan? The results of this survey only further demonstrated the need for a Virginia YQCA evaluation tool so that the program could track the impacts being made on the youth completing the certification.

Another study by Kohn and Rockwell examined the benefits of a “post-then-pre” method rather than the typical “pre-then-post” approach. According to Kohn and Rockwell (1989), “in certain types of self-report program evaluation, pretest-posttest comparison results may be an inaccurate assessment of instructional impact because participants may have limited knowledge at the beginning of a program that prevents them from accurately assessing baseline behaviors” (Rockwell and Kohn, 1989). At the conclusion of the program, participants may have a better understanding of the content of the training which would have a bearing on their self-evaluation results. This problem would be answered by conducting the “post-then-pre” self-evaluation; “at the end of the program, the participant answers two questions. The first question asked about behavior as a result of the program. This is the posttest question. Then the participant was asked to report what the behavior had been before the program. This second question was really the pretest question, but it’s asked after the program when the participant had sufficient knowledge to answer the question validly” (Rockwell and Kohn, 1989). This approach to evaluation

provided considerable evidence for program impact and was an approach that could be considered when developing the final evaluation tool for Virginia YQCA.

While the MAQA evaluation tool was a good example to follow, Virginia still needed a state specific survey that is specific to the YQCA program slides and hands on activities that are mandated by the State Program Team. The MAQA curriculum and the YQCA curriculum share similar information but are made up of different elements that need to be evaluated.

### **Theoretical Framework**

Evaluation is an integral component of extension programming. Evaluation methods assist professionals with decision making, identifying strengths and weaknesses programmatically, reporting and comparing results, and communicating to stakeholders that their opinions matter. There are a number of different pieces that make up an evaluation including design and format, questions, methods, and administration.

The evaluation questions are an important element to keep in mind when planning an evaluation. According to Radhakrishna and Relado, “a clear understanding of the program and its objectives is a critical first step in developing evaluation questions (Radhakrishna and Relado, 2009). By understanding the program, the evaluator is able to write focused evaluation questions that capture the data that needs to be collected. Scale questions such as Likert scale format have both advantages and disadvantages. According to Roucan-Kane, the advantage of using scale questions with words is that words are more “meaningful” and “words are prevalent as means of communication” (Roucan-Kane, 2008). The disadvantages of using scale questions with words include reasons such as, “not easy to find differentiated set of words if lots of answer categories are needed” and “require coding” (Roucan-Kane, 2008).

The design and formatting of the survey tool can play an important role in the success of the evaluation. According to Roucan-Kane, “survey research demonstrates that design is more important than length to motivate completion. It has to look easy to do and be consistent” (Roucan-Kane, 2008). It’s important to consider spacing and the overall look of the survey to encourage completion and ensure success of the instrument.

After the evaluations have been completed it is important to organize and compile the data into a reader friendly format. Roucan- Kane states that “for open ended answers, comments should be organized into meaningful categories, and patterns should be identified” (Roucan-Kane, 2008). Organizing open ended comments allows the evaluator an easier opportunity to understand the data. The results are the reason that evaluations are conducted and can be used a number of ways. Roucan-Kane argues that results should “be used for marketing purposes. Results should also be communicated to the team involved in the program” (Roucan-Kane, 2008). By communicating the results, evaluators are able to make changes or additions to their programs to make them more effective.

## **Summary**

With a large number of Virginia 4-H and FFA members receiving the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training, it was important that an effective evaluation tool be created and implemented to track impacts being made and overall satisfaction. Youth participating in livestock projects are the future of agriculture and they need the tools to succeed. These tools include a quality assurance program that will give them the information they need to succeed not only in their project years but in the future as well. Without evaluation, we have no idea if we are giving them the right tools they need. By listening and collecting there feedback we can continue to provide them with a quality 4-H program that fits their needs.

## **Chapter 3**

### **Methodology**

#### **Target Population and Participating Audience**

The target audience for this study included all youth ages 9-19 enrolled in a youth livestock project that received the YQCA, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals, training. In Virginia, to be eligible to show at the State Fair of Virginia 4-H and FFA Youth Livestock Shows, all youth must have attended and completed a YQCA training. The YQCA trainings took place in various locations across the commonwealth, at the conclusion of each session the survey was distributed to participants. Completion of this survey was voluntary. By distributing it before participants were released from the training, it was hopeful that 80% would be turned in to instructors to analyze and compile data.

#### **Instrumentation and Data Collection**

An initial survey (Appendix D) was developed in April 2018 in order to be utilized at the first YQCA training. The survey; (found in Appendix IV); was distributed in hard copy form to the youth participating in the trainings. Youth were asked to complete the survey prior to their departure. The surveys were distributed to 177 participants with a total of 133 participants responding in some way. The results of this survey (found in Appendix E); gave insight into the success of the training. These results were entered by one person into the Qualtrics system so that data could be interpreted and reported.

At the conclusion of the first YQCA training year, the survey was brought forward and reviewed by several 4-H faculty and staff and revisions were recommended. The revised survey (Appendix VI) features edited vocabulary, questions, and age specific formatting. It was made up of twenty-four questions featuring open ended, Likert scale, and multiple-choice questions.



After being reviewed by 4-H faculty and staff, the evaluation tool was revised based on the recommendations that were suggested. At this point it was determined that two evaluation tools be developed to meet the needs of the different age groups represented at the training. Juniors needed a survey that was easier to comprehend so that it could be completed in a timely manner. It was determined that seniors could understand and complete the survey with the existing language. After both surveys were developed they were again reviewed by two professors in the Department of Agriculture, Leadership, and Community Education at Virginia Tech and a Virginia Tech Animal and Poultry Science Specialist. Recommendations were made concerning language and question format and played a vital role in developing two instruments geared toward the two age groups participating in the program. The Junior evaluation (Appendix H) featured age appropriate language and questions that can be answered in a timely manner. The Senior evaluation (Appendix G) is geared toward older youth that are able to comprehend more in-depth questions and feelings. The evaluation tool was put into effect in February of 2019. Surveys were distributed at the conclusion of the YQCA trainings and proctored by trainers. Youth were given the hard copy of the survey, a writing implement, and sufficient time to complete the questions. Other adults and parents provided guidance as needed to youth that needed assistance. Youth participants were encouraged to complete the evaluation to the best of their ability but were assured that it was voluntary.

Both evaluations featured a statement ensuring the tool was voluntary and anonymous before listing twenty-five survey questions. These demographic, Likert scale, and open-ended questions were presented in an organized manner. The completed surveys were collected by proctors and complied by the trainers in order to be kept secure until results could be entered.

The timeline for this project included youth training events which started on December 15, 2018 and ran through August 15, 2019. After the conclusion of the trainings, analyzed data was anticipated by the end of the 4-H year in late September or early October of 2019. The demographic and Likert scale responses were recorded and compiled into a spreadsheet. The evaluator read through and sorted open-ended responses into categories.

## Chapter 4

### Project Results

#### Junior Evaluation Results

A total of 263 junior aged youth completed the evaluation at the conclusion of their YQCA training during the 2019 certification year. A full chart of questions and responses can be found in Appendix J. One hundred and thirty-two respondents were male and 118 were female. Six individuals preferred not to say what gender they identified as and seven left the question blank. 55% of the youth completing the evaluation were comprised of those ages 9-11 while 42% were ages 12-13 the day of the certification. For 58 of the participants this was their first year showing while 73 youth have been showing for 1-2 years and 127 youth have been showing for 3-5 years. When it came to quality assurance training experience it was pretty even over the spectrum. 30% of participants admitted this was their first training while 31% had been to 1-2 trainings and 32% had attended 3-5 trainings. The following sections will highlight the questions that asked the participants about their training experience including their attitudes toward the slides, speakers, and stations.

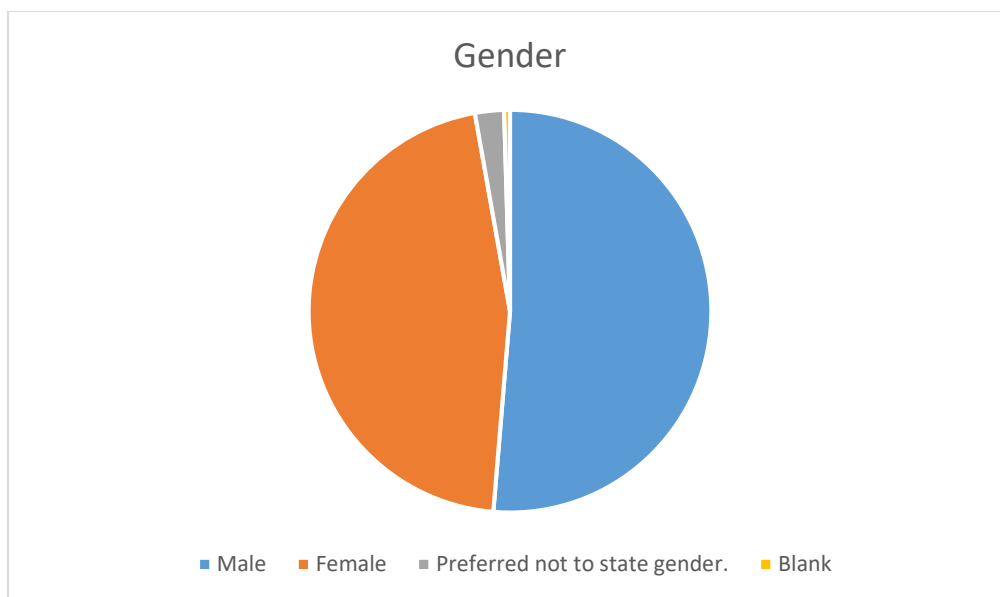


Figure 3. Gender of Junior Participants

**Youth answered Yes or No to rate their level of agreement on seven statements pertaining to the Youth for the Quality Care of Animal trainings.**

