

North Central Farm Management Extension Committee

West Lafayette, Indiana

May 21-22, 2015

The meeting was called to order by William Lazarus at 8:00 am EDT. Primary agenda items included discussions of the AAEA extension section, environmental risk management and water quality, the Center for Commercial Agriculture, precision agriculture, robot milker economics, North Central Risk Management Center educational needs, state reports, custom farming surveys, and livestock forage insurance.

Those in attendance included William Edwards and Alejandro Plastina (Iowa State); Terry Griffin, Greg Hadley, Gregg Ibendahl, and Mykel Taylor (Kansas State); Kenny Burdine (Kentucky); William Lazarus and Dale Nordquist (Minnesota); Ray Massey (Missouri); Brad Lubben and Matt Stockton (Nebraska); Damona Doye (Oklahoma State); John Molenhuis (Ontario); Michael Langemeier and James Mintert (Purdue); and Jack Davis (South Dakota State).

The minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

There will be eight sessions involving the AAEA extension section at the summer meetings. These sessions involved the following topics: Crop Outlook, Livestock Outlook, Policy Outlook, Graduate Student Competition, GMO Labeling, Big Data, and Local Food Systems. Members are encouraged to attend and promote these sessions.

Greg Hadley, the administrative advisor for the committee, discussed the importance of reporting farm bill workshop attendance and the number of individuals using various spreadsheet tools. He also emphasized the importance of inter-state collaboration.

William Lazarus and Ray Massey discussed environmental risk management and water quality projects. William discussed collaborative work in Minnesota that addresses N reduction and yield response to risk mitigation strategies. Ray discussed the Business Environment Risk Management (BERM) project ([link](#)) and the Useful to Usable project ([link](#)).

James Mintert briefly discussed the mission of the Center for Commercial Agriculture at Purdue ([link](#)). The Center is involved in extension, research, and teaching activities. Personnel that work for the Center include James Mintert, Michael Langemeier, and David Widmar. Numerous other faculty members are involved in workshops and projects emanating from the Center.

An introduction to precision agriculture was provided by Terry Griffin. Terry indicated that “big data” involves volume, velocity, and variety. Terry mentioned the USDA-ERS publication entitled “On the Doorstep of the Information Age” ([link](#)). The use of big data has been important to the adoption of drones, guidance systems, and variable-rate application technologies.

A presentation pertaining to robot milker economics was given by William Lazarus. William has developed material related to this topic. Those interested in this material should contact William.

Brad Lubben discussed the North Central Extension Risk Management Education Center. Full proposals for this year are due November 16. Last year's priorities were the risk safety-net, transition planning, and new methodologies. It is important that projects be results oriented, involve collaboration, and meet evolving clientele demands. Brad encouraged the committee to be involved in a needs assessment. The following motion was made and approved based on this topic: *The committee will collaborate on a needs assessment.* As a result of this motion, the NC RME may provide travel grants for members to attend committee meetings.

The Tri-Annual Conference will be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on June 12-16, 2016. The committee is assigned a 6 hour time block for concurrent sessions. In the past, these sessions have been 20 minutes each. The committee typically holds its spring meeting during this conference.

State reports were then given. As part of the state reports, members noted their involvement in custom rate surveys. The appendix below contains responses pertaining to the custom rate survey question.

Kenny Burdine discussed the livestock forage insurance program. RMA has recently expanded crop insurance coverage for ranchers to help them protect against loss of forage produced for feeding livestock to all 48 contiguous states.

Other items of interest to the committee were also discussed. William Lazarus briefly discussed his machinery cost calculator. Mykel Taylor briefly discussed landlord negotiation. Dale briefly discussed the fair rent calculator developed by the Center for Farm Financial Management.

Finally, an election of officers was conducted. The following officers were approved for the upcoming year: Chair, Kenny Burdine; Vice-Chair, Michael Langemeier; and Secretary, Mykel Taylor.

The next meeting will be held in Lexington, Kentucky on October 8-9. The meeting is scheduled to start at 9:00 am on October 8 and end at noon on October 9.

Minutes submitted by Michael Langemeier.

Appendix – Custom Rate Surveys

Illinois

Use surrounding states survey

Iowa State

Annual survey

Kansas State

Survey is conducted every other year

Kentucky

Use surrounding states surveys

Michigan State

Survey is conducted every other year

Minnesota

Use surrounding states surveys

Nebraska

Survey is conducted every other year

North Dakota State

Survey is conducted every third year

Ohio State

Survey is conducted every other year

Oklahoma State

Survey is conducted every other year

Ontario

Survey is conducted every third year

Purdue

Survey is conducted every other year

South Dakota State

Use surrounding states surveys

Wisconsin

Use surrounding states surveys

NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015

State: Indiana

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
C	David Widmar	April 2015	Center for Commercial Agriculture

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or left (L).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person
International Benchmarking	I	agri benchmark – cash crop; pig and poultry	Langemeier
Financial Management	I	Publications, workshops, and webinars	Langemeier
Risk Management	I	Publications, workshops, and webinars	Langemeier

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
Farm Bill Meetings – Regional and County Farm Credit Beginning Farmer Workshops Farm Tour Indiana Soybean Alliance Risk Project Tax Schools Top Farmer Conference Transition Planning Workshops Webinars

4. New Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
	Crop Machinery Benchmarks	April 2014
	A Time of Change – Indiana’s Farmland Market in 2014	August 2014
	Is Farmland Currently Priced as an Attractive Investment?	August 2014
	The Great Margin Squeeze	January 2015
	Clues to Future Crop Economics from the Past	April 2015
	Feed Cost Indices	Monthly
	Purdue Agricultural Economics Report	Quarterly

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES (weather conditions, financial conditions, budget, administrative changes, etc.):

Corn and soybean planting started slow. As of May 17, 74% of the corn was planted and 36% of the soybeans were planted. These percentages are similar to the five-year averages.

