



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

**Extension Education Committee Agenda
Videoconference
OR
Jefferson County Extension Office
864 Collins Road, Jefferson, WI 53549**

DATE: July 13 2026

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members: Matt Foelker, Francine Gies, Elizabeth Hafften, John Kannard, Dwayne Morris

Virtual TEAMS Link

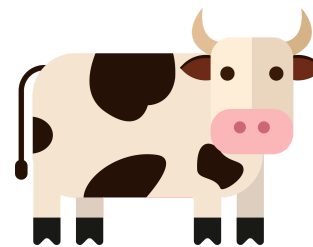
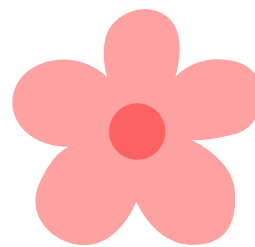
[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 286 622 399 600 090

Passcode: RJ9eb32B

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call (to establish a quorum)
3. Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law
4. Approval of Agenda (for possible rearrangement)
5. Public Comment (Members of the Public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)
6. Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from June 8, 2026
7. Communications
8. Review of 2026 Departmental Budget
9. Division of Extension update – Chrissy Wen, Area Extension Director
10. Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports – Steve Chmielewski (Community Educator), Jerry Wilcenski and Cadance Hawk (4-H), Julie Hill (Horticulture Educator), Alison Pfau (Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator), Josh Kamps (Regional Crop Educator)
11. Possible Items of Discussion/Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings
12. Discussion and Possible Decision on Dates/Times of Extension Education Committee meetings:
Aug 10 & Sept 14
13. Adjourn

A quorum of any Jefferson County Committee, Commission or other body, including the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors, may be present at this meeting. Individuals requiring special accommodation for attendance at the meeting should contact the County Administrator 24 hours prior to the meeting at 920-674-7101 so appropriate arrangements can be made. "Enriching people with knowledge, perspective, skills, and aspirations." The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.



JUNE 2026

Program Highlights



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
JEFFERSON COUNTY

COMMUNITY Development



Steve Chmielewski
Community Development Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- A Real Colors® team development workshop was delivered for employees of the City of Lake Mills. Participants increased their understanding of personality and communication styles, learned strategies for working more effectively with colleagues, and explored ways to build stronger workplace relationships. As a result, participants gained tools to improve communication, increase trust, and enhance team effectiveness in support of organizational goals.
- Planning and partnership development continued for the Rural Entrepreneur Venture (REV) Program in Palmyra. REV is a community-based economic development initiative designed to strengthen entrepreneurship, support small businesses, and identify opportunities for long-term community vitality. Local leaders, business owners, and community stakeholders are working together to assess assets, identify priorities, and develop strategies that support business growth and economic resilience. Locally developed REV Goals include:
 - Support and grow local businesses and entrepreneurs. (Comprehensive webpage in development stages as well)
 - Strengthen downtown vitality and community attractiveness. (Conducting commercial vacanciesurvey)
 - Build local leadership and partnerships to advance economic development workforce development with Youth Apprenticeship Program (Changes in PEASD staffing with DWD Youth Apprentice program need to be addressed)
- Extension is in discussion with REV communities and UW-Whitewater on expanding City Pitch Program, providing entrepreneurs and small business owners with an opportunity to refine business concepts, receive coaching, and present their ideas to community stakeholders and judges. Participants strengthened their business planning and presentation skills, increased their understanding of available resources, and expanded connections with local economic development partners. The program supports entrepreneurship, innovation, and community economic development throughout the region.

COMMUNITY Development



Steve Chmielewski
Community Development Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES CONT.

- To help address the Transformative Government Strategic Priority, exploration and planning also began for a county-level Local Government education program designed to help residents better understand county government structure, decision-making processes, and opportunities for civic engagement. The program aims to increase civic literacy, strengthen public participation, and build informed local leadership. Planning team will meet to make program decisions later this month.
- Additional discussion was conducted with Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission on analyzing economic impact of Public Rail System per member county to follow a request to better understand individual county's ROI of being part of a freight system

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Growing Within the Cap: Analyzing Your Municipal Tax Base Under Wisconsin's Levy Limits – July 14 <http://go.wisc.edu/wq44gs>
- PFAS & Emerging Contaminants: Community Education, Engagement, and Response – August 20 <http://go.wisc.edu/0s7256>
- Solar panels and wind turbines are becoming increasingly common in Wisconsin's energy portfolio as low-cost, reliable energy sources. As our state's energy landscape shifts, many communities are facing new challenging conversations and navigating complicated processes, some for the first time.
- To help communities navigate these changes with confidence, we invite you to join the [Fall 2026 Renewable Energy Cohort](#).