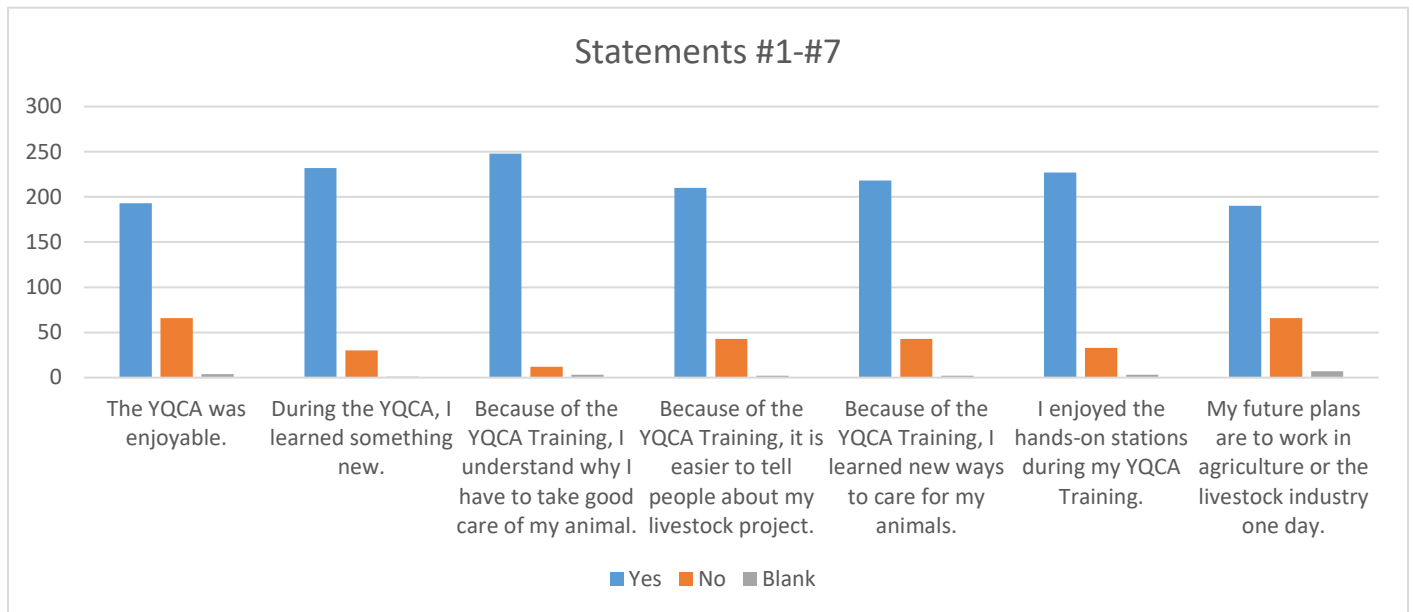


Figure 4. Represents questions and responses to statements 1-7

*Statement #1: The YQCA Training was enjoyable.*

Seventy- three percent (n=193) responded yes and twenty-five percent (n=66) responded no.

Four individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #2: During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.*

Eighty-eight percent (n=232) responded yes and eleven percent (n=30) responded no. One individual left the question unanswered.

*Statement #3: Because of the YQCA Training, I understand why I have to take good care of my animal.*

Ninety-four percent (n=248) responded yes and less than five percent (n=12) responded no.

Three individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #4: Because of the YQCA Training, it is easier to tell people about my livestock project.*

Eighty percent (n=210) responded yes and less than twenty percent (n=52) responded no. One individual left the question unanswered.

*Statement #5: Because of the YQCA Training, I learned new ways to care for my animals.*

Eighty-three percent (n=218) responded yes and sixteen percent (n=43) responded no. Two individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #6: I enjoyed the hands-on stations during my YQCA Training.*

Eighty-six percent (n=227) responded yes and twelve percent (n=33) responded no. Three individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #7: My future plans are to work in agriculture or the livestock industry one day.*

Seventy-two percent (n=190) responded yes and twenty five percent (n=66) responded no. Seven individuals left the question unanswered.

**Youth answered Yes or No to rate their level of agreement on four statements pertaining to the slides utilized during the Youth for the Quality Care of Animal trainings.**

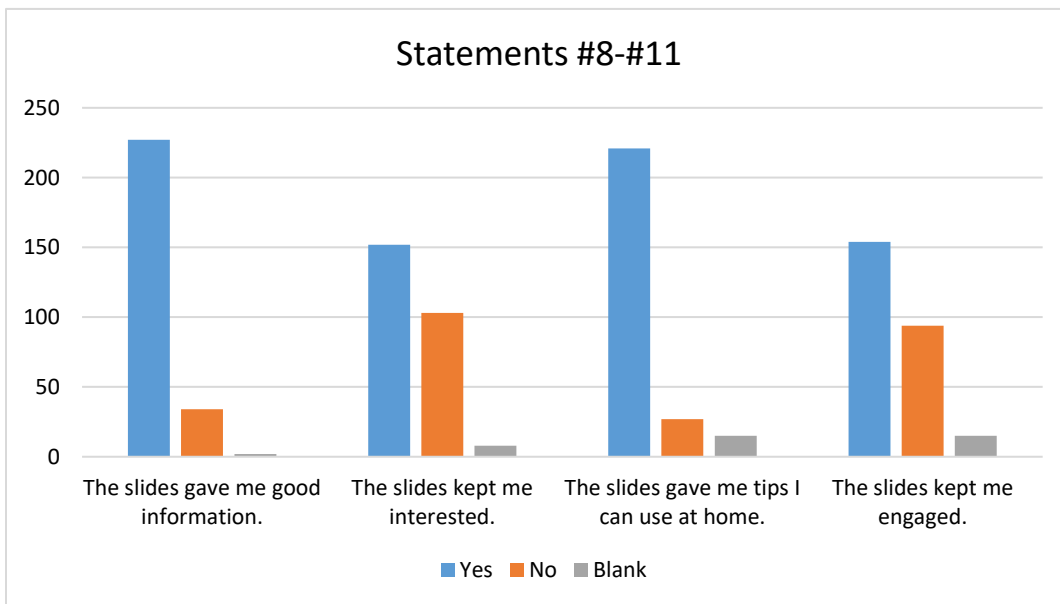


Figure 5. Represents questions and responses to statements 8-11

*Statement #8: The slides gave me good information.*

Eighty-six percent (n=227) responded yes and thirteen percent (n=34) responded no. Two individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #9: The slides kept me interested.*

Fifty-seven percent (n=152) responded yes and thirty-nine percent (n=103) responded no. Eight individuals left the question unanswered.

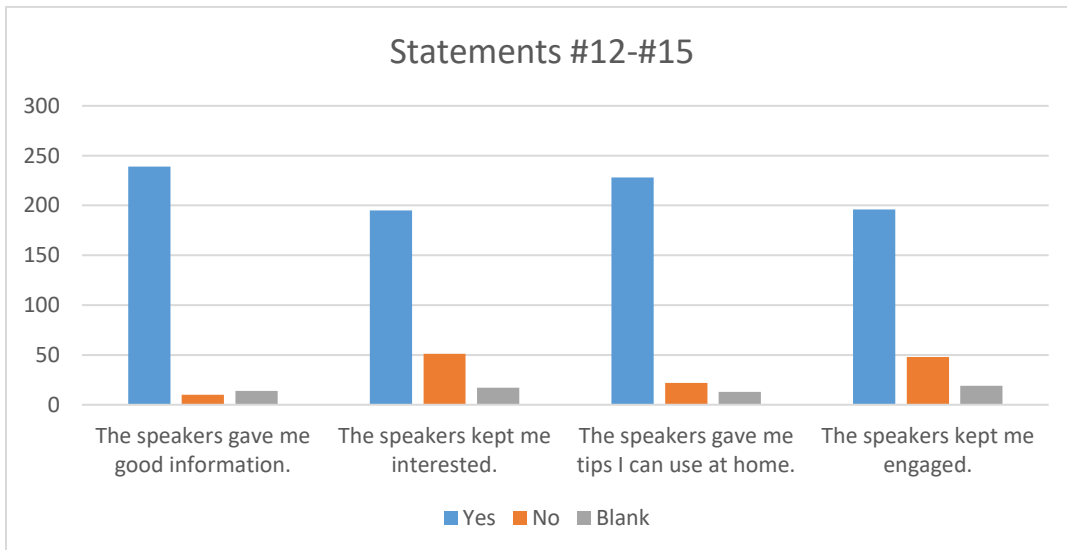
*Statement #10: The slides gave me tips I can use at home.*

Eighty-four percent (n=221) responded yes and ten percent (n=27) responded no. Fifteen individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #11: The slides kept me engaged.*

Fifty-eight percent (n=154) responded yes and thirty-five percent (n=94) responded no. Fifteen individuals left the question unanswered.

**Youth answered Yes or No to rate their level of agreement on four statements pertaining to the speakers who presented during the Youth for the Quality Care of Animal trainings.**



*Figure 6.* Represents questions and responses to statements 12-15

*Statement #12: The speakers gave me good information.*

Ninety-one percent (n=239) responded yes and less than four percent (n=10) responded no. Fourteen individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #13: The speakers kept me interested.*

Seventy-four percent (n=195) responded yes and less than twenty percent (n=51) responded no. Seventeen individuals left the question unanswered.

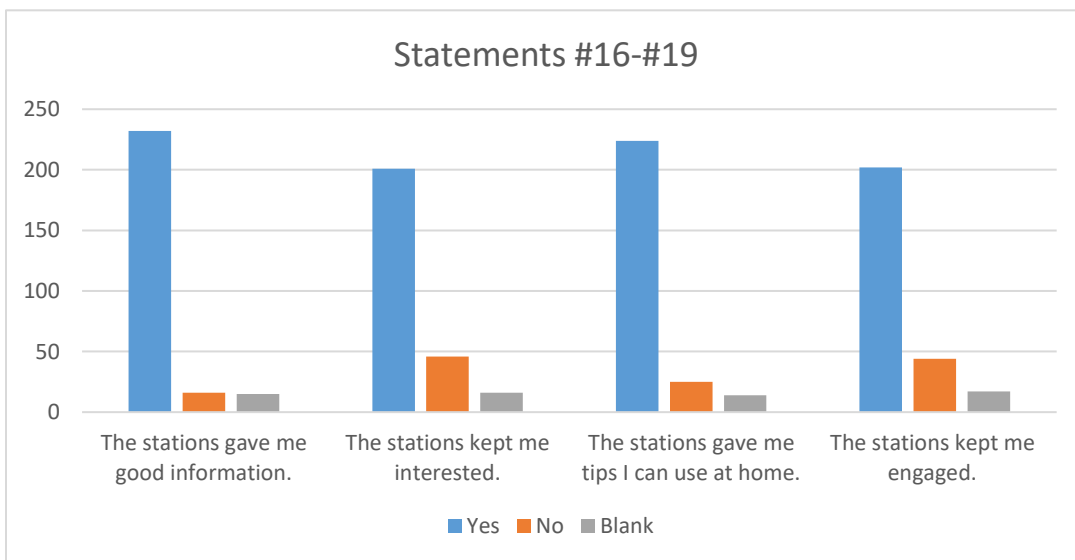
*Statement #14: The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.*

Eighty-seven percent (n=228) responded yes and eight percent (n=22) responded no. Thirteen individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #15: The speakers kept me engaged.*

Seventy-four percent (n=196) responded yes and eighteen percent (n=48) responded no. Nineteen individuals left the question unanswered.

**Youth answered Yes or No to rate their level of agreement on four statements pertaining to the stations utilized during the Youth for the Quality Care of Animal trainings.**



*Figure 7.* Represents questions and responses to statements 16-19

*Statement #16: The stations gave me good information.*

Eighty-eight percent (n=232) responded yes and six percent (n=16) responded no. Fifteen individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #17: The stations kept me interested.*

Seventy-six percent (n=201) responded yes and seventeen percent (n=46) responded no. Sixteen individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #18: The stations gave me tips I can use at home.*

Eighty-five percent (n=224) responded yes and nine percent (n=25) responded no. Fourteen individuals left the question unanswered.

*Statement #19: The stations kept me engaged.*

Seventy-seven percent (n=202) responded yes and sixteen percent (n=44) responded no.

Seventeen individuals left the question unanswered.