The new web site for the Center for Commercial Agriculture is as follows:

<https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/>

**NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015**

State: Iowa

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
New hire	Alejandro Plastina	June 2014	Farm Management, production economics, crop insurance
Left	Kristen Schulte	March 2015	NE Iowa farm mgt. field specialist
New hire	Wendong Zhang	August 2015	Land values, conservation
Change in Assignment	Melissa O'Rourke	August 2015	NE Iowa farm mgt. field specialist (from NW)

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or left (L).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person
2014 Farm Bill	I	Presentations, articles, decision tools	Chad Hart Steven Johnson

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
2014 Farm Bill Education: 123 meetings, attendance 13579

4. New Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
	See list below	

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES (weather conditions, financial conditions, budget, administrative changes, etc):

Dr. Joshua Rosenbloom has accepted the position as the next Chair of the Department of Economics, starting in Fall 2015. Dr. John Schroeter is in his fourth year as interim chair.

Dr. Cathy Kling has been elected to the Human Environmental Sciences section of the National Academy of Sciences.

The ISU Farm Management team received the 2015 ISU Extension and Outreach "Impacting Iowans" Award for their educational efforts and decision tools linked to the 2014 Farm Bill.

New and Revised publications since October 2014
(posted on Ag Decision Maker website: www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/)

Crops -- Cost & Return:

Estimated Cost of Establishment and Production of "Liberty" Switchgrass -- A1-29
Switchgrass Following Pasture/Hay -- A1-29 (Decision Tool)
Historical Costs of Crop Production -- A1-21
Historical Corn Yields by County -- A1-12
Historical Soybean Yields by County -- A1-13
Corn and Soybean County Yields -- A1-14
Farm Bill Calculator -- A1-36
Farm Bill Calculator -- A1-36 (Decision Tool)
Estimated Costs of Crop Production -- A1-20
Crop Production Costs Budgets -- A1-20 (Decision Tools)
Crop Rotation Summary -- A1-20 (Decision Tool)
Buying heifers for beef cow replacement (one replacement unit) -- B1-73 (Decision Tool)
Raising heifers for beef cow replacement (one replacement unit) -- B1-73 (Decision Tool)
Net Present Value of Beef Replacement Females -- B1-74 (Decision Tool)
Crop Planning Prices -- A1-10
2014 Farm Bill: Terms to Know -- A1-30
Organic Crop Production Enterprise Budgets -- A1-18
Organic Crop Production Enterprise Budgets: Organic Corn, Organic Soybeans, Organic Oats,
Organic Alfalfa -- A1-18 (Decision Tools)
New Safety Net: PLC, ARC-CO, ARC-IC -- A1-32
New Safety Net: PLC, ARC-CO, ARC-IC -- A1-32 (Voiced Media)
2014 Farm Bill Analyzer: Data and Methods -- A1-33
ISU Farm Bill Analyzer -- A1-33 (Decision Tool)
New Safety Net: SCO -- A1-44
Current Crop Insurance Policies -- A1-48

Crops -- Markets:

Cost of Storing Grain -- A2-33
Monthly Cost of Storing Grain -- A2-33 (Decision Tool)
Grain Storage Alternatives: An Economic Comparison -- A2-35
Corn Drying and Shrink Comparison -- A2-32
Corn Drying and Shrink Comparison -- A2-32 (Decision Tool)

Crops -- Machinery:

Estimating Farm Machinery Costs -- A3-29
Grain Transportation Costs Calculator -- A3-29 (Decision Tool)
Farm Machinery Selection -- A3-28
Matching Tractor Power and Implement Size -- A3-28 (Decision Tool)
Estimating the Number of Field Days Required -- A3-28 (Decision Tool)
Iowa Farm Custom Rate Survey -- A3-10

Fieldwork Days in Iowa -- A3-25

Whole Farm -- Cost & Return:

- A Tool to Compare Land Use Alternatives -- C1-15
- Crop and Livestock Land Use Analyzer -- C1-15 (Decision Tool)
- Suggested Closing Inventory Prices -- C1-40
- Iowa Farm Costs and Returns -- C1-10

Whole Farm -- Financial:

- Managing Farm Family Finances -- C3-51

Whole Farm -- Land Values:

- Farmland Value Survey -- C2-75
- Farmland Tile Drainage Investment Analysis -- C2-90 (Decision Tool)
- Farmland Value Survey (Iowa State University) -- C2-70
- Historic Farmland Value Survey (Iowa State University) -- C2-70 (Decision Tool)
- Farmland Value Survey (Realtors Land Institute) -- C2-75

Whole Farm -- Leasing:

- Cash Rental Rates for Iowa 2015 Survey -- C2-10
- Computing a Pasture Rental Rate -- C2-23
- Calculating Pasture and Hay Land Cash Rents -- C2-23 (Decision Tool)
- Adapting Crop Share Agreements for Sustainable and Organic Agriculture -- C2-31

Whole Farm -- Legal & Taxes:

- Iowa Beginning Farmer Tax Credits and Loan Programs -- C4-30

Whole Farm -- Other:

- Techniques for Dealing with Difficult People -- C6-50
- Managing Farm Business and Family Stress -- C6-51

Whole Farm -- Weights & Measurements:

- Conversions between English and Metric Units -- C6-80 (Decision Tool)

Livestock -- Cost & Return:

- Livestock Enterprise Budgets for Iowa -- B1-21

Livestock -- Markets:

- How Often Can Cattle Feeders Hedge a Profit with Futures? -- B2-54
- Lean Hog Basis -- B2-41
- Live Cattle Basis -- B2-42
- Feeder Cattle Basis -- B2-43
- Feeder Steer-Heifer Price Spread -- B2-45

Livestock -- Outlook & Prices:

- Seasonal Hog Price Patterns -- B2-14
- Seasonal Cattle Price Patterns -- B2-19
- Historic Hog and Lamb Prices -- B2-10
- Historic Cattle Prices -- B2-12
- Livestock Planning Prices -- B1-10
- Deductible Livestock Costs for Adjusting Income Tax Returns -- B1-15
- Margin Protection Program - Dairy -- B1-55 (Voiced Media)

AgDM Newsletter

- The capital structures of Iowa's grain and agriculture supply firms: are cooperatives different than their investor-owned counterparts?
- Research briefs from the ISU Department of Economics
- The reliability of the USDA March 31 prospective plantings report
- Acreage Living newsletter addresses April showers, May flowers and other spring issues
- Value of the dollar and exports of major agricultural crops
- Iowa farm custom rate survey shows slight increases for 2015
- ISU Extension offers farm financial planning support
- Crop and livestock land use analyzer
- New and updated Iowa State University farm bill tools
- Retirement resources for every age
- Dividing up assets after death
- 2015 crop cost estimates released
- Iowa land values survey - results and outlook
- Cooperative grain margins and implications of crop price movements and market inverses
- ISU Extension presenting an overview of the 2014 Farm Bill
- Help farmers cope with stress
- Exemption of sales tax on certain uses of utilities and fuel
- ARC/PLC decisions: a three-step process
- Corn drying, shrink and storage decision tools now available
- Crop insurance policies in 2014

NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015

State: **Kansas**

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
R - Retirement	Joe Arata	12/31/14	Professor
R - Retirement	Arlo Biere	01/31/15	Professor
C - Resigned	Nathan Clarke	11/07/14	KFMA Economist, SE
N	Terry Griffin	02/01/15	Assistant Professor
R - Retirement	Kent Miller	12/31/14	KFMA Economist, SE
N	Sandy Myers	01/05/15	KFMA Economist, SW
N	Jordan Steele	01/05/15	KFMA Economist, NW
N	Elizabeth Yeager	01/01/15	Assistant Professor
N	Robin Reid	08/11/14	Extension Associate
N	Amy Schmitz	09/12/14	Business Manager

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or terminated (T).

The Department has several positions they are in various states of recruitment – Ext. Ag. Economist – KFMA-NE, Program Assistant – Arthur Capper Cooperative Center, Coordinator – Center for Risk Management Education and Research, Grant Specialist – Ghana METSS KSU Office, Extension Assistant – Land Use Value Program and Ext. Ag. Economist – KFMA – SC.

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person
Farm Bill Policy	R	Mykel Taylor, Robin Reid, and Rich Llewelyn assisted Art Barnaby with education on the 2014 Farm Bill.	Art Barnaby Mykel Taylor
Precision Agriculture	I	Terry Griffin will provide a new focus on precision ag, in research and education.	Terry Griffin
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	I	Terry Griffin is providing weekly information and deeper research to help farmers plan machinery needs.	Terry Griffin
Dairy MPP Program	N	Robin Reid will provide on-going education for dairy programs.	Robin Reid

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3.**Successful Activities**

Education for the 2014 Farm Bill and assisting farmers with the PLC/ARC decision has been the primary effort of the department in the last six months. In addition, on-going programs in risk management and crop insurance, livestock and grain marketing, crop and livestock enterprise profitability analysis, farmland values and leasing, Kansas Farm Management Association activities, and other areas have occurred. Ongoing development and enhancement of K-State Ag Econ's web presence via the *AgManager.info* website and additional use of distance education, via webinars and other distance-learning media has also taken place.

Farm Bill meetings

The centerpiece of this effort was fifteen large meetings across the state in January-February, 2015 to help producers understand and decide between the PLC and ARC programs in the new farm bill. Art Barnaby and Mykel Taylor presented at these locations, with 4,015 persons in attendance, significantly higher than anticipated. Training for county agents and KFMA economists was also conducted in October, and education was also provided on the economics of the farm bill decision to more than 400 FSA personnel at the state FSA training in October. In addition, county extension agents and KFMA economists presented the economics of the farm bill decision to at least 10,950 persons at 169 meetings across the state sponsored by FSA, KFMA and agribusinesses between October, 2014 and February, 2015. A further 2,561 persons attended 34 other meetings and presentations by Art Barnaby and Mykel Taylor in Kansas and 11 other states.

Farm Bill Webinars – October 2, 2014, October 28, November 4, 2014 and March 11, 2015. The four webinars were conducted by Art Barnaby and Mykel Taylor, with the first one covering the basics of the Farm Bill programs, particularly ARC and PLC. At least 530 persons participated in the webinar, with a second viewing later that day for extension agents, KFMA economists, and FSA personnel, which had over 150 additional persons. Robin Reid provided information to 91 dairy sector stakeholders about the dairy MPP program on October 28, and then assisted 74 county agents prepare for FSA meeting presentations on November 4. In March, 2015, Art Barnaby and Mykel Taylor did a final webinar on the farm bill using updated yields and prices to help farmers see what was likely to occur for the 2014 payment year.

Ag Lenders Conferences

Two Ag Lenders conferences were conducted in October, 2014, in Garden City and Manhattan, with combined attendance of 91 participants. Sessions on land values, crop insurance and the farm bill, and the grain and livestock markets were highly valued in post-meeting evaluations.

