

Crittenden
Agricultural Development Council

Update of
COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

January 12, 2021

Submitted by:

List County Council Members

Tyler Guess
Ed Shewcraft
Jessica Cummins
Joe Herrin
Evan Head
Larry Duvall
Aaron Berry
Cody Hunt
Philip Parish

Crittenden

Comprehensive Plan Update

County Agricultural Development Councils have the responsibility to evaluate the needs of the local agricultural economy. The updated County Comprehensive Plan should identify programs and projects best suited for agricultural development fund investments in the County.

The Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy staff may provide guidance to county councils throughout this evaluation.

1. Overview of County

Crittenden is situated in the northwest edge of Kentucky along the border with Illinois. Agriculture Census of 2017 statistics show that there are 157,946 acres used for farm operations with 50% of that used for cropland, 15% pastureland, and 30% woodland. The total market value of products sold was \$39,266,000 with total farm production expenses totaling \$32,287,000 making a total net cash farm income of \$12,834,000. Crittenden County has a diverse agriculture landscape. The county ranks in the top 50% of Kentucky counties in production in most areas. Crittenden County is ranked second in sheep and goat production. Fifty one percent of farms have internet access and 96% are family farms. Only 4% of farms sell directly to consumers.

- a. Agricultural statistics, trends, & projections (i.e. Census Data)
 - Traditional agricultural production

Traditional agriculture is mostly grain crops (corn, soybeans, wheat), hogs and cattle within the county.

- Non-traditional agricultural production

Crittenden County vegetable production is ranked 26th in the state. Apiary is very popular in the county along with mum production in the fall. Also, greenhouse production is on the rise.

- New & emerging agricultural production

Irrigation is more prevalent in the county and is being seen more and more in the county along with things such as Artificial Insemination. Rap is being processed in Hopkinsville now so the potential to see that product grow is in the county.

- Tobacco dependency

Crittenden County is not dependent on tobacco.

b. Demographic Data

- Social data

According to Census data, Crittenden County had a population of 8,913 people in 2019. Households without a computing device was 26.7% and 32.6% of households had no internet access. A total of 19.6% of the population is ages 65 and older.

- Economic data

In 2019 Crittenden County had a total of 1,935 jobs in the county. The median household income was \$41,114 and 18% of the population is in poverty. The top industries are 1) Manufacturing, 2) Health Care, 3) Retail Sales, 4) Education, 5) Accommodations/Food Services.

2. Assessments of the County

a. Strengths

Crittenden County has several strengths to work with, especially in the agriculture field. There are a large diversity of crops and goods grown and sold in the county. Traditional agriculture (grain and cattle) producers have easy access to markets that are within an hour drive of the county. Crittenden County also has an abundance of natural resources including wildlife and forests.

b. Weaknesses

Transportation infrastructure is a weakness in Crittenden County. Currently the main way in and out of the county for goods is through roads. The main roads are US highways, all of which are two lane and have limited access designations. Industry and manufacturing are also a weakness, keeping many having to go elsewhere to get a job.

c. Opportunities

Opportunities exist for Crittenden County agriculture to grow. With the abundance of natural resources, an opportunity exists to grow wildlife management practices. There are also opportunities for cattle feeding facilities, slaughter facilities, and the continued growth of sheep and goat production.

d. Challenges

Even though Crittenden County is rural, agriculture literacy is a continued effort. Agriculture Awareness education is needed within the county. Like many counties in the state, drug abuse is a large problem. Crittenden County also has a lack of well paying jobs. Census data indicates there were 1,935 jobs in 2019 and that the average household income was \$41,114.

3. County Council Objectives

a. Mission/Vision Statement

The mission of the Crittenden County Agriculture Development Board is to encourage sustainable growth for agriculture in the community. It is our goal to maximize the impact of county agriculture funds through wise investment decisions. It is our goal to encourage better utilization of existing resources and support the development of new and innovative opportunities.

b. Short term goals

Improve marketing opportunities by supporting farmers markets
Educate the public on agriculture literacy issues
Promote KY Proud
Promote efficient use of agriculture resources

c. Long term goals

Improve marketing opportunities by supporting farmers markets
Educate the public on agriculture literacy issues
Promote KY Proud
Promote efficient use of agriculture resources

d. Tactics for leveraging funds

- Regional partnerships

Potential for partnering with the KY Beef Network, KY Proud, Natural Resources Conservation Services, local Conservation Districts, Farm Service Agency, County Extension Offices, KY Cattlemen Association, and Lake Barkley Economic Partnerships, along with other commodity groups.

- State Agricultural Development Board resources

The Crittenden County Agriculture Development Board will encourage leveraging funds through cost share, in-kind matching of local, state, and federal money when the opportunity arises. The board will also use agriculture development funds for new farmer loan programs through the Agriculture finance board.

- Other local/state/federal resources

The Crittenden County Agriculture Development Board will encourage leveraging funds through cost share, in-kind matching of local, state, and federal money when the opportunity arises.

3. Evaluation & Review

- a. How are proposals evaluated and does this process need modified?

Proposals will be evaluated on an as needed basis.

- b. How is success and failure measured?

Reports on grants funded will be given at periodic times.

- c. How will the county comprehensive plan be revised?

The board will revise the plan every 5 years and look at items that need to be amended.

You may save this document to continue editing or to email at a later date.
If the email link provided below does not work, please save document and email to:
Stefanie.Osterman@ky.gov

Send Via Email