**Junior aged youth were asked to name their favorite thing about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.**

For this question the evaluator sorted the 200 responses and placed them into five general categories.

<b>Answer Category</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of the Total</b>
Hands-on Stations/ Hands on Activities	100	50%
Learning New Things/Specific Skills	53	26.50%
Live Animals/Livestock	19	9.50%
Slides	17	8.50%
Nothing/None/I Don't Know	11	5.50%

*Figure 8. Responses from junior aged youth regarding their favorite thing about the YQCA training*

Half of the total 200 responses expressed that the most enjoyable component of the certification was the hands-on stations and activities. A little more than a quarter of the responses found learning new things or specific skills at the training to be their favorite thing.



**Junior aged youth were asked what other comments or suggestions they had regarding the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.**

For this question the evaluator sorted the 150 responses and placed them into eight general categories.

<b>Answer Category</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of the Total</b>
No, Nothing, N/A, I Don't Know	73	48.66%
More Hands-on Stations, Animals, Activities	22	14.66%
I Liked It, It Was Fun, Positive Comments	18	12%
Improve Slides	16	10.66%
Weather Related- Too Cold, Hot, Windy	6	4%
Make More Fun and Exciting	6	4%
Negative Comments	5	3.33%
Suggestions	4	2.66%

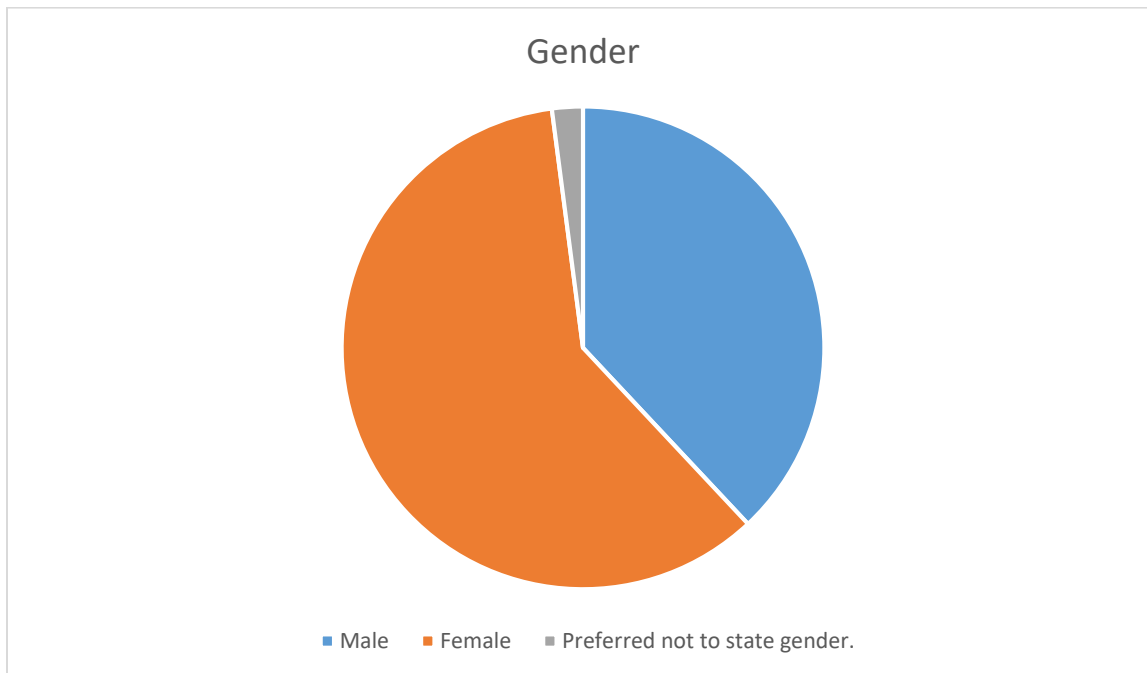
*Figure 9.* Responses from junior aged youth regarding their comments or suggestions concerning the YQCA training

Forty-nine percent of the participants did not have any comments or suggestions for the certification. Fifteen percent responded with a need for additional hands-on stations, live animal interaction, and activities, one individual stated, “make it more hands on” while another asked for “more interactive activities”.

**Senior Evaluation Results**

A total of 242 senior aged youth completed the evaluation at the conclusion of their YQCA training during the 2019 certification year. A full table of questions and responses can be found in Appendix I. One hundred and forty-five respondents were female and 92 were male. Five individuals preferred not to state their gender or left the question unanswered. Seventy percent of the senior participants were ages 14-16 while 30% were ages 17-19 the day of the certification. For twenty-three participants this was their first year showing while 10 youth have shown for 1-2 years and 145 youth have been showing for five or more years. When it came to

quality assurance training experience 13% admitted it was their first time receiving a certification. Twenty percent of participants have completed a training 1-2 years while 46% of participants have completed a training 3-5 years. Nineteen percent of participants have completed a quality assurance training 5+ years. The following sections will highlight the questions that asked the participants about their training experience including their attitudes toward the slides, speakers, and stations.



*Figure 10.* Gender of senior participants

**Youth used a Likert Scale to rate their level of agreement on seven statements pertaining to the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals trainings.**

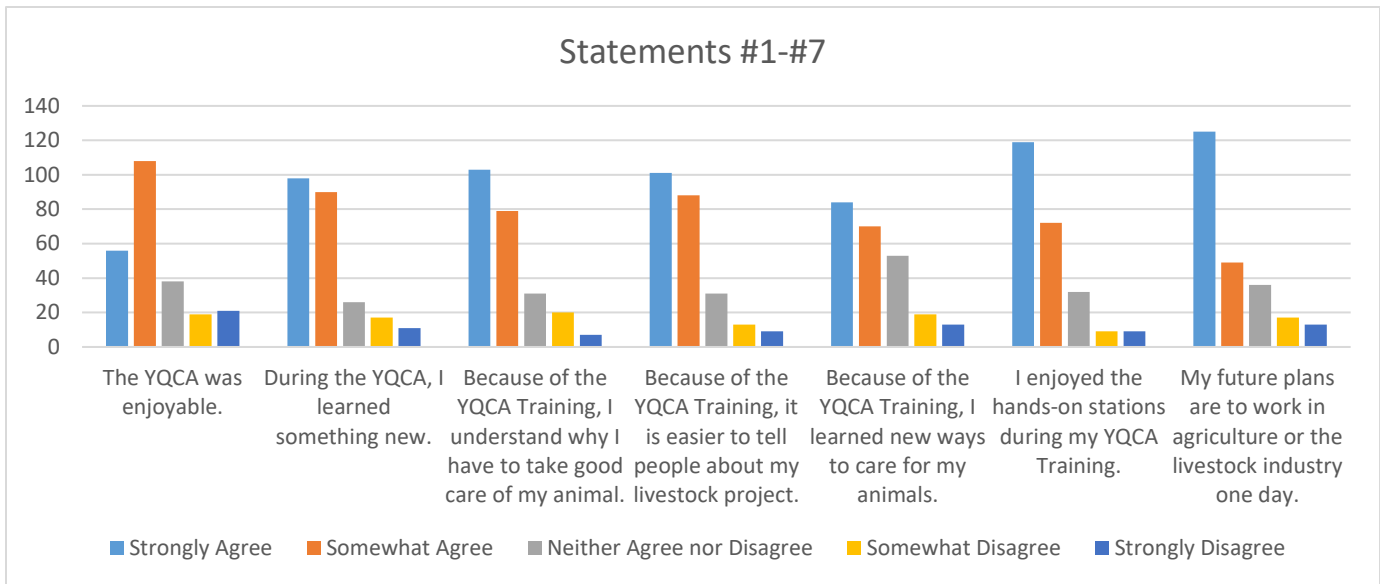


Figure 11. Represents questions and responses to statements 1-7

*Statement #1: The YQCA Training was enjoyable.*

Sixty-seven percent (n=164) either strongly agreed (n=56) or somewhat agreed (n=108). Less than 17% (n=40) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Fifteen percent (n=38) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #2: During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.*

Seventy-eight percent (n=188) either strongly agreed (n=98) or somewhat agreed (n=90). Twelve percent (n=28) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Ten percent (n=26) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #3: Because of the YQCA Training, I have a better understanding of the importance of proper animal care and management techniques.*

Seventy-five percent (n=182) either strongly agreed (n=103) or somewhat agreed (n=79). Eleven percent (n=27) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Thirteen percent (n=31) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #4: Because of the YQCA Training, I can now better explain to consumers and the public why we manage and care for our livestock properly.*

Seventy-eight percent (n=189) either strongly agreed (n=101) or somewhat agreed (n=88). Less than 10% (n=22) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Thirteen percent (n=31) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #5: Because of the YQCA Training, I will change certain animal care routines as a result of what I have learned.*

Sixty-four percent (n=154) either strongly agreed (n=84) or somewhat agreed (n=70). Thirteen percent (n=32) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Twenty two percent (n=53) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #6: I believe that the hands-on stations during the YQCA Training have helped me better understand the information presented in the slides.*

Seventy-nine percent (n=191) either strongly agreed (n=119) or somewhat agreed (n=72). Less than 8% (n=18) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Thirteen percent (n=32) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #7: My future plans include pursuing a career in agriculture or in the livestock industry.*

Seventy-two percent (n=174) either strongly agreed (n=125) or somewhat agreed (n=49). Twelve percent (n=30) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Fifteen percent (n=36) neither agreed or disagreed.

**Youth used a Likert Scale to rate their level of agreement on four statements pertaining to the slides utilized during the Youth for the Quality Care of Animal trainings.**

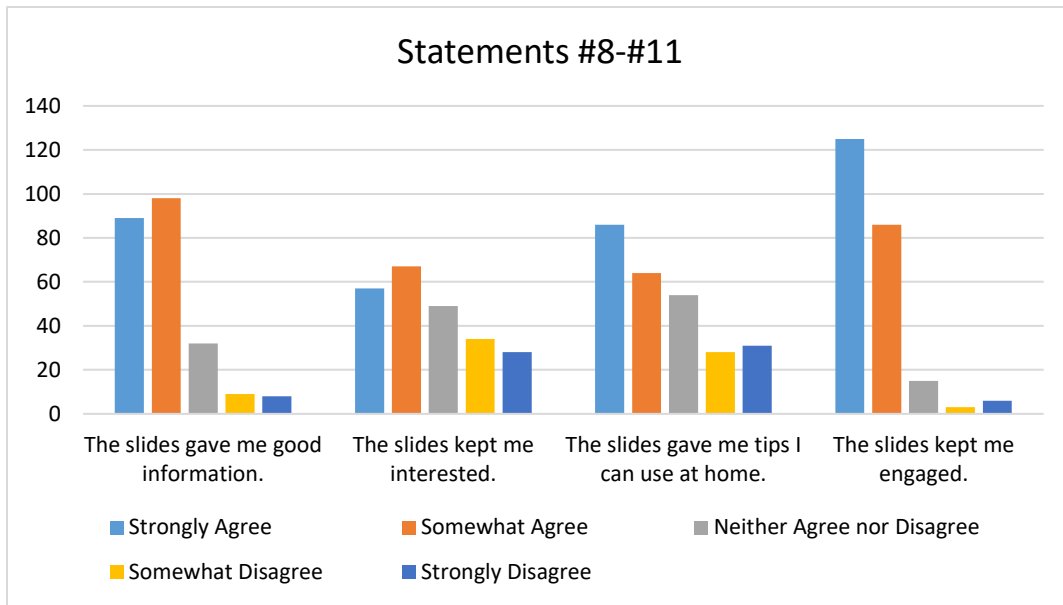


Figure 12. Represents questions and responses to statements 8-11

*Statement #8: The slides gave me good information.*

Seventy-seven percent (n=187) either strongly agreed (n=89) or somewhat agreed (n=98). Seven percent (n=17) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Thirteen percent (n=32) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #9: The slides kept me interested.*

Fifty-one percent (n=124) either strongly agreed (n=57) or somewhat agreed (n=67). Twenty-six percent (n=62) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Twenty percent (n=49) neither agreed or disagreed.