Crop Insurance Workshops

The annual crop insurance workshop in Salina was part of the 4-state crop insurance education effort with Colorado, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. Total attendance in 2014 was 148 persons, up from 128 persons in 2013. Topics presented included two sessions on the farm bill, water issues, RMA update, and grain market outlook.

Income Tax Institutes

Total attendance was 1,076 in 2014, down slightly from 2013. Evaluations found overall satisfaction with the seminars and particularly with the workbook. The most useful topics were the Affordable Care Act, Agricultural Issues, Entity Selection, and Individual Taxpayer Issues.

3.**Successful Activities****Land Leasing and Valuation Education**

No day-long lease workshops were conducted this year as had been done previously, primarily due to the farm bill educational effort. However this continues to be an important topic. Mykel Taylor prepared and released a paper in November titled “Ag Land Leasing Basics and Cover Crops” to help meet the need. She also released the papers on Kansas county-level cash rents for irrigated and non-irrigated land in February and her updated “Land Values in Kansas” paper in April, 2015. An associated webinar will also be conducted in April. Several meetings were also held with the Women in Ag groups across the state on this topic.

RAM II Workshops

One of these workshops were delivered this year in Hill City in November, and included a session on the farm bill. A total of 22 persons participated in this meeting. A second workshop was scheduled in conjunction with the MAST program, but was cancelled when MAST was cancelled. The case study continues to be the most helpful part, as noted in the evaluations.

Excel Workshops

Continuing the work to develop producers’ skills and promote the use of a wide array of decision tools and spreadsheets on the AgManager.info website, two Excel workshops were conducted in various areas of the state with a total of 21 persons attending.

Farm Transition/Succession Meetings

A series of five meetings across the state were conducted by KAMS (Kansas Ag Mediation Service) working with Gregg Hadley and county agents to fill the need for education on farm transitions. These meetings delivered a variety of information on taxes, estate planning, entity structures, insurance, and other issues, with at least 150 persons attending these meetings.

4.**Publications**

Identification	Title	Date
Website	AgManager.info has had more than 200 updates and new publications in the last six months. These publications are promoted and made available through weekly e-mail updates to 8,037 subscribers and through RSS feeds. The Farm Bill meetings increased the email list by nearly 2,000 subscribers.	On-going

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES:

Conditions continue to be dry across the state, especially toward the south and west. The winter wheat crop is a little ahead of normal, but the condition has deteriorated due to dry soils. Corn planting is slightly ahead of normal due to plenty of time to be in the field. Lower crop prices may have led to a leveling off in land prices. The Farm Analyst program reports an increase in calls, caused by somewhat increased financial stress.

NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015

State: Kentucky

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
N	Jordan Shockley	July 1, 2015	Farm Management

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or terminated (T).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
Master Cattleman, Master Marketer, Farm Start, Center for Economic Development in Kentucky, Grass Fed Beef Initiative, Kentucky Ag Leadership Program, Income Tax Seminars, Kentucky Lender's Schools

4. Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
2014-13	Kentucky ANR Agent Land Value and Cash Rent Survey	May 2014
2014-15	The Dairy Margin Protection Program in the 2014 Farm Bill	June 2014
2014-17	Taking Advantage of a Strong Cattle Market	August 2014
2014-18	Valuing Corn Silage as Beef Cattle Feed	August 2014
2014-19	Family Living 2013 Sources and Uses Summary	Sept 2014
2015-01	Custom Rate Pub 2015	March 2015
2015-02	KFBM Preliminary Analysis	May 2015
2015-03	Commercial Aquaponics Case Study	May 2015

Other state and departmental notes of interest:

In the process of interviewing for an Environmental Economist position

Currently awaiting the start of new Associate Dean for Research

**NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015**

State: Minnesota

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
R	Steve Taff	May 2015	Land economics and policy
R	Claudia Parliament	May 2015	Economic education and coops
R	Tom Stinson	June 2015	Public finance
C	Frances Homans	Jan. 2015	Department Head, Applied Economics
R	Brett Oelke	June 2014	Regional Extension Educator in ABM
R	Bill Craig	Aug 2014	Regional Extension Educator in ABM
N	Betty Berning	Dec. 2014	Regional Extension Educator in ABM
N	Pauline Van Nurden	April, 2015	Regional Extension Educator in ABM

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or left (L).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
<p>Farm bill education – Partnered with FSA.</p> <p>Local workshops on the crop provisions - 73</p> <p>Local workshops on the Dairy Margin Protection Program - 18</p> <p>Regional follow-up crop workshops - 6</p> <p>Ag professional workshops for lenders - 862</p> <p>Total attendance:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">all types of farm bill meetings – 15,452</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">online training - 2,301</p> <p>total 17,753</p> <p>Training on the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program - 67</p> <p>Continuing development and refinement of planning tools for watershed N and P reduction with state agencies.</p>

3. Successful Activities

4. New Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
Lazarus	Dairy robotic milking system vs. milking parlor analysis spreadsheet	2015
Lazarus	Watershed Nitrogen Reduction Planning Tool spreadsheet	2015
Lazarus, Headlee & Zalesny	Impacts of Supplyshed-Level Differences in Productivity and Land Costs on the Economics of Hybrid Poplar Production in Minnesota, USA. <u>Bioenergy Research</u> , v.8, no.1, pp.231-248	2015
Nordquist	2014 FINBIN Report on Minnesota Farm Finances	2015
Olson	Agriculture Act of 2014 Series (6 Farm Bill Factsheets)	2014
Klair	Landlords and the 2014 Farm Bill	2014
Mahnken & Klair	Dairy MPP – Strategies for My Farm	2014
Nordquist, Loppnow, Craven & Reisdorfer	FairRent for the Web	2014

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES (weather conditions, financial conditions, budget, administrative changes, etc):

State of emergency declared over the avian flu epidemic.