This virtual series will take place weekly on Thursdays from September 17th to October 8th from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM.

- September 17: Wisconsin's Energy Landscape & Community Engagement
- September 24: Community Priorities in Locally Permitted Projects
- October 1: State Regulatory Process & Joint Development Agreements
- October 8: Local Government Actions

Community Development programming in Jefferson County supports stronger communities by fostering entrepreneurship, strengthening local leadership, enhancing organizational effectiveness, and increasing resident engagement in community development efforts.

AGRICULTURE

Horticulture



Julie Hill
Horticulture Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- An in-person presentation, hosted by Janesville Senior Center, for the general public where participants learned about integrated pest management to reduce wildlife conflict in a way that supports both garden and ecological balance.
 - *Programming that occurred/is occurring*
- An in-person program in collaboration with Lake Mills Club 55, where participants learned about growing vegetables in containers. The goal of this effort is to increase knowledge, confidence and build skills in gardening for improved yields and reduce the harmful effects of pesticides.
 - *Programming that occurred/is occurring*
- An in-person presentation for consumer horticulture audiences where participants learned about proper horticulture practices to provide food resources and decrease/eliminate pesticide use to improve habitat availability for Wisconsin pollinators.
 - *Programming that occurred/is occurring*
- An in-person program in collaboration with Lake Geneva Public Library where participants learned about home composting. The goal of this effort is to increase knowledge, confidence and build skills in composting to help mitigate the causes of climate change and to improve the soil health of yards and gardens.
 - *Programming that occurred/is occurring*
- A weekly social media outreach campaign for consumer gardeners utilizing Extension Walworth/Rock/Jefferson County Facebook page to help promote local plant health diagnostic services and upcoming programs, and improve understanding of how sustainable horticultural practices positively impact landscapes and ecosystems.
 - *Programming is occurring*

AGRICULTURE

Horticulture



Julie Hill
Horticulture Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES CONT.

- A yearlong activity/service for residents of Jefferson County to provide research based answers to their horticulture questions. The goal of this effort is to educate individuals of Jefferson County so they can implement best practices in their landscapes that will positively affect the environment and their communities.
 - *Programming is occurring*
- An in-person presentation in collaboration with Milton Public Library where participants learned about proper horticulture practices to provide food resources and decrease/eliminate pesticide use to improve habitat availability for hummingbirds as a Wisconsin pollinator.
 - *Programming that occurred/is occurring*



Jerry Wilcenski
4-H Program Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- Summer Programming focused on youth sparks and expanding skills in food production and animal care with Beulah Homestead
 - *Ongoing*
- Livestock Marketing programming that gives youth real world experience in marketing their livestock project to prospective buyers using industry criteria.
 - *As a result of participation, youth increase their ability to communicate the value of livestock and agricultural products, strengthening confidence in public speaking and promotional strategies. They gain practical skills in marketing, sales, and consumer awareness—competencies that are increasingly essential in agriculture and transferable to a wide range of careers. Youth also develop broader life skills such as critical thinking, decision-making, and leadership, which are consistently linked to participation in livestock programs and agricultural competitions. Through this experience, participants become better prepared to engage with buyers, advocate for agriculture, and succeed in both industry and community settings.*
- Countywide Cloverbud Programing that highlights the various projects and activities 4-H has to offer
 - *Improved understanding of 4-H, excitement for Cloverbud projects, improved sense of belonging to 4-H*
- Weekly in-school programing at the Palmyra Montessori school that provides and exploration of 4-H and its diverse project areas for new and primarily first generation 4-H youth
 - *Programming completed in: Legos, Food Science, Plants and Soil Sciences, Rabbits, Global Exploration, Archiving and Collections and Gems and Minerals.*



Jerry Wilcenski
4-H Program Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES CONT.