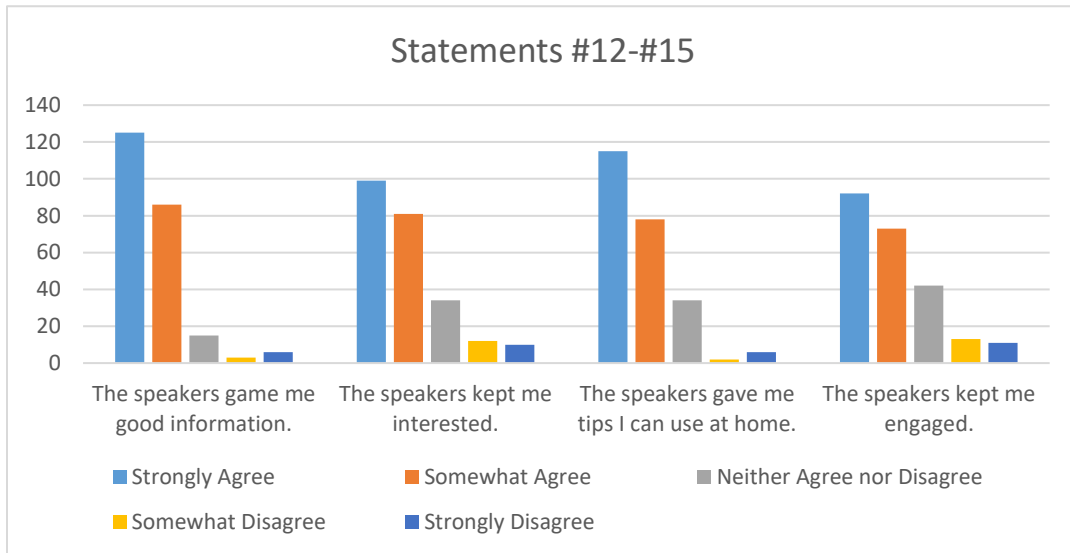
*Statement #10: The slides gave me tips I can use at home.*

Sixty-eight percent (n=164) either strongly agreed (n=86) or somewhat agreed (n=78). Eleven percent (n=27) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Seventeen percent (n=27) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #11: The slides kept me engaged.*

Fifty percent (n=120) either strongly agreed (n=56) or somewhat agreed (n=64). Twenty-four percent (n=59) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Twenty-two percent (n=54) neither agreed or disagreed.

**Youth used a Likert Scale to rate their level of agreement on four statements pertaining to the speakers who presented during the Youth for the Quality Care of Animal trainings.**



*Figure 13.* Represents questions and responses to statements 12-15

*Statement #12: The speakers gave me good information.*

Eighty-seven percent (n=211) either strongly agreed (n=125) or somewhat agreed (n=86). Less than 5% percent (n=9) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Six percent (n=15) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #13: The speakers kept me interested.*

Seventy-four percent (n=180) either strongly agreed (n=99) or somewhat agreed (n=81). Less than 10% percent (n=22) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Fourteen percent (n=34) neither agreed or disagreed.

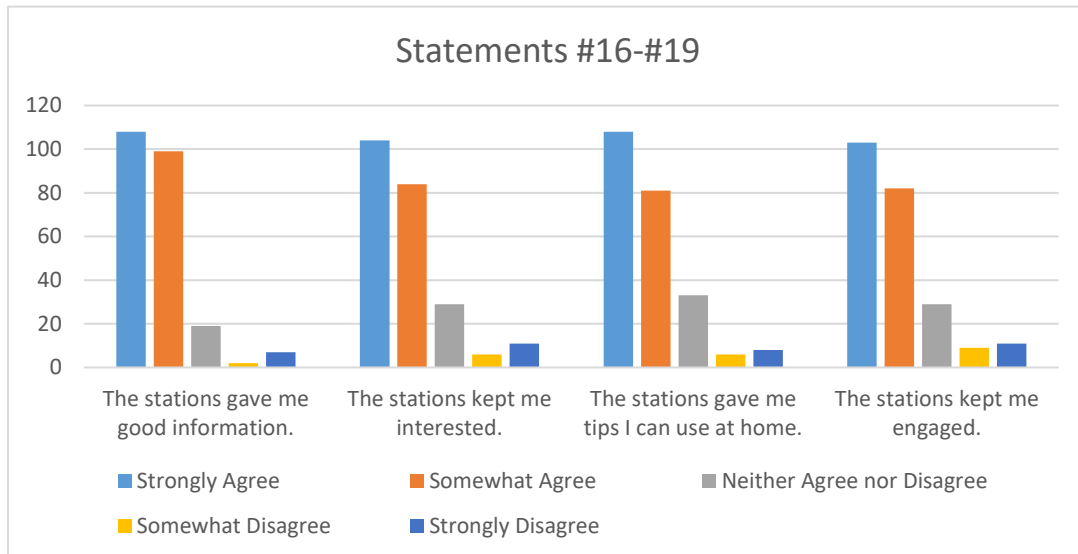
*Statement #14: The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.*

Eighty percent (n=193) either strongly agreed (n=115) or somewhat agreed (n=78). Three percent (n=8) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Fourteen percent (n=34) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #15: The speakers kept me engaged.*

Sixty-eight percent (n=165) either strongly agreed (n=92) or somewhat agreed (n=73). Ten percent (n=24) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Seventeen percent (n=42) neither agreed or disagreed.

**Youth used a Likert Scale to rate their level of agreement on four statements pertaining to the stations utilized during the Youth for the Quality Care of Animal trainings.**



*Figure 14.* Represents questions and responses to statements 16-19

*Statement #16: The stations gave me good information.*

Eighty-five percent (n=207) either strongly agreed (n=108) or somewhat agreed (n=99). Less than 5% percent (n=9) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Eight percent (n=19) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #17: The stations kept me interested.*

Seventy-eight percent (n=188) either strongly agreed (n=104) or somewhat agreed (n=84).

Seven percent (n=17) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Twelve percent (n=29) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #18: The stations gave me tips I can use at home.*

Seventy-eight percent (n=189) either strongly agreed (n=108) or somewhat agreed (n=81). Six percent (n=33) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Fourteen percent (n=33) neither agreed or disagreed.

*Statement #19: The stations kept me engaged.*

Seventy-six percent (n=185) either strongly agreed (n=103) or somewhat agreed (n=82). Eight percent (n=20) somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Twelve percent (n=29) neither agreed or disagreed.

**Senior aged youth were asked to name their favorite thing about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.**

For this question the evaluator sorted the 190 responses and placed them into eight general categories.

<b>Answer Category</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of the Total</b>
Hands on Stations/ Hands on Activities	91	49%
Slides and Speakers	31	16.31%
Learning New Things/Skills	23	12%
Meeting New People/Interacting	14	7.36%
Animals/Livestock	10	5.26%
Nothing, Not a Thing, No	9	4.73%
Positive Responses	6	3.16%
Food	6	3.16%

*Figure 15.* Responses from senior aged youth regarding their favorite thing about the YQCA training



Forty-nine percent of the responses agreed that the hands-on stations and activities were their favorite part of the certification. Sixteen percent of the respondents admitted that they enjoyed the slides and speakers.

**Senior aged youth were asked what other comments or suggestions they had regarding the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.**

For this question the evaluator sorted the 137 responses and placed them into seven general categories.

<b>Answer Category</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage of the Total</b>
No, Nothing, N/A, I Don't Know	83	60.58%
More Hands On Stations/Activities	15	10.95%
Make it more Fun & Engaging	13	9.49%
Suggestions	8	5.84%
Positive Comments	6	4.38%
Negative Comments	6	4.38%
Less Slides, Activities, Time Spent	6	4.38%

*Figure 16.* Responses from senior aged youth regarding their comments or suggestions concerning the YQCA training.

Sixty percent of senior aged respondents stated that they had no comment or suggestions about the certification. Eleven percent responded with a need for additional hands on stations and activities.

There were many similarities in the data between the junior aged youth and the senior aged youth. 83% of the junior and senior aged youth combined agreed that during the YQCA Training, they learned something new. Because of the training, 79% of juniors and seniors can now better explain and talk to consumers and the public about proper livestock care and management. Both juniors and seniors agreed that the slide deck was beneficial and 82% said they received good information from them. 89% of both parties agreed that the speakers gave

good information and kept them engaged during the training. After completing the training, 82% of junior and senior aged youth agreed that the stations gave them tips they can use at home.

## **Chapter 5**

### **Discussion and Recommendations**

#### **Discussion**

Overall, the results from the evaluation tool were positive among both junior aged and senior aged youth who completed the training. Both age groups seemed to get something beneficial from each aspect of the training. This evaluation tool was designed to gauge the outcomes of the new youth quality assurance program in Virginia. Based on the findings, it seems like the state leadership team and trainers are doing their jobs by successfully delivering trainings that not only keep kids engaged in the discussion but teaches them new skills and give opportunity for them to get hands-on experiences. The findings from the evaluation tool can be used by the state leadership team as they prepare for the new upcoming training year. The data will assist them in making programmatic changes and give them insight into the worth of the program.

#### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Virginia youth livestock program continue to utilize the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program as well as an evaluation tool specific to state program requirements. The YQCA program continues to afford youth the opportunity to be certified in a quality assurance program as well as network with other exhibitors and get hands on experience as it pertains to their project animal.

#### *Slides*

The YQCA slide decks are an essential and mandatory component of the certification. The slide deck is changed out each year so that youth have the opportunity to learn new information. While positive feedback was given to the slides during the evaluation process; it

was addressed that presenters need to keep youth more engaged and interested. During the slide deck presentation, it is recommended that speakers utilize the in-slide activities and discussion questions to keep youth more engaged and involved in the conversation. It would also be valuable to understand how old the youth were who received the mixed slide decks when trainings had to combine age groups. Understanding how the slides were presented gives perspective to the state leadership team.

### *Speakers*

Many trainings utilized a guest speaker for the trainings and according to evaluation results were very interesting and beneficial to the youth that attended. It is recommended that local trainings try to provide a guest speaker to address the youth about topics related to the livestock and agriculture industry. It would also be beneficial to keep a record of who presented the slides and compare the overall satisfaction of the youth at the different training locations. If a trainer is constantly receiving negative reviews it may be beneficial to find the individual an alternative position within the program. Reviewing speakers and feedback will also exhibit regional differences within program delivery.

