

## North Central Farm Management Extension Committee

### Virtual Meeting

September 24, 2014

The meeting was called to order by William Lazarus at 1:00 EDT. Primary agenda items included an update on the Illinois farm bill till, an update on the dairy program, the 2016 Triennial Conference, and precision agriculture and big data.

Gary Schnitkey illustrated several elements of the new Illinois farm bill tools. He started out by noting the 7 ARC-PLC decision steps: collect information, keep or update yields, retain or reallocate base acres, compare ARC-CO and PLC, consider ARC-IC, consider SCO, and signup. The 7 steps are outlined on the following web page:

<http://farmbilltoolbox.farmdoc.illinois.edu/arc-plc-decision-steps.html>.

Gary also illustrated several features of the Agriculture Policy Analysis System (APAS) web site, including the quick calculator for payment yield updates, the base acre reallocation calculator, and APAS sample farms. The web link for the APAS is as follows:

<http://fsa.usapas.com/>.

It was noted that a webinar pertaining to the dairy program was conducted by farmdoc on September 16. This webinar was conducted by John Newton and Phil Cardoza of the University of Illinois and was entitled “Are you ready for the Margin Protection Program for Dairy Producers (MPP)?

The next Triennial Conference will be held during the second week of June in 2016 at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The North Central Farm Management Committee typically participates in the triennial conference.

Approval was granted for use of lease forms in the new edition of *Farm Management*, which is authored by Kay, Edwards, and Duffy.

William Lazarus briefly discussed precision agriculture and big data. There were several committee members interested in this topic. A committee consisting of the following individuals was formed: Damona Doye, Michael Langemeier, William Lazarus, Ray Massey, John Molenhuis, and John Stockton.

Brad Lubben briefly discussed upcoming deadlines for Risk Management Center grants. Though all topics are welcome, individuals working on topics pertaining to education of the farm safety net, entry and exit decisions, and innovational educational efforts are particularly encouraged to submit grant applications.

The next meeting will be held on May 20-21, 2015 in West Lafayette, Indiana. The meeting is scheduled to start at 8:00 am on May 20 and end at noon on May 21. (see change below).

Minutes submitted by Michael Langemeier.

Note: The dates of the Spring meeting in West Lafayette have been changed to May 21-22, beginning at 8:00 am, May 21 and concluding at noon, May 22.