

Cattlegirls' College: Cattle Management for Women

Butler, L., L. Bennett, S. Crawford, T. Davis, C. Kirby, C. Larson*, B. Stice, L. Wiggins

Situation and Objectives

Women's roles on cattle ranches, dairies, and small farms have expanded and evolved over the past several years. Women are emerging as decision makers on cattle operations that have traditionally been managed solely by males. The objectives of the Cattlegirls' College were to; increase knowledge, develop skills, encourage adoption of practices, and provide a comfortable setting for participating and asking questions.



Methods

Participants were divided into small groups. Hands-on activities and presentations were designed to increase knowledge and build confidence and familiarity with material. Subjects included; Beef Quality Assurance & Health, Cattle Processing & Handling, Social Media, Financial Management, Reproduction & Dystocia, and Forages & Nutrition. All subjects were taught by female extension agents and industry representatives. Post reflective evaluations were used to determine knowledge gained and planned, planned implementation of practices, and program satisfaction.



Cattle handling

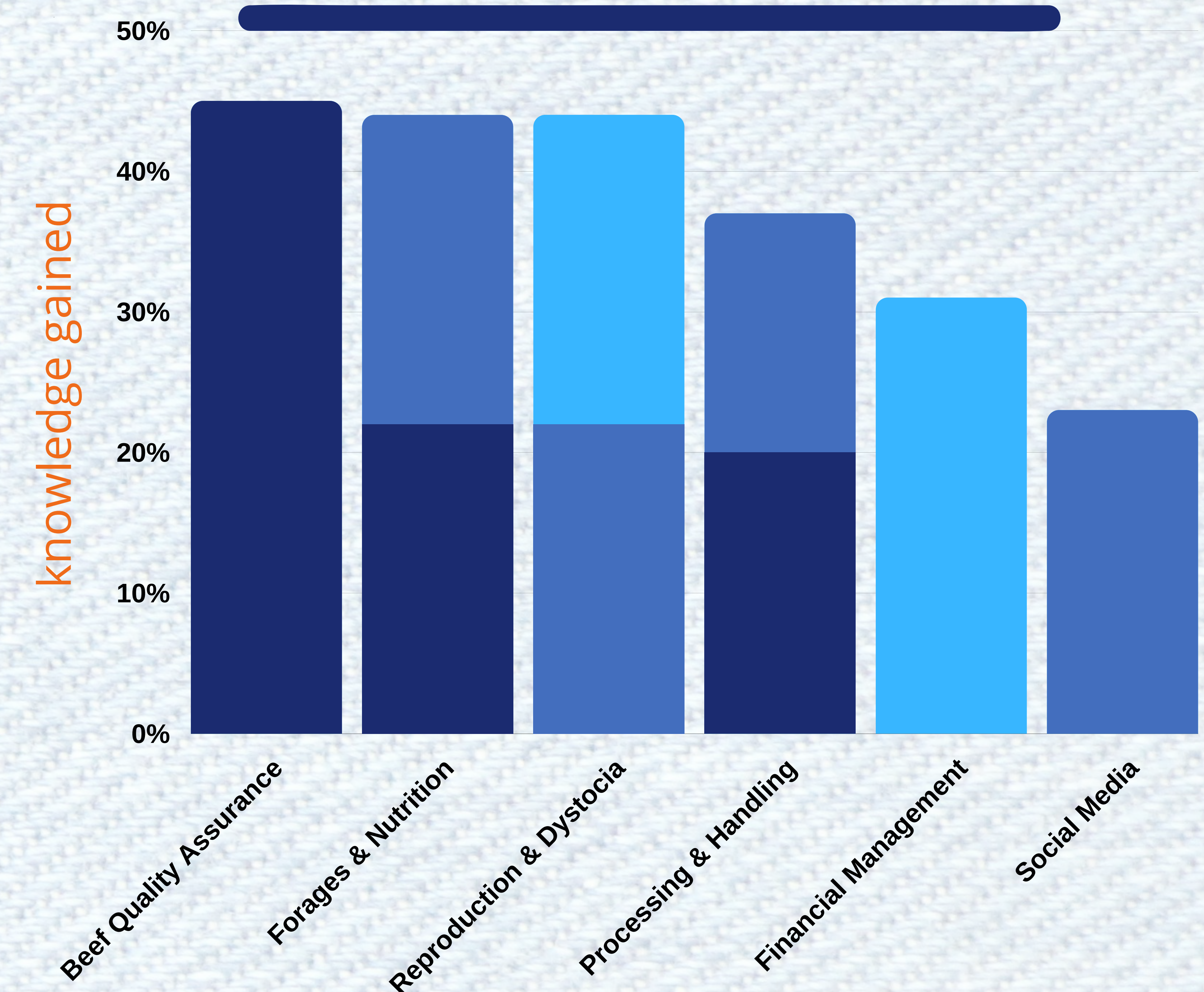


Beef Quality Assurance



UF IFAS Extension Agents

Results



Conclusion

Based on results and feedback, the program will continue and will be expanded to offer more advanced training. 96% of participants said that the program met or exceeded their expectations, but requested more in-depth training in specific areas. Results indicated that participants (86%) planned to implement at least one new practice learned at the program. Participants (77%) also were confident that knowledge learned would help them become more profitable.