### *Stations*

The learning stations are a requirement made by the state of Virginia and provide youth with hands on learning experiences. It is recommended that more emphasis be put on the hands-on stations at the trainings. The hands-on stations can be led by the trainers or other individuals within the livestock and agriculture industry. For some trainings it isn't feasible due to limitations but one station should focus on handling live animals. The evaluation responses were strong regarding live animals at the trainings and a component enjoyed by the majority of the

youth. Youth seem to be receptive and have a positive outlook toward the hands-on stations so it's important that those opportunities continue to be provided in the future. Cross referencing a list of stations to the specific training locations could give insight to the leadership team on what kinds of stations and subject matter are being well received by youth.

### *Evaluation Tool*

The evaluation tool is an important component used to gauge the participants reactions to the program. During the 2019 training year the evaluation tool focused on collecting data that captured demographics and youths' satisfaction of the program. It is recommended that the evaluation tool be used each training year in order to collect valuable feedback. As the years pass and the program progresses it is important that the state leadership team modifies the current evaluation in hopes of collecting data related to impact and behavior change. At some point it may be beneficial to modify the evaluation into a pre and post test in order to determine particular impacts and behavioral changes developed after receiving the certification. Other future solutions to the survey include asking if the youth completed the training in the prior year and have three questions regarding topics and information that was covered in the previous year in order to track knowledge gained as a result of the training. Other future opportunities include a brief questionnaire during the State Fair of Virginia Youth Livestock Show and the use of incentives in order to receive feedback. Each year it's important to collect and analyze the data from the evaluation so that the program can be improved to meet the needs of youth livestock exhibitors. The data should also be shared system wide each year so that other trainers and stakeholders can comment on the progress being made.

### **Summary**

As the Virginia youth livestock program continues to utilize the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program it is important to continue evaluating the programming efforts. Youth and curriculum change over time, to ensure that the programming team is reaching youth to the best of its ability it is important that we gauge them in order to track impacts, success, satisfaction, and behavioral changes. Over time, the state leadership team will be able to analyze the data and decide if they are on the correct programmatic approach or if they need to change speeds and go in a different direction to reach their desired outcomes. This can only be done through evaluation and the analysis of data. The development of this evaluation tool is a foundation for more specific surveys as the program matures in Virginia.

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# Appendices

## Appendix A. Wisconsin Meat Animal Quality Assurance Evaluation Survey



### Meat Animal Quality Assurance Program Survey

Using blue or black ink, please fill the circle that most closely matches your response on the following questions.

Like this: ● Not like this: (✓) (X) (/)

Please rate your ability with respect to the following:

After the Program				Animal Health	Before the Program			
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	1. Read antibiotic and feed labels	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	2. Give injections in correct location of an animal with proper needles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	3. Practice appropriate withdrawal times	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	4. Keep written, accurate records of feed and medications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	5. How to contact a veterinarian	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	6. Asking a veterinarian about animal health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	<b>Animal Management</b>	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	7. Provide appropriate feed and water to animals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	8. Identify animals using approved methods (notches, tags, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	9. Observe animals daily	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	10. Monitor weight gain of animal projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	<b>Animal Handling Skills</b>	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	11. Identify and understand flight zones and blind spots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	12. Provide appropriate space and ventilation for animals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	13. Move, handle and transport animals appropriately	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	14. Ensure animals do not transport disease to or from "farm"	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	15. Identify situations that can cause stress to project animals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	16. Identify meat quality problems caused by stress	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	17. Identify current issues in animal agriculture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	18. Identify reputable sources for animal agriculture information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please continue to page 2 ►



Please rate your ability with respect to the following:

After the Program				Understand Agriculture Issues	Before the Program			
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	19. Identify different segments of the food supply chain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	<b>Communicate with Consumers About Animal Agriculture</b>	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	20. Explain production agriculture practices to non-agriculture individuals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	21. Communicate clearly with non-agriculture individuals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	<b>Agricultural Careers</b>	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	22. Identify career opportunities in agriculture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	23. Explore ag career opportunities (job shadow, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How often do you practice the following?

After the Program				Sportsmanship	Before the Program			
Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always		Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	24. Play fair	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	25. Follow the rules of the contest/show	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	26. Treat fellow exhibitors with respect	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	27. Respect the decisions of judges and officials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Never	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always	<b>Mentoring/Leadership</b>	Never	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	28. Share knowledge with others (e.g. help younger members)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	29. Help others with animal care and management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. What is your gender?	Male	Female	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					
31. What is your age as of Jan 1, 2013?	11 yrs	12 yrs	13 yrs	14 yrs	15 yrs	16 yrs	17 yrs	18 yrs	19 yrs
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
32. Projects enrolled in (*mark all that apply)	Beef	Dairy	Goats	Poultry	Rabbits	Sheep	Swine	Beef	
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
33. I am a member of the following: (*mark all that apply)	4H	FFA	Breed Association	Other					
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					



An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.

## Appendix B. Wisconsin Meat Animal Quality Assurance Evaluation T-Test Results by Question

Group Statistics				
Question	Time	Mean	Diff	Sig 2-tailed
1 Read antibiotic and feed labels	After	3.24	0.83	<0.0001
	Before	2.41		
2 Give injection in correct location	After	3.04	0.82	<0.0001
	Before	2.22		
3 Practice appropriate withdrawal	After	3.09	0.82	<0.0001
	Before	2.26		
4 Keep written, accurate records	After	3.27	0.77	<0.0001
	Before	2.50		
5 How to contact a vet	After	3.54	0.46	<0.0001
	Before	3.08		
6 Asking a vet about animal health	After	3.48	0.56	<0.0001
	Before	2.92		
7 Provide appropriate feed and water to animals	After	3.79	0.38	<0.0001
	Before	3.41		
8 Identify animals using approved methods	After	3.53	0.63	<0.0001
	Before	2.90		
9 Observe animals daily	After	3.65	0.44	<0.0001
	Before	3.21		
10 Monitor weight gain of animal	After	3.40	0.68	<0.0001
	Before	2.72		
11 Identify and understand	After	3.26	0.73	<0.0001
	Before	2.53		
12 Provide appropriate space	After	3.58	0.51	<0.0001
	Before	3.07		
13 Move, handle and transport animals appropriately	After	3.63	0.48	<0.0001
	Before	3.14		
14 Ensure animals do not transport disease	After	3.46	0.61	<0.0001
	Before	2.85		
15 Identify situations that can cause stress to animal	After	3.42	0.67	<0.0001
	Before	2.74		
16 Identify meat quality	After	3.12	0.84	<0.0001
	Before	2.28		
17 Identify current issues in animal ag.	After	3.11	0.74	<0.0001
	Before	2.37		
18 Identify reputable sources for animal ag. info	After	3.08	0.74	<0.0001
	Before	2.34		
19 Identify different segments of food supply chain	After	3.09	0.69	<0.0001
	Before	2.39		
20 Explain production agriculture	After	3.05	0.72	<0.0001

	Before	2.33		
	After	3.19		
21 Communicate clearly with non-ag	Before	2.56	0.63	<0.0001
	After	3.18		
22 Identify career opportunities in ag	Before	2.58	0.61	<0.0001
	After	3.01		
23 Explore ag career opportunities	Before	2.37	0.64	<0.0001
	After	3.68		
24 Play fair	Before	3.40	0.28	<0.0001
	After	3.77		
25 Follow the rules	Before	3.56	0.21	<0.0001
	After	3.75		
26 Treat fellow exhibitors with respect	Before	3.55	0.20	<0.0001
	After	3.65		
27 Respect the decisions of judges	Before	3.41	0.24	<0.0001
	After	3.38		
28 Share knowledge with others	Before	2.99	0.39	<0.0001
	After	3.40		
29 Help others with animal care	Before	3.03	0.37	<0.0001

Appendix C. Quantitative Summary of Responses by Question

**Meat Animal Quality Assurance Program Survey**

Please rate your ability with respect to the following:

After the Program				Animal Health	Before the Program			
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
2%	10%	47%	40%	1. Read antibiotic and feed labels	18%	33%	37%	13%
7%	17%	39%	37%	2. Give injections in correct location of an animal with proper needles	31%	26%	27%	15%
6%	15%	40%	38%	3. Practice appropriate withdrawal times	28%	27%	30%	15%
3%	13%	38%	46%	4. Keep written, accurate records of feed and medications	17%	31%	35%	18%
2%	5%	28%	65%	5. How to contact a veterinarian	7%	16%	33%	44%
1%	7%	32%	59%	6. Asking a veterinarian about animal health	8%	20%	38%	34%
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Animal Management	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
0%	1%	17%	81%	7. Provide appropriate feed and water to animals	2%	8%	32%	58%
2%	7%	29%	63%	8. Identify animals using approved methods (notches, tags, etc.)	12%	21%	31%	36%
0%	4%	25%	71%	9. Observe animals daily	4%	15%	33%	48%
1%	9%	37%	53%	10. Monitor weight gain of animal projects	11%	26%	38%	25%
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Animal Handling Skills	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
4%	12%	38%	47%	11. Identify and understand flight zones and blind spots	18%	28%	36%	19%
1%	4%	31%	65%	12. Provide appropriate space and ventilation for animals	5%	16%	42%	37%
0%	3%	29%	68%	13. Move, handle and transport animals appropriately	4%	15%	40%	41%
1%	6%	36%	57%	14. Ensure animals do not transport disease to or from "farm"	10%	21%	38%	31%
2%	7%	37%	54%	15. Identify situations that can cause stress to project animals	10%	24%	42%	24%
5%	15%	42%	38%	16. Identify meat quality problems caused by stress	24%	32%	31%	12%
4%	17%	42%	37%	17. Identify current issues in animal agriculture	19%	34%	33%	14%
5%	16%	42%	37%	18. Identify reputable sources for animal agriculture information	21%	32%	34%	13%

Please continue to page 2 ►

Please rate your ability with respect to the following:

After the Program					Before the Program			
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
3%	15%	46%	37%	<b>Understand Agriculture Issues</b>	16%	33%	37%	14%
				19. Identify different segments of the food supply chain				
				<b>Communicate with Consumers About Animal Agriculture</b>				
4%	17%	43%	37%	20. Explain production agriculture practices to non-agriculture individuals	19%	34%	34%	13%
2%	13%	41%	45%	21. Communicate clearly with non-agriculture individuals	13%	27%	40%	20%
				<b>Agricultural Careers</b>				
3%	13%	40%	44%	22. Identify career opportunities in agriculture	12%	29%	38%	21%
6%	17%	37%	40%	23. Explore ag career opportunities (job shadow, etc.)	21%	29%	30%	20%

How often do you practice the following?