- The Youth Livestock Producers is series of programs and a youth lead committee that aims to build future leaders in fields of genetics, animal science, meat science and veterinary science.
 - *Ongoing*

PHOTO GALLERY





Cadance Hawk
4-H Associate Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- A Cloverbud Summer Day Camp for Jefferson County 4-H Cloverbuds, where participants will engage in a wide variety of activities following an "Around the World" theme. Through this program, students will learn new skills, practice critical thinking and collaboration, and engage in multicultural education.
 - *I anticipate that this work will increase student knowledge of practical skills, multicultural awareness, and general facts-based information. This will equip students to more intentionally engage in 4-H and the world by providing an introduction to topics of lifelong relevance.*
- A summer sparks-based learning program for Palmyra-Eagle Montessori School Club Members, where youth engaged in self-directed independent projects with support from 4-H Educators. Through this activity, youth had the opportunity to more deeply engage in 4-H programming, initiate a pathway into future projects, build connections with other club members, and strengthen youth-adult partnerships.
 - *Palmyra-Eagle Montessori School Club members showed significant social emotional growth, an increased connection to 4-H, and strengthened-youth adult partnerships. These outcomes were measured qualitatively through educator observation. Student social emotional growth was assessed based on the capability of students to effectively and positively convey emotions, students' level of participation in pro-social activities, and students' ability to self-regulate throughout the course of activities. Increased connection to 4-H was assessed based on student participation in independent 4-H projects and student awareness of 4-H opportunities. Strengthened youth-adult partnerships were assessed based on student growth in response to specific guidance provided by 4-H educators, as well as increased trust of educators. Each of these measures showed positive growth throughout the course of the program.*
- A project learning day for Jefferson County 4-H Members, where participants engaged in experiential learning in the areas of foods, arts, and STEM. Through this program, students explored their sparks, practiced problem-solving and engaged in youth-adult partnerships.

YOUTH



Cadance Hawk
4-H Associate Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PHOTO GALLERY



AGRICULTURE

Dairy



Alison Pfau
Bilingual Dairy Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- Planning and developing a proper administration of medicine and vaccines I dairy cattle on August 27th and 28th from 9 to 3 pm in Dane county. In this program we will talk about the proper management and storage of health products, common mistakes handling health products in dairy farms, practical tips for a successful cattle vaccination, right intervention and right medication on time, and the importance of the vaccination plan in cattle.
- Planning and developing the fourth edition of El "Break" Info-Lechero. A webinar in Spanish created to help dairy workers and the dairy industry in Wisconsin and around the world to get access of the most up to date dairy information in different topics like animal reproduction, date collection, animal welfare, nutrition, calf care and more. This webinar will be held in September and October 2026. <https://dairy.extension.wisc.edu/el-break-info-lechero-english/>
- Bovi-noticias is a bilingual (English & Spanish) newsletter created through collaboration between the Dairy and Farm Management teams. It provides dairy farms and their employees with accessible, research-based information that explains the reasons behind key practices and offers practical insights for daily work. Through this effort, Bovi-noticias helps build a more informed and engaged workforce, improving animal well-being, optimizing resources, and supporting farm profitability and safety. New summer issue, see the attachment. (Here is the link you can print the newsletter for the report) <https://dairy.extension.wisc.edu/bovi-noticias/>
- A statewide program promoting humane dairy cow-handling practices for dairy cow handlers where the participants will learn to be aware of their own beliefs about working with cows, which affect how they interact with them. They will else learn how to form or maintain good habits, which will make the cows easier to handler and their job smoother. In July, August, and September, we will schedule farms, where we are going to provide the course and get feedback from the employees.

AGRICULTURE

Crops & Soils



Josh Kamps
Crops & Soils Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- A study to better understand the target termination timing of cereal rye and triticale to provide a 50% reduction in weed biomass while not impacting the yield potential of soybean. Results from this study will help farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants in managing cover crop biomass accumulation as a tool for weed suppression while reducing the risk of herbicide resistance development.
 - *The study identified termination windows that consistently achieved approximately a 50% reduction in weed biomass while maintaining soybean yield potential. These results provide actionable recommendations that support farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants in using cover crop biomass accumulation to suppress weeds, strengthen integrated weed management programs, and reduce reliance on herbicides, which lowers the risk of herbicide resistance development.*
- A study to better understand the optimal nitrogen rate for corn grain production within different farm production systems. Results from this study will help farmers, crop consultants, and conservation professionals in making nitrogen rate decisions which maximize profitability while reducing the risk of nitrogen leaching or loss to the environment.
 - *The study identified nitrogen rate ranges that consistently optimized corn grain yield within each production system while reducing the risk of nitrogen leaching or loss. These results provide actionable, data-driven recommendations that help farmers, crop consultants, and conservation professionals make more precise nitrogen decisions that enhance profitability and support long-term environmental sustainability.*
- A study to better understand the nitrogen credit level available for corn from a legume cover crop planted in mid-summer following small grains the previous year. Results from this study will help farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants maximize the use of nitrogen made available through legume cover crops and more accurately identify the rate of synthetic nitrogen required for profitable corn production within this cropping system.
 - *The study will generate practical nitrogen credit estimates that can be reliably applied to corn grown after mid-summer legume cover crops. These results will enable farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants to better utilize biologically supplied nitrogen, reduce unnecessary synthetic nitrogen applications, and maintain profitable corn yields while supporting improved environmental stewardship.*



AGRICULTURE

Crops & Soils



Josh Kamps
Crops & Soils Educator

JUNE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES CONT.

