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KFAC, KFB host 3rd annual Be Ag-Wise educator training workshop in Manhattan

MANHATTAN, Kan. – Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) and Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) hosted the third annual Be Ag-Wise educator training workshop on Jan. 16 in Manhattan at the Kansas Farm Bureau office.

The workshop, which was designed especially for agricultural education presenters at the county level, gave participants the opportunity to receive training for a variety of agriculture-based, hands-on learning labs; receive resource materials; share ideas; network with others; and practice their presentation skills.

The workshop was intended to assist volunteer agricultural educators in the counties such as Cooperative Extension educators, county Farm Bureau agricultural education volunteers, Conservation District managers, agricultural educators, youth presenters and teachers.

The theme for the workshop was “The Farmer Grows a Rainbow,” which focused on the link between agriculture and the MyPyramid nutritional resource. “The topics of nutrition and exercise are welcomed by schools. These lessons contain great interactive pieces that make learning fun,” said Cathy Musick, KFAC executive director. “We make certain youth understand that the ‘rainbow’ of abundant, safe food they enjoy comes from farmers.”

Participants received resource materials on the topic, lunch and refreshments. For an additional registration fee, participants also received the official The Farmer Grows a Rainbow classroom kit, which included color copies of activities, classroom supplies and a large magnetic MyPyramid. Sponsors of the subsidized classroom kits were the Bob Schmidt Foundation and the Kansas Bankers Association.

The Be Ag-Wise educator training workshop is being held at various locations across the state this winter. The one-day workshop was held in Emporia at the Girls Scouts of Kansas Heartland building on Jan. 23. The workshop will take place again on Feb. 20 in Colby at the Colby Community Center; and on Feb. 27 in Garden City at the Southwest Area Research and Extension Complex.

The Be Ag-Wise educator training workshop began in 2007, and it is co-hosted by Kansas Farm Bureau and Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. To learn more about the workshop, visit the KFAC website homepage at www.ksagclassroom.org or the KFB website at

www.kfb.org by selecting the “Division & Programs” link and clicking on “Agriculture Education.”

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Manhattan “Be Ag-Wise” workshop participants pose with Kansas Farm Bureau’s storybook character Kailey. The workshop was held at the Kansas Farm Bureau office on Jan. 16.

Photo: Serita Blankenship