After the Program					Before the Program			
Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always		Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always
				<b>Sportsmanship</b>				
1%	3%	15%	82%	24. Play fair	3%	6%	26%	64%
1%	1%	10%	88%	25. Follow the rules of the contest/show	1%	4%	19%	76%
0%	2%	11%	87%	26. Treat fellow exhibitors with respect	1%	4%	20%	75%
1%	3%	16%	80%	27. Respect the decisions of judges and officials	2%	7%	24%	68%
				<b>Mentoring/Leadership</b>				
Never	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always	28. Share knowledge with others (e.g. help younger members)	Never	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always
1%	10%	30%	58%	29. Help others with animal care and management	4%	21%	36%	39%
1%	9%	27%	62%		5%	19%	34%	43%

30. What is your gender?	Male	Female	31. County? Write County name in the space below						
	48%	52%	See Appendix A						
32. What is your age as of Jan 1, 2013?	11 yrs	12 yrs	13 yrs	14 yrs	15 yrs	16 yrs	17 yrs	18 yrs	19 yrs
	8%	15%	15%	14%	14%	11%	11%	8%	3%
33. Projects enrolled in (*mark all that apply)	Beef	Dairy	Goats	Poultry	Rabbits	Sheep	Swine		
	31%	16%	4%	10%	8%	17%	66%		
34. I am a member of the following: (*mark all that apply)	4H	FFA	Breed Association	Other					
	83%	34%	7%	2%					

Appendix D. Original Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training Evaluation

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training Evaluation

I am:

- Age 9-11 as of today
- Age 12-14 as of today
- Age 15-19 as of today

How many years have you been showing and getting a quality assurance training?

- This is my first year
- This is my second or third year
- This is my fourth or more year

Please indicate your thoughts on the following statements about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training by answering Strongly Agree, Somewhat Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, and Strongly Disagree.

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
The YQCA Training was enjoyable.	○	○	○	○	○
During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.	○	○	○	○	○
Because of the YQCA Training, I have a better understanding of the importance of proper animal care and management techniques.	○	○	○	○	○
Because of the YQCA Training, I can now explain to consumers and the public why we manage and care for our livestock properly.	○	○	○	○	○
Because of my YQCA Training, I will change certain animal care routines as a result of what I have learned.	○	○	○	○	○

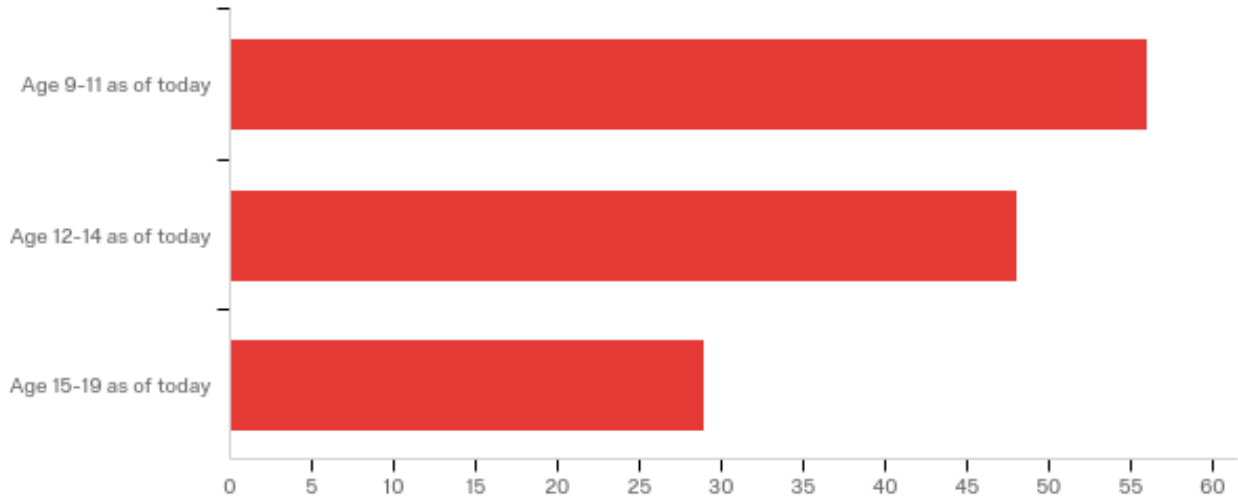
I believe that the hands-on stations during my YQCA Training have helped me better understand the information presented in the slides.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
As a result of my YQCA Training, I hope to pursue a career in agriculture or in the livestock industry.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

My favorite thing about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training was...?

Other comments about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training?

Appendix E. Results from the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA Training Evaluation

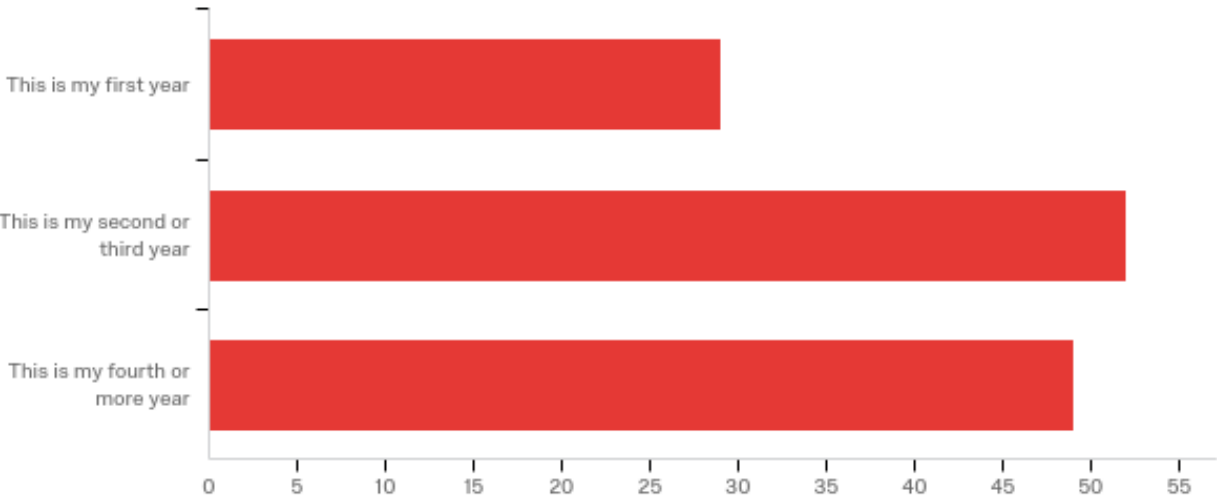
**Q1 - I am:**



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Age 9-11 as of today	42.11%	56
2	Age 12-14 as of today	36.09%	48
3	Age 15-19 as of today	21.80%	29
	Total	100%	133

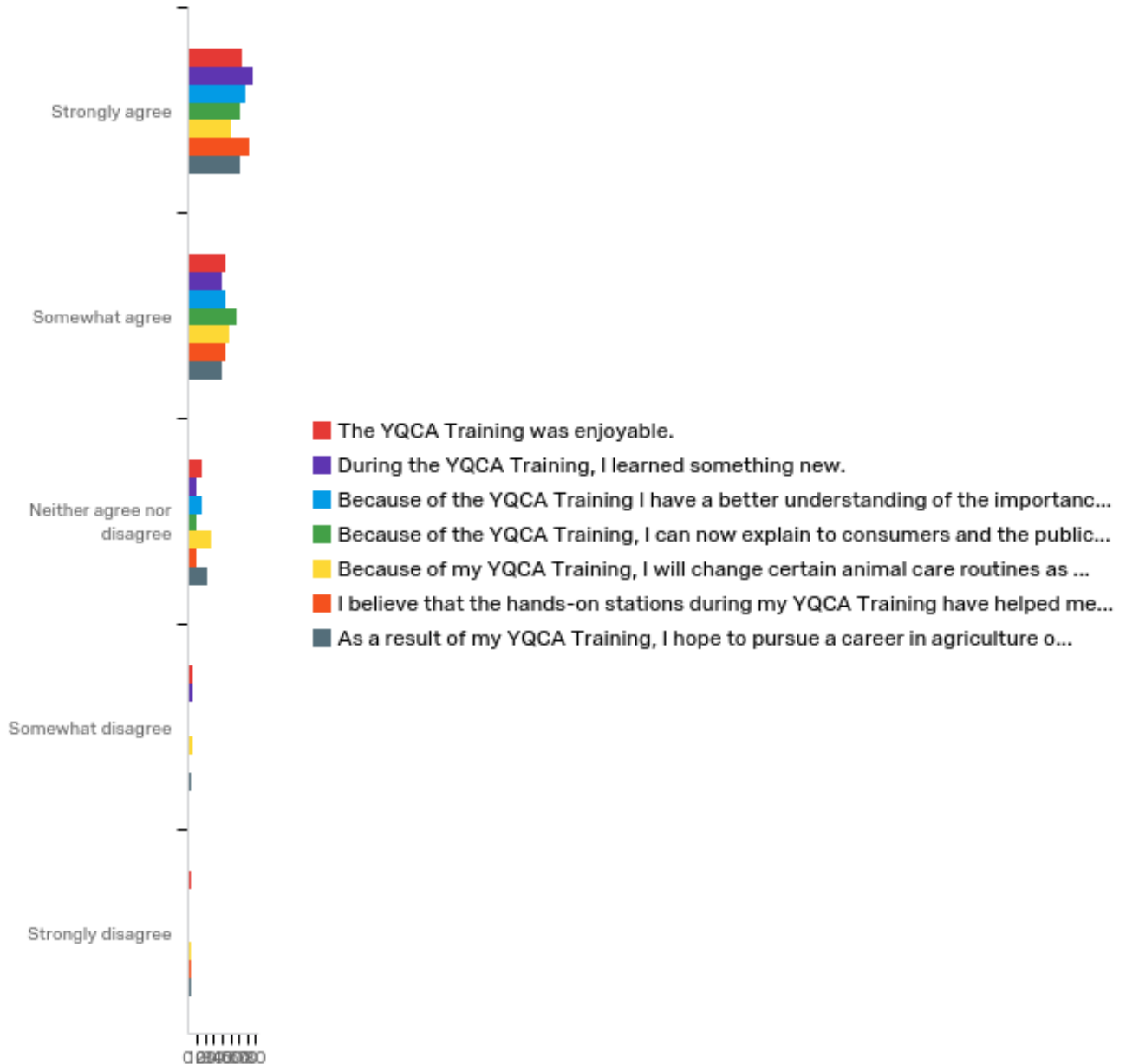


**Q2 - How many years have you been showing and getting a quality assurance training?**



#	Answer	%	Count
1	This is my first year	22.31%	29
2	This is my second or third year	40.00%	52
3	This is my fourth or more year	37.69%	49
	Total	100%	130