Some signs of financial stress in the 2014 FINBIN farm financial results – for example, 966 crop farms had an average term debt coverage ratio of 0.46.

NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015

State: Missouri

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
New	Patricia Barrett	Sept. 2014	Ext AgBusiness Spec, East Central Region
Change	Kevin Anderson	Nov. 2014	Ext AgBusiness Spec, Southeast Region
Left	Whitney Wiegel	Jan. 2015	Ext AgBusiness Spec, Northwest Region
Left	Lynn (Hambleton)	March 2015	Ext AgBusiness Spec, East Central Region
	Heins		
Retiring	Ron Plain	Aug 31, 2015	Ag Econ Extension Program leadership/Livestock Markets

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or left (L).

3. Successful Activities
<p><u>MU Extension Tax Schools</u> – 1-day schools were again held at 5 locations over the state in October for tax preparers, plus a second day school at Springfield on ethics. Mary Sobba organized the schools this year. After an IRS audit, the schools were again approved by IRS for Continuing Education credit for tax preparers. They were also approved for Continuing Legal Education credit. Although Parman Green has retired from Extension, he helped Mary with the schools in 2014 but may not be available in 2015.</p> <p><u>A summer tax school</u> was also held in 2014 in Columbia targeted at legal issues involved in taxes. It was approved for Continuing Education credit by the Missouri State Board of Accountancy and as Continuing Legal Education credit.</p> <p><u>Missouri's Ag. Lender Seminar series</u> was held over the state in November-December for the 35th year. Seminars were held at 14 locations with a record high statewide attendance of 444.</p> <p><u>Annie's Project in Missouri</u> continues to be a very popular program with several activities over the state each year and an active clientele base. Mary Sobba, Regional AgBusiness Specialist in Mexico, MO., remains the primary contact for the state. Other Missouri Extension Specialists are involved as programs cover a wide range of topics and activities in multiple counties.</p> <p>2014 Agricultural Lenders School. Co-chairperson Milhollin, Ryan and Joe Horner. five-day lender program in analyzing agricultural credit and helping clients build profitable businesses. Columbia, Missouri. (33 attendees).</p> <p>2014 Emerging Issues in Agricultural Lending. Co-chairperson Milhollin, Ryan and Joe Horner. Two-day lender program in advanced lending topics. Columbia, Missouri. (79 attendees).</p>

4. New Publications

1. Horner, Joe, Ryan Milhollin, Ray Massey, and Bryce Bock. 2014. *Livestock Gross Margin (LGM) Insurance in Missouri*. Publication G461. Columbia: University of Missouri Extension.
<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/G461>.
2. Milhollin, Ryan, Ray Massey, and Bryce Bock. 2014. *Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) Insurance in Missouri*. Publication G459. Columbia: University of Missouri Extension.
<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/G459>.
3. Milhollin, Ryan, Ray Massey and Joe Horner. Updated 2014. *Pasture, Rangeland, Forage (PRF) Rainfall Index Insurance in Missouri*. University of Missouri Guide Sheet G457.
<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/G457>.
4. Plain, Ron and Joyce White. FM 2014-1 (newsletter) Missouri Land Values Opinion Survey – 2014.

5. Other material developed by Ag Econ Extension faculty can be found on the website <http://agebb.missouri.edu> Sept. 3, 2014

Studies Conducted for Extension Constituents

1. Horner, Joe, Ryan Milhollin, Scott Brown, Alice Roach, Joseph Zulovich and Scott Pock. 2015. "Missouri Dairy Revitalization Industry Study – Section 1: Historical Perspective." Commercial Agriculture Program, University of Missouri Extension. Report Prepared for Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority. Accessible at <http://dairy.missouri.edu/revitalization/>.
2. Horner, Joe, Ryan Milhollin and Alice Roach. 2015. "Missouri Dairy Revitalization Industry Study – Section 2: Economic Contribution." Commercial Agriculture Program, University of Missouri Extension. Report Prepared for Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority. Accessible at <http://dairy.missouri.edu/revitalization/>.
3. Horner, Joe, Alice Roach, Hannah McClure and Ryan Milhollin. 2015. "Missouri Dairy Revitalization Industry Study – Section 3: Needs Assessment." Commercial Agriculture Program, University of Missouri Extension. Report Prepared for Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority. Accessible at <http://dairy.missouri.edu/revitalization/>.
4. Horner, Joe, Ryan Milhollin and Alice Roach. 2015. "Missouri Dairy Revitalization Industry Study – Section 4: Value Chain, Marketing and Processing." Commercial Agriculture Program, University of Missouri Extension. Report Prepared for Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority. Accessible at <http://dairy.missouri.edu/revitalization/>.
5. Horner, Joe, Ryan Milhollin, Scott Brown, John Lory, Alice Roach, Joseph Zulovich and Scott Pock. 2015. "Missouri Dairy Revitalization Industry Study – Section 5: Comparative Analysis to Identify Gaps." Commercial Agriculture Program, University of Missouri Extension. Report Prepared for Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority. Accessible at <http://dairy.missouri.edu/revitalization/>.
6. Horner, Joes, Ryan Milhollin, Alice Roach, and Scott Brown. 2015. "Missouri Licensed Dog Breeding Industry Economic Contribution Study." Commercial Agriculture Program, University of Missouri Extension. Report Prepared for Missouri Farm Bureau.
7. Milhollin, Ryan, Ray Massey and Joe Horner. Logistical Cost Savings to Farmers from a Weight Limit Increase. Report prepared for the Missouri Soybean Merchandizing Council. December 2014.
8. Horner, Joe, Ryan Milhollin, Ray Massey and Alice Roach. Economic Importance of Production Agriculture, Agricultural Processing and Water Resources in the East Locust Creek Reservoir Project Area. Funded by Missouri Department of Natural Resources. July 2014.