- A study to better understand the level of nitrogen credit available when manure is applied ahead of corn grain production. Results from this study will help farmers, crop consultants, and conservation professionals more accurately credit the level of nitrogen and other nutrients provided in manure for corn grain production which will improve farm profitability and reduce losses of nutrients to the environment.
 - *The study will produce reliable nitrogen credit estimates that reflect the contribution of manure under real-world field conditions. The results will help farmers, crop consultants, and conservation professionals more accurately account for manure-derived nitrogen and other nutrients, enabling more precise synthetic nitrogen applications that support profitable corn production while reducing the risk of nutrient loss to the environment.*
- A farm consultation with a farmer seeking advice on grazing management of Reed canary grass where resources and recommendations were provided. Through this farm consultation, the farmer has the tools necessary to make an informed decision on utilizing the section of their farm with Reed canary grass to increase available on farm forage for the beef herd, which will reduce the need for purchased forage and will increase farm profitability.
 - *Following the consultation, the farmer now has the tools and confidence to make an informed decision about utilizing Reed canary grass as part of the beef herd's forage supply. This will increase available on-farm forage, reduce dependence on purchased feed, and ultimately improve the farm's profitability.*

PHOTO GALLERY



07/08/2026
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 Jefferson County
 FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

 PAGE 1
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FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 06

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	TRANFRS/	REVISED			AVAILABLE	PCT
100 General Fund	APPROP	ADJSTMTS	BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	BUDGET	USED
13301 UW Extension							
13301 411100 General Property Taxes	-319,030	0	-319,030	-132,929.05	.00	-186,100.64	41.7%
13301 451100 Misc. Billed	-1,500	0	-1,500	.00	.00	-1,500.00	.0%
13301 457020 Publication Sales	-50	0	-50	-49.00	.00	-1.00	98.0%
13301 471130 State Billed-Other	-2,608	0	-2,608	.00	.00	-2,608.00	.0%
13301 511210 Wages-Regular	55,196	0	55,196	17,182.10	.00	38,013.98	31.1%
13301 512141 Social Security	3,091	0	3,091	1,306.97	.00	1,784.14	42.3%
13301 512142 Retirement (Employer)	3,974	0	3,974	1,016.32	.00	2,957.80	25.6%
13301 512144 Health Insurance	23,496	0	23,496	.00	.00	23,496.48	.0%
13301 512145 Life Insurance	7	0	7	3.28	.00	3.32	49.7%
13301 512151 HSA Contribution	1,600	0	1,600	.00	.00	1,600.00	.0%
13301 512173 Dental Insurance	1,104	0	1,104	151.72	.00	952.28	13.7%
13301 521258 Computer Maintenance	0	0	0	500.00	.00	-500.00	.0%
13301 529299 Purchase Care & Services	180,071	0	180,071	79,004.00	.00	101,067.27	43.9%
13301 531298 United Parcel Service	50	0	50	.00	.00	50.00	.0%
13301 531311 Postage & Box Rent	2,608	0	2,608	.00	.00	2,608.00	.0%
13301 531312 Office Supplies	4,600	0	4,600	474.46	.00	4,125.54	10.3%
13301 531314 Small Items Of Equipment	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13301 531322 Subscriptions	150	0	150	.00	.00	150.00	.0%
13301 531324 Membership Dues	370	0	370	125.00	.00	245.00	33.8%
13301 531326 Advertising	0	0	0	97.70	.00	-97.70	.0%
13301 531348 Educational Supplies	2,000	0	2,000	393.71	.00	1,606.29	19.7%
13301 532325 Registration	1,200	0	1,200	1,055.00	.00	145.00	87.9%
13301 532332 Mileage	3,500	0	3,500	1,874.31	.00	1,625.69	53.6%
13301 532334 Commercial Travel	700	0	700	.00	.00	700.00	.0%
13301 532335 Meals	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13301 532336 Lodging	1,000	0	1,000	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0%
13301 532339 Other Travel & Tolls	30	0	30	.00	.00	30.00	.0%
13301 533225 Telephone & Fax	315	0	315	131.00	.00	184.00	41.6%
13301 535242 Maintain Machinery & Equip	2,100	0	2,100	708.21	.00	1,391.79	33.7%
13301 571004 IP Telephony Allocation	1,650	0	1,650	543.35	.00	1,106.65	32.9%
13301 571005 Duplicating Allocation	65	0	65	27.10	.00	37.90	41.7%
13301 571009 MIS PC Group Allocation	30,244	0	30,244	12,588.35	.00	17,655.65	41.6%
13301 571010 MIS Systems Grp Alloc(ISIS)	2,063	0	2,063	859.60	.00	1,203.40	41.7%
13301 591519 Other Insurance	1,003	0	1,003	219.95	.00	783.08	21.9%
13301 594809 Capital Building	0	0	0	7,608.00	.00	-7,608.00	.0%
13301 594813 Capital Office Equip	0	8,000	8,000	.00	.00	8,000.00	.0%
13301 699999 Budgetary Fund Balance	0	-8,000	-8,000	.00	.00	-8,000.00	.0%
13302 UW 4-H Program							
13302 421001 State Aid	0	0	0	-350.00	.00	350.00	.0%