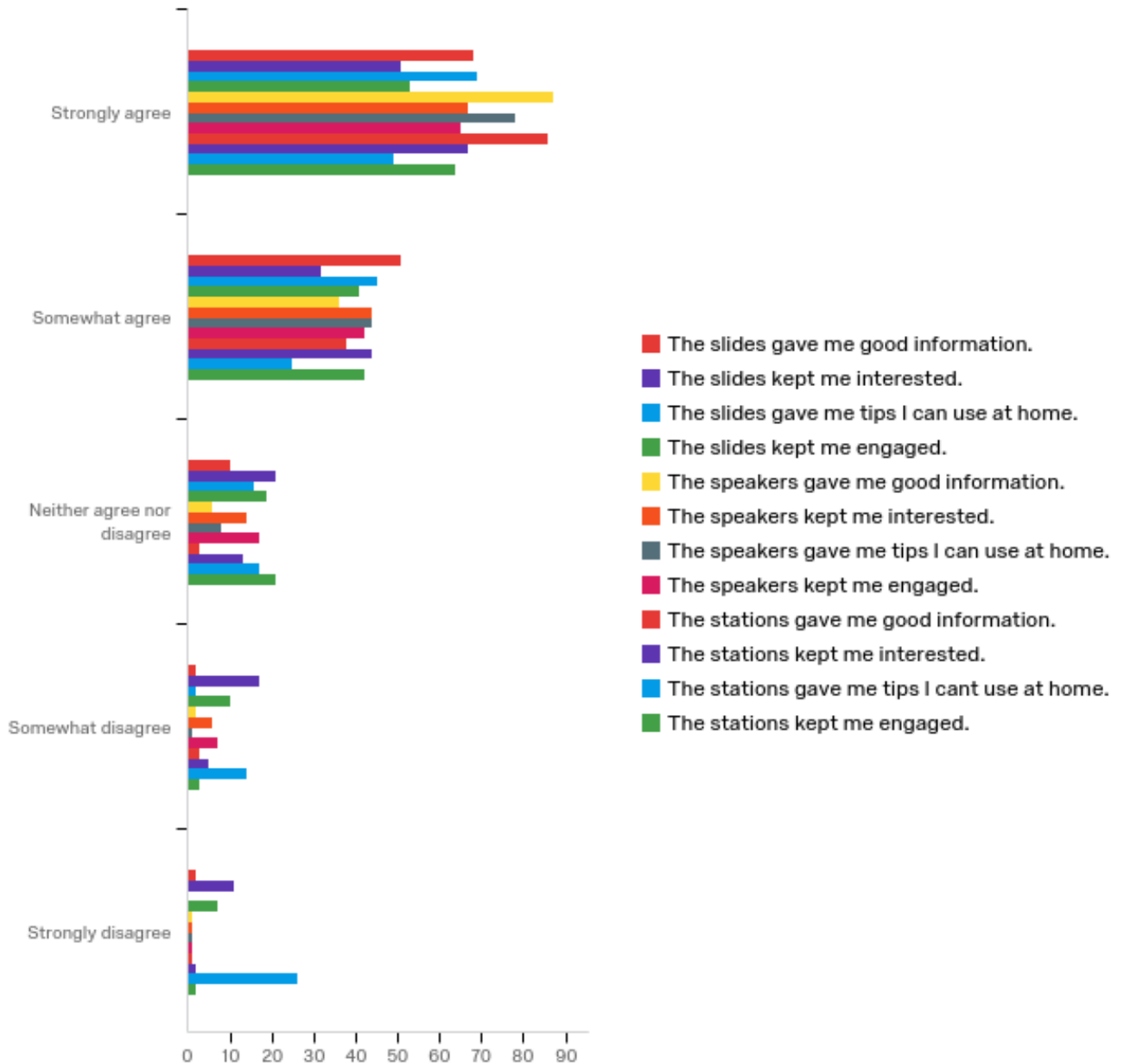
**Q3 - Please indicate your thoughts on the following statements about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training by answering Strongly Agree, Somewhat Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, Strongly Disagree.**



#	Question	Strongly agree		Somewhat agree		Neither agree nor disagree		Somewhat disagree		Strongly disagree		Total
1	The YQCA Training was enjoyable.	47.37%	63	33.83%	45	12.03%	16	4.51%	6	2.26%	3	133
2	During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.	57.14%	76	30.83%	41	7.52%	10	4.51%	6	0.00%	0	133
3	Because of the YQCA Training I have a better understanding of the importance of proper animal care and management techniques.	51.88%	69	33.83%	45	12.78%	17	1.50%	2	0.00%	0	133
4	Because of the YQCA Training, I can now explain to consumers and the public why we manage and care for our livestock properly.	46.97%	62	43.18%	57	7.58%	10	1.52%	2	0.76%	1	132
5	Because of my YQCA Training, I will change certain animal care routines as a result of	38.35%	51	36.09%	48	19.55%	26	3.76%	5	2.26%	3	133

	what I have learned.											
6	I believe that the hands-on stations during my YQCA Training have helped me better understand the information presented in the slides.	54.89%	73	33.83%	45	7.52%	10	1.50%	2	2.26%	3	133
7	As a result of my YQCA Training, I hope to pursue a career in agriculture or the livestock industry.	45.86%	61	30.83%	41	17.29%	23	3.01%	4	3.01%	4	133

**Q4 - Please indicate your thoughts on the following statements about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training by answering Strongly Agree, Somewhat Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, Strongly Disagree.**



#	Question	Strongly agree		Somewhat agree		Neither agree nor disagree		Somewhat disagree		Strongly disagree		Total
1	The slides gave me good information.	51.13%	68	38.35%	51	7.52%	10	1.50%	2	1.50%	2	133
2	The slides kept me interested.	38.64%	51	24.24%	32	15.91%	21	12.88%	17	8.33%	11	132
3	The slides gave me tips I can use at home.	52.27%	69	34.09%	45	12.12%	16	1.52%	2	0.00%	0	132
4	The slides kept me engaged.	40.77%	53	31.54%	41	14.62%	19	7.69%	10	5.38%	7	130
5	The speakers gave me good information.	65.91%	87	27.27%	36	4.55%	6	1.52%	2	0.76%	1	132
6	The speakers kept me interested.	50.76%	67	33.33%	44	10.61%	14	4.55%	6	0.76%	1	132
7	The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.	59.09%	78	33.33%	44	6.06%	8	0.76%	1	0.76%	1	132
8	The speakers kept me engaged.	49.24%	65	31.82%	42	12.88%	17	5.30%	7	0.76%	1	132
9	The stations gave me good information.	65.65%	86	29.01%	38	2.29%	3	2.29%	3	0.76%	1	131

1 0	The stations kept me interested.	51.15%	6 7	33.59%	4 4	9.92%	1 3	3.82%	5	1.53%	2	131
1 1	The stations gave me tips I cant use at home.	37.40%	4 9	19.08%	2 5	12.98%	1 7	10.69%	1 4	19.85%	2 6	131
1 2	The stations kept me engaged.	48.48%	6 4	31.82%	4 2	15.91%	2 1	2.27%	3	1.52%	2	132

## Q5 - My favorite thing about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training was...?

My favorite thing about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training was...?

meeting new people

how to take care of your animals

animal ID

when we got to do hands on activities

apple

watching jake shear

learning about dairy cows

see how to show sheep

shearing your flock

i liked the sharing part it was fun and gave me good information

lite skills

shearing lambs

i was here

giving injections

small groups

fitting 101

the whole thing

the sheep shearing and the health thing

shooting an orange with a vaccine

choosing feed and the bull and heifer

the orange vaccines

the end

giving the shots

giving "shots"



learning about goats and how to care for them

---

what makes a good breeding animal

---

the goat showing

---

slides

---

stations

---

the cattle fitting 101 station

---

at the cafe station

---

the injections

---

what makes a good breeding animal

---

cattle fitting 101

---

the activities

---

yaca training

---

learning care of chickens

---

injections

---

how to properly give an injection

---

learning new things

---

dairy showmanship and production

---

dairy showmanship and production

---

the slide show

---

everything

---

the cows

---

the sheep shearing workshop

---

financial

---

i dont know

---

market and breeding animals

---

the apple demonstration

---

sheep shearing

---

seeing friends

---

goat clipping and showing

---

seeing friends

---

goats clippings and showing

---

sheep shearing

---

the farm credit station

---

being able to learn things i didnt know

---

seeing friends

---

nutrition

---

farm credit

---

the station leaders

---

washing

---

the hands-on stations

---

everything

---

watching the person shear the sheep

---

the organs with vaxsences

---

the goat tips

---

stations after slides

---

learning stuff

---

the activate

---

learning things

---

the apples

---

the goats

---

the info/tips

---

goats station

---

nutrition and feed

---

everything

---

prizes

---

having hands on activities

giving shots

---

the free prizes

---

the people

---

nothing

---

the feed part

---

hands on things

---

learning about types of glues

---

talking about pigs

---

the stations

---

everything

---

sharing sheep

---

i learned something new

---

groups

---

smaller groups

---

watching

---

getting hands on experience

---

cows

---

the cows

---

cattle fitting

---

being able to experience this with people who are good at it

---

hands on

---

apples

---

learning new things

---

cattle fitting 101

---

cattle fitting

---

sheering the cow/heifer

---

cattle grooming

---

health mgmt

---

## Q6 - Other comments about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.

Other comments about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.

it was fun

no

no

fun

learned lots, had fun

i learned new things and enjoyed

chairs in the shearing your flock station

the speakers did very good

real good information

none

very good

no

thank you

more hands on activities

i really wish there were pig classes but i still enjoyed learning what I did

none

no, it was fun

no

it was a great experience for me and it gave good information

pretty good, kept me occupied

none

none

more hands on activities

ok

it is interesting

---

thanks for doing this

---

good

---

i thought it was fun and enjoyable

---

less time on common sense practices

---

none

---

none

---

none

---

it was good

---

it is good information

---

make it like last year

---

it is good training

---

amazing!

---

it was fun

---

no

---

nothing (=

---

i had fun!

---

i had fun

---

none

---

no

---

it was enjoyable/fun!

---

didnt like poultry (didnt sign up for it)

---

it was very enjoyable

---

none

---

check in could be smoother, not long enough with animals to have hands on

Appendix F. Revised Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training Evaluation

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training Evaluation

I am:

- Age 9-11 as of December 31, 2018
- Age 12-14 as of December 31, 2018
- Age 15-19 as of December 31, 2018

How many years have you been showing livestock?

- 1-2
- 3-5
- 5+

How many years have you received a quality assurance training?

- 1-2
- 3-5
- 5+

Evaluation component for senior youth.

Please indicate your thoughts on the following statements about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training by answering Strongly Agree, Somewhat Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, and Strongly Disagree.

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
The YQCA Training was enjoyable.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of the YQCA Training, I have a better understanding of the importance of proper animal care and management techniques.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of the YQCA Training, I can now explain to consumers and the public why we manage and care for our livestock properly.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Because of my YQCA Training, I will change certain animal care routines as a result of what I have learned.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I believe that the hands-on stations during my YQCA Training have helped me better understand the information presented in the slides.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
As a result of my YQCA Training, I hope to pursue a career in agriculture or in the livestock industry.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Slides</b>					
The slides gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Speakers</b>					
The speakers gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Stations</b>					
The stations gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The stations gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Evaluation component for junior youth.

Please answer Yes, No, or Maybe to the following questions about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Maybe</b>
The YQCA Training was enjoyable.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of the YQCA Training, I understand why I have to take good care of my animal.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of the YQCA Training, I can tell people about my livestock project.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of my YQCA Training, I learned new ways to care for my animals.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I enjoyed the hands-on stations during my YQCA Training.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
As a result of my YQCA Training, I hope to work in agriculture or the livestock industry one day.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Slides</b>			



The slides gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Speakers</b>			
The speakers gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Stations</b>			
The stations gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Name your favorite thing about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.