Webinars and Video Series:

Massey, Ray. 2014. Grain Storage Economics. Sept 8, 2014.

<http://etcs.ext.missouri.edu/AConnect/Recordings/KristiPerry/20140908-DryingEconomics/20140908-DryingEconomics.htm>

Massey, Ray and Ryan Milhollin. 2014. Managing Risk with LRP Insurance. March 26, 2014. <http://bit.ly/1DIEcUJ>

Massey, Ray and Ryan Milhollin. 2014. Pasture, Range and Forage Insurance. April 2, 2014. <http://bit.ly/17j7shC>

Agclimate4U.org

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES (weather conditions, financial conditions, budget, administrative changes, etc):

Administrative changes: "Faculty buyout" affecting several ag. administrators and faculty. Ron Plain (livestock marketing extension), Tom Johnson (Regional Economics Extension), William Meyers (international programs) and Dave Baker (CAFNR Assistant Dean for Extension) are scheduled to retire August 31, 2015. Michael Oart (Vice Provost and Director of Extension) has been reassigned to CAFNR Development.

**NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015**

State: Nebraska

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
R	Dennis Conley	6/2015	70% Research, 30% Teaching
R	Gary Lynne	10/2014	
N	Nicholas Brozovic	2014	50% Director of the Robert B. Dougherty Water for Food Institute; 35% research and 15% teaching in Ag Econ
N	Taro Mieno	8/1/2015	70% Research, 30% Teaching
N	Jay Parsons	7/2014	50% Research, 25% Extension, 25% Teaching
N	Simanti Banerjee	8/1/2014	70% Research, 30% Teaching

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or terminated (T).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
<p>Health Care Decision Making for Small Business – eship.unl.edu/healthcare</p> <p>Nebraska Broadband Initiative</p> <p> “Tech Academy 101” for Librarians</p> <p> “Digital Era Class”</p> <p> “EReader & Connectivity Intern</p> <p>Marketing in a New Era Workshops</p> <p>Crop Insurance Meetings</p> <p>Farm Bill Education</p> <p> Farm Bill meetings UNL and FSA</p> <p> Farm Bill Decision Tool Training</p> <p> Farm Bill Dairy Program</p> <p>Women in Agriculture Conference</p> <p>Annie's Project</p> <p>Mitigating Drought Risks for Nebraska Livestock and Hay Producers teamed up with the UNL Beef Team's Ranching for Profitability.</p> <p>Crop Insurance Workshop</p> <p>Cornhusker Economics Outlook Series</p> <p>Omaha Ag Outlook</p> <p>Farm Business Succession and Estate Planning Meetings</p> <p>The Nebraska Ranch Practicum 2015</p> <p>National Extension Risk Management Education Conference</p> <p>Landlord Tenant Cash Lease Workshops held across the state.</p>

4. Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
EC 823 & 826	2014 & 2015 Nebraska Farm Custom Rates – Part 1 and 11 http://cropwatch.unl.edu/economics/customrates ,	June 2015
No. 194	2014-2015 Nebraska Farm Real Estate Report http://farm.unl.edu/landandlease	June 2015
EC 872	2014 & 2015 Nebraska Crop Budgets (http://farm.unl.edu/crops/budgets)	June 2015
EC 846	Nebraska Cash Corn Prices and Basis Patterns	September 2014
G2257	Livestock Risk Protection Insurance for Fed Cattle	March 2015
G1723	Livestock Risk Protection Insurance for Feeder Cattle	August 2014
MP101	2015 Beef Cattle Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Economic Analysis of Conventional and Alternative Cow-Calf Production Systems • Comparison of Commercial Lick Tubs to Distillers Grains Supplementation for Calves Grazing Corn Residue 	2015
Newsletter	UNL BeefWatch Electronic Newsletter go.unl.edu/BeefWatch	2015
Newsletter	UNL CropWatch Electronic Newsletter go.unl.edu/CropWatch	2015
Magazine	Nebraska Farmer Magazine go to farmprogress.com	2015
Magazine	Farmprogress.com Study shows economic benefits of Nebraska's ethanol industry. Nebraska LEAD alums to gather in Kearney Jan, 16-17	2015
Web Page	Forages, Pasture, and Range Management	2015
	Entrepreneurial Community Activation Process Explained http://eship.unl.edu/ecaprojects	2015
Electronic Pub		2015
Electronic Pub	Market Journal. Marketjournal.unl.edu	2015
Electronic Pub	Cornhusker Economics. agecon.unl.edu/cornhuskereconomics	2015
Electronic Pub	2015 Nebraska Rural Poll Results. http://ruralpoll.unl.edu/pdf	Jan, 2015
Electronic Pub	<i>Recordkeeping and Documenting Livestock Indemnity Program Eligible Losses</i>	Mar. 2015
Electronic Pub	Update Farm and Ranch Management Page – farm.unl.edu	2015
Electronic Pub	Provisions for Pasture Leases. http://farmprogress.com/story-provisions-include-pasture-lease-9-126251	2015
Electron Pub	FAQ – Farmland Leases. http://agecon.unl.edu/lease-faqs ?	
Decision Tools	NPV of Beef Replacements	
Decision Tools	Decide Now	2015
Decision Tools	2015 Cow-Calf Budgets Sandhills, 50 Head, 300 Head, 750 Head http://farm.unl.edu/livestock/budgets	2015
Decision Tools	2015 Ration Cost Calculator http://agecon.unl.edu/rationcost	2015
Decision Tools	2014 Irrigation Cost Calculator http://agecon.unl.edu/irricost	2014
Decision Tools	Beef Breeding Cost Calculator	2015 TBD
		2015
	Other state and departmental notes of interest:	

NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015

State: North Dakota

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
L	Juan Marguia	Dec 2014	Farm management

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or left (L).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person
none			

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
<p>Farm Bill education. State specialists presented at more than 150 meetings in North Dakota and Minnesota.</p> <p>Crop Insurance Conference. Conference attracted 223 participants.</p> <p>Outlook Conference for Ag Lenders. Four outlook meetings for agricultural lenders with 396 attending.</p> <p>Income Tax Management for Ag Producers IVN Seminar. Eleven locations with 307 attending.</p>

4. New Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
AAE Report No. 740	<i>Results of the North Dakota Land Valuation Model for the 2015 Agricultural Real Estate Assessment</i>	April 2015
FMPG	<i>Projected 2015 Crop Budgets (nine regions)</i>	Dec 2015
EC1090	<i>Plotting A Course 2015</i>	Jan 2015

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES (weather conditions, financial conditions, budget, administrative changes, etc): Little snow and a dry spring so the crops were planted rapidly. Drop in oil price has slowed drilling activity in North Dakota. About 80 rigs are currently drilling; down from a peak of over 200. NDSU Extension and Experiment Station came through the legislative budget negotiations in good shape.

**NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015**

State: Ohio

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
N	Ani Katchova	2014	Farm Income Enhancement Chair
R - Pending	Carl Zulauf	Summer 2015	Agricultural Policy
R – Pending	Cameron Thraen	Summer 2015	Marketing and Policy / Dairy
R – Pending	Doug Southgate	Summer 2015	Environmental/Energy/International
N - Pending	Jon Einar Flatnes	Summer 2015	Development
R - Pending	Keith Smith	Summer - 2015	Extension Director

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or left (L).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person
OSU Discovery Themes		University Cost Shared Positions that meet needs as defined by the University Discovery Themes. AEDE Dept. may be hiring 3 to 4 positions as a result.	

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
<p>Farmland Lease Education: Eleven workshops were conducted with 515 people attending. Topics included the economics of crop production, farmland leasing options, factors affecting rental rates, evaluating cash rent survey data, legal issues in farmland leasing, and developing a written lease for your farm.</p> <p>Farm Bill Education “Farm Bill, Farm Management and Financial Analysis Inservice” for Ohio Extension Professionals. Forty Extension and FSA personnel attended this inservice. In partnership with FSA offered 100+ workshop in 2014/15.</p> <p>Ohio Income Tax Practitioners Program Seven hundred and sixty-six participants who complete 88,272 federal tax returns attended the schools.</p>

3. Successful Activities
<p>Agricultural Policy and Outlook Conferences – 20 Conferences. 1200 Participants.</p> <p>Ohio Chapter American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraiser’s Education The Ohio Chapter of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers is made up of Four educational events are planned and taught each year for these ag professionals (rural appraisers, professional farm managers, attorneys and other agricultural professionals). Sixty-five professionals representing 1682 clients, 64,945 acres of farmland under management and 248,585 acres of appraised land attend these educational offerings annually.</p> <p>Ag Lender Seminars - Ag Lender’s Seminars reached 142 agricultural lenders serving 19,862 clients with a total loan portfolio of \$3.71 billion.</p>

4. New Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
	Trends and Determinants of Farmland Sale Prices in Western Ohio 2001-2010 http://estore.osu-extension.org/productdetails.cfm?sku=e964	
	OSU Extension Enterprise Budgets - 2015 http://aede.osu.edu/research/osu-farm-management/enterprise-budgets	
	Western Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rents 2013-14 http://aede.osu.edu/research/osu-farm-management/publications	
	Ohio Ag Manager Website and Newsletter http://ohioagmanager.osu.edu/	
	Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics Farm Management http://aede.osu.edu/research/osu-farm-management	
	Ag Law and Taxation http://aglaw.osu.edu/	

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES (weather conditions, financial conditions, budget, administrative changes, etc):

Weather: Planting progress - ahead of 5 year averages.

Financial Conditions: Crop producers generally experiencing more stress. Increase in operating lines of credit. Starting to see a few farms fail and/or fail to secure operating lines of credit for 2015. Livestock producers generally experiencing less stress and improvements in equity positions. Row crop budget projections for 2015 fairly grim.

Farm Bill Sign-up: Large majority of federal farm bill crop program sign-ups in Ohio were ARC-County.

NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015

State: Oklahoma

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
New	Brent Ladd	March 2015	Agricultural Finance Extension Assistant
Resigned	Jody Campiche	April 2015	Agricultural Policy
Resigned	Jason Pace	May 2015	SW Area Ag Economist
Retiring & Returning	Ross Love	May 2015	Assistant Director, OCES

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or terminated (T).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person
Beef management	Increased	Updating Oklahoma Beef Manual and related materials used in the Master Cattleman Program	Damona

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
<p>Farm Bill. This past year Extension specialists and educators were quite busy with educational meetings to inform producers about their choices with respect to government programs associated with the latest Farm Bill. The OSU-KSU Farm Bill Decision Tool was developed through collaboration between Eric DeVuyst (OSU Ag Econ), Jody Campiche (formerly OSU Ag Econ), Art Barnaby (KSU Ag Econ), Mykel Taylor (KSU Ag Econ) and Robin Reid (KSU Ag Econ). With funding of \$50,000 from the Southern Risk Management Education Center, the tool was developed, tested, and updated as needed. The spreadsheet was downloaded 31,870 times, and survey results show that the total farm revenue protected using the tool was in excess of \$12.55 billion.</p> <p>International Farm Management Congress. CHS provided \$9,000 for student scholarships for a study abroad that includes the pre-conference tour and International Farm Management Congress in July 2015.</p> <p>Ag Bank Sim. The online ag bank simulation game is being used in a variety of different places: 23 institutions (including banks and CPA offices), 17 states, and 4 countries (U.S., Mexico, Indonesia and UAE).</p> <p>Risk Management Education for Hmong Growers. For three years, a USDA/RMA partnership grant has helped support specialty crops workshops to underserved farmer groups in Oklahoma. One of the groups targeted is the Hmong Growers Association in northeastern Oklahoma. This association includes approximately 30 farm families who grow produce primarily for area farmers markets. Participation in food safety and season extension technique workshops allows them to expand their market reach to other programs in the state. As a result of continued collaboration, they became GAP</p>

3.