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 07:45:04

 Jefferson County
 FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

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FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 06

ACCOUNTS FOR: 100 General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
13302 457032 Program Public Charges	-11,405	0	-11,405	-4,480.00	.00	-6,925.00	39.3%
13302 521258 Computer Maintenance	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13302 531326 Advertising	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13302 531348 Educational Supplies	4,175	0	4,175	3,298.07	.00	876.93	79.0%
13302 532335 Meals	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13302 535242 Maintain Machinery & Equip	1,000	0	1,000	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0%
13302 536535 Activity Center Rental	4,000	0	4,000	.00	.00	4,000.00	.0%
13302 594950 Operating Reserve	483	-166	317	.00	.00	316.56	.0%
13302 699700 Resv Applied Operating	-483	166	-317	.00	.00	-316.56	.0%
33001 4-H							
13302 591519 33001 Other Insurance	730	0	730	706.00	.00	24.00	96.7%
13303 UW Ag Programming							
13303 457032 Program Public Charges	-1,000	0	-1,000	.00	.00	-1,000.00	.0%
13303 531348 Educational Supplies	700	0	700	.00	.00	700.00	.0%
13303 532335 Meals	300	0	300	.00	.00	300.00	.0%
13303 594950 Operating Reserve	3,710	266	3,976	.00	.00	3,976.05	.0%
13303 699700 Resv Applied Operating	-3,710	-266	-3,976	.00	.00	-3,976.05	.0%
13303781 UW Ag Pesticide							
13303781 594950 Operating Reserve	8,003	0	8,003	.00	.00	8,002.83	.0%
13303781 699700 Resv Applied Operating	-8,003	0	-8,003	.00	.00	-8,002.83	.0%
TOTAL General Fund	0	0	0	-7,933.85	.00	7,933.85	.0%
TOTAL REVENUES	-347,788	-8,100	-355,888	-137,808.05	.00	-218,080.08	
TOTAL EXPENSES	347,788	8,100	355,888	129,874.20	.00	226,013.93	

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07:45:15

Jefferson County
FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

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FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 06

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	0	-7,933.85	.00	7,933.85	.0%

07/08/2026
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Jefferson County
FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

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REPORT OPTIONS

	Field #	Total	Page Break	
Sequence 1	1	Y	Y	From Yr/Per: 2026/ 1
Sequence 2	9	N	N	To Yr/Per: 2026/ 6
Sequence 3	12	N	N	Budget Year: 2026
Sequence 4	0	N	N	Print totals only: N
				Format type: 1
				Double space: N
Report title:				Suppress zero bal accts: Y
				Amounts/totals exceed 999 million dollars: N
FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT				Roll projects to object: N
				Print journal detail: N
Includes accounts exceeding 0% of budget.				From Yr/Per: 2025/ 1
Print Full or Short description: F				To Yr/Per: 2025/12
Print full GL account: N				Include budget entries: Y
Sort by full GL account: N				Incl encumb/liq entries: Y
Print Revenues-Version headings: N				Sort by JE # or PO #: J
Print revenue as credit: Y				Detail format option: 1
Print revenue budgets as zero: N				Multiyear view: D