What other comments do you have about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training?

Appendix G. Final Senior Version- Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training Evaluation

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training  
**Senior Evaluation**

Completion of this evaluation tool is voluntary and anonymous and will be used to improve this program in the future. To address questions or concerns please contact Sam Leech ([spleech@vt.edu](mailto:spleech@vt.edu)) or Megan Seibel ([mseibel@vt.edu](mailto:mseibel@vt.edu)). Thank you.

I am:

- Age 14-16
- Age 17-19

Gender:

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say

How many years have you been showing livestock?

- 0, This will be my first year.
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 5+

How many years have you received a quality assurance training?

- 0
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 5+

Please indicate your thoughts on the following statements about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training by answering Strongly Agree, Somewhat Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, and Strongly Disagree.

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
The YQCA Training was enjoyable.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of the YQCA Training, I have a better understanding of the importance of proper animal care and management techniques.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of the YQCA Training, I can now better explain to consumers and the public why we manage and care for our livestock properly.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of my YQCA Training, I will change certain animal care routines as a result of what I have learned.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I believe that the hands-on stations during my YQCA Training have helped me better understand the information presented in the slides.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My future plans include pursuing a career in agriculture or in the livestock industry.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
<b>Slides</b>					
The slides gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<b>Speakers</b>					
The speakers gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Stations</b>					
The stations gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Name your favorite thing about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.

What other comments or suggestions do you have about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training?

Appendix H. Final Junior Version- Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training Evaluation

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training  
**Junior Evaluation**

Completion of this evaluation tool is voluntary and anonymous and will be used to improve this program in the future. To address questions or concerns please contact Sam Leech ([spleech@vt.edu](mailto:spleech@vt.edu)) or Megan Seibel ([mseibel@vt.edu](mailto:mseibel@vt.edu)). Thank you.

I am:

- Age 9-11
- Age 12-13

Gender:

- Male
- Female
- Prefer to not say

How many years have you been showing livestock?

- 0, This will be my first year showing.
- 1-2
- 3-5

How many years have you received a quality assurance training?

- 0, This is my first training.
- 1-2
- 3-5

Please answer Yes or No to the following questions about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
The YQCA Training was enjoyable.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of the YQCA Training, I understand why I have to take good care of my animal.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of the YQCA Training, it is easier to tell people about my livestock project.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because of my YQCA Training, I learned new ways to care for my animals.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I enjoyed the hands-on stations during my YQCA Training.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My future plans are to work in agriculture or the livestock industry one day.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Slides</b>		
The slides gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
The slides gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The slides kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Speakers</b>		
The speakers gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The speakers kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Stations</b>		

The stations gave me good information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me interested.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations gave me tips I can use at home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The stations kept me engaged.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Name your favorite thing about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training.

What other comments or suggestions do you have about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training?

Appendix I. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training, Senior Evaluation Results 2019

**Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training Senior Evaluation Results 2019**

<b>Total Participation</b>	<b>242</b>
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<b>I am:</b>		
Age 14-16	170	70%
Age 17-19	72	30%
Blank	0	0%

<b>Gender:</b>		
Male	92	38%
Female	145	60%
Prefered not to say.	0	0%
Blank	5	2%

<b>How many years have you been showing livestock?</b>		
0, This is my first year showing.	23	9%
1-2 Years	10	4%
3-5 Years	62	26%
5+	145	60%
Blank	2	1%

<b>How many years have you received a quality assurance training?</b>		
0, This is my first training.	33	14%
1-2 Years	49	20%
3-5 Years	112	46%
5+	45	19%
Blank	3	1%

<b>The YQCA training was enjoyable.</b>		
Strongly Agree	56	23%
Somewhat Agree	108	45%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	38	16%
Somewhat Disagree	19	7%
Strongly Disagree	21	9%
Blank	0	0%

<b>During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.</b>		
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Strongly Agree	98	40%
Somewhat Agree	90	37%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	26	11%
Somewhat Disagree	17	7%
Strongly Disagree	11	5%
Blank	0	0%

<b>Because of the YQCA Training, I have a better understanding of the importance of proper animal care and management techniques.</b>		
Strongly Agree	103	42%
Somewhat Agree	79	33%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	31	13%
Somewhat Disagree	20	8%
Strongly Disagree	7	3%
Blank	2	1%

<b>Because of the YQCA Training, I can now better explain to consumers and the public why we manage and care for our livestock properly.</b>		
Strongly Agree	101	42%
Somewhat Agree	88	36%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	31	13%
Somewhat Disagree	13	5%
Strongly Disagree	9	4%
Blank	0	0%

<b>Because of the YQCA Training, I will change certain animal care routines as a result of what I have learned.</b>		
Strongly Agree	84	35%
Somewhat Agree	70	29%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	53	22%
Somewhat Disagree	19	8%
Strongly Disagree	13	5%
Blank	3	1%

<b>I believe that the hands-on stations during my YQCA have helped me better understand the information presented in the slides.</b>		
Strongly Agree	119	48%
Somewhat Agree	72	30%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	32	13%
Somewhat Disagree	9	4%
Strongly Disagree	9	4%

Blank	1	1%
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<b>My future plans include pursuing a career in agriculture or in the livestock industry.</b>		
Strongly Agree	125	52%
Somewhat Agree	49	20%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	36	15%
Somewhat Disagree	17	7%
Strongly Disagree	13	5%
Blank	2	1%

<b>The slides gave me good information.</b>		
Strongly Agree	89	37%
Somewhat Agree	98	41%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	32	13%
Somewhat Disagree	9	4%
Strongly Disagree	8	3%
Blank	6	2%

<b>The slides kept me interested.</b>		
Strongly Agree	57	23%
Somewhat Agree	67	28%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	49	20%
Somewhat Disagree	34	14%
Strongly Disagree	28	12%
Blank	7	3%

<b>The slides gave me tips I can use at home.</b>		
Strongly Agree	86	36%
Somewhat Agree	78	32%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	42	17%
Somewhat Disagree	18	7%
Strongly Disagree	9	4%
Blank	9	4%

<b>The slides kept me engaged.</b>		
Strongly Agree	56	23%
Somewhat Agree	64	26%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	54	22%
Somewhat Disagree	28	12%
Strongly Disagree	31	13%

Blank	9	4%
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<b>The speakers gave me good information.</b>		
Strongly Agree	125	52%
Somewhat Agree	86	36%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	15	6%
Somewhat Disagree	3	1%
Strongly Disagree	6	2%
Blank	7	3%

<b>The speakers kept me interested.</b>		
Strongly Agree	99	41%
Somewhat Agree	81	34%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	34	14%
Somewhat Disagree	12	5%
Strongly Disagree	10	4%
Blank	6	2%

<b>The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.</b>		
Strongly Agree	115	48%
Somewhat Agree	78	32%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	34	14%
Somewhat Disagree	2	1%
Strongly Disagree	6	2%
Blank	7	3%

<b>The speakers kept me engaged.</b>		
Strongly Agree	92	38%
Somewhat Agree	73	30%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	42	17%
Somewhat Disagree	13	5%
Strongly Disagree	11	5%
Blank	11	5%

<b>The stations gave me good information.</b>		
Strongly Agree	108	45%
Somewhat Agree	99	41%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	19	7%
Somewhat Disagree	2	1%
Strongly Disagree	7	3%
Blank	7	3%

<b>The stations kept me interested.</b>		
Strongly Agree	104	43%
Somewhat Agree	84	35%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	29	12%
Somewhat Disagree	6	2%
Strongly Disagree	11	5%
Blank	8	3%

<b>The stations gave me tips I can use at home.</b>		
Strongly Agree	108	45%
Somewhat Agree	81	33%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	33	14%
Somewhat Disagree	6	2%
Strongly Disagree	8	4%
Blank	6	2%

<b>The stations kept me engaged.</b>		
Strongly Agree	103	42%
Somewhat Agree	82	34%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	29	12%
Somewhat Disagree	9	4%
Strongly Disagree	11	5%
Blank	8	3%

Appendix J. Youth for the Quality Care of Animal (YQCA) Training Junior Evaluation Results 2019

**Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training Junior Evaluation Results 2019**

<b>Total Participation</b>	<b>263</b>
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<b>I am:</b>		
Age 9-11	145	55%
Age 12-13	111	42%
Blank	7	3%

<b>Gender:</b>		
Male	132	50%
Female	118	45%
Prefered not to say.	6	2%
Blank	7	3%

<b>How many years have you been showing livestock?</b>		
0, This is my first year showing.	58	22%
1-2 Years	73	28%
3-5 Years	127	48%
Blank	5	2%

<b>How many years have you received a quality assurance training?</b>		
0, This is my first training.	80	30%
1-2 Years	82	31%
3-5 Years	85	33%
Blank	16	6%

<b>The YQCA training was enjoyable.</b>		
Yes	193	73%
No	66	25%
Blank	4	2%

<b>During the YQCA Training, I learned something new.</b>		
Yes	232	88%
No	30	11%
Blank	1	1%

<b>Because of the YQCA Training, I understand why I have to take good care of my animal.</b>		
Yes	248	94%
No	12	5%
Blank	3	1%

<b>Because of the YQCA Training, it is easier to tell people about my livestock project.</b>		
Yes	210	80%
No	52	19%
Blank	1	1%

<b>Because of the YQCA Training, I learned new ways to care for my animals.</b>		
Yes	218	83%
No	43	16%
Blank	2	1%

<b>I enjoyed the hands-on stations during my YQCA Training.</b>		
Yes	227	86%
No	33	13%
Blank	3	1%

<b>My future plans are to work in agriculture or the livestock industry one day.</b>		
Yes	190	72%
No	66	25%
Blank	7	3%

<b>The slides gave me good information.</b>		
Yes	227	86%
No	34	13%
Blank	2	1%

<b>The slides kept me interested.</b>		
Yes	152	58%
No	103	39%
Blank	8	3%

<b>The slides gave me tips I can use at home.</b>		
Yes	221	84%
No	27	10%
Blank	15	6%

<b>The slides kept me engaged.</b>		
Yes	154	58%
No	94	36%
Blank	15	6%

<b>The speakers gave me good information.</b>		
Yes	239	91%
No	10	4%
Blank	14	5%

<b>The speakers kept me interested.</b>		
Yes	195	74%
No	51	20%
Blank	17	6%

<b>The speakers gave me tips I can use at home.</b>		
Yes	228	87%
No	22	8%
Blank	13	5%

<b>The speakers kept me engaged.</b>		
Yes	196	75%
No	48	18%
Blank	19	7%

<b>The stations gave me good information.</b>		
Yes	232	88%
No	16	6%
Blank	15	6%

<b>The stations kept me interested.</b>		
Yes	201	76%
No	46	18%
Blank	16	6%

<b>The stations gave me tips I can use at home.</b>		
Yes	224	85%
No	25	10%
Blank	14	5%

<b>The stations kept me engaged.</b>		
Yes	202	77%
No	44	17%
Blank	17	6%