Successful Activities

(Good Agricultural Practices) certified, which allows them to participate in the Oklahoma Farm to School Program, as well as provide produce for a local grocery chain with 20 stores in the Tulsa, OK area. For GAP certification, food safety signage must be posted in key areas of production and processing on a farm. Typically, the signage is in English and Spanish. Most of the Hmong growers in Oklahoma are first generation Americans who speak and understand English, but sometimes find it difficult to read. Food safety is an integral part of any specialty crops production, and the inability to read food safety signage could negatively impact an operation. Sara Siems, Extension Assistant with Risk Management Education, collaborated with Michigan State University and Cornell to produce signage in the Hmong's native language and it has been extremely beneficial to the 75+ participating Hmong farmers in Oklahoma.

Identification	Title
Journal Articles	<p>Aravindhakshan, S., and B.W. Brorsen. 2014. "Identifying Jumps and Systematic Risks in Commodity Futures Markets." <i>Review of Futures Markets</i>. 21(3):Article 3.</p> <p>Boyer, C.N., and B.W. Brorsen. 2014. "Implications of a Reserve Price in an Agent-Based Common Value Auction." <i>Computational Economics</i>. 43:33-51.</p> <p>Boyer, C.N., B.W. Brorsen, and E. Tumusiime. 2015. "Modeling Skewness with the Linear Stochastic Plateau Model to Determine Optimal Nitrogen Rates." <i>Agricultural Economics</i>. 46: 1-10.</p> <p>Boyer, C.N., B.W. Brorsen, and T. Zhang. 2014. "Common-Value Auction versus Posted Price Selling: An Agent-Based Model Approach." <i>Journal of Economic Interaction and Coordination</i>. 9:129-149</p> <p>Debnath, Deepayan, Francis M. Epplin, and Arthur L. Stoecker. Managing spatial and temporal switchgrass biomass yield variability. <i>BioEnergy Research</i> 7-3(2014):946-957.</p> <p>Debnath, Deepayan, Arthur L. Stoecker, and Francis M. Epplin. Impact of environmental values on the breakeven price of switchgrass. <i>Biomass and Bioenergy</i> 70(2014):184-195.</p> <p>Debnath, Deepayan, Francis M. Epplin, and Arthur L. Stoecker. Switchgrass procurement strategies for managing yield variability: Estimating the cost-efficient D (downtime cost) L (land to lease) frontier. <i>Biomass and Bioenergy</i> 77(2015):110-122.</p> <p>DeVuyst, E.A., J.L. Lusk, and M.A. DeVuyst, 2014. "USDA Quality Grades May Mislead Consumers," <i>Journal of Animal Science</i>, 92:3142-3148.</p> <p>DeVuyst, E.A., J.T. Edwards, B. Hunger, and L. Weaver, 2014. "Insecticide and fungicide wheat seed treatment improves wheat grain yields in the U.S. Southern Plains," <i>Crop Management</i>, 2014. 13:-. doi:10.2134/CM-2013-0039-RS.</p> <p>Epplin, Francis M., Andrew P. Griffith, and Mohua Haque. Economics of Switchgrass Feedstock Production for the Emerging Cellulosic Biofuel Industry. Chapter 13 pp. 378-402 in <i>Compendium of Bioenergy Plants: Switchgrass</i>. H. Luo, Y. Wu and C. Kole editors. New York: CRC Press</p>

Identification	Title
	<p>Taylor & Francis Group. 2014.</p> <p>Gouzaye, Amadou, Francis M. Epplin, and Yanqi Wu. Valuing the seed of an improved switchgrass variety. <u>Crop Science</u>. Available on line at Crop Science first look.</p> <p>Gouzaye, Amadou, Francis M. Epplin, Yanqi Wu, and Shiva O. Makaju. Yield and nutrient concentration response to switchgrass biomass harvest date. <u>Agronomy Journal</u> 106-3(2014):793-799.</p> <p>Bruce, A, J. Lusk, J. Credpi, JBC Cherry, B. McFadden and L Martin. "Consumer Brain Responses to Controversial Food Technologies and Price", <i>Journal of Neuroscience, Psychology, and Economics</i>, 7(2014):164-173.</p> <p>Costanigro, M, and J. Lusk. "The Signaling Effect of Mandatory Labels on Genetically Engineered Food." <i>Food Policy</i>, 49(2014)259-267.</p> <p>DeVuyst, E., M. DeVuyst and J. Lusk. "USDA Quality Grades May Mislead Consumers." <i>Journal of Animal Science</i>, 92(2014):3142-3148.</p> <p>Drichoutis, A and J. Lusk. "Judging Statistical Models of Individual Decision Making Under Risk Using In-and out-of Sample Criteria. <i>PLoS ONE</i>, 9(2014)e102269.</p> <p>Ellison, B, J. Lusk and D. Davis. "The Effect of Calorie Labels on Caloric Intake and Restaurant Revenue: Evidence from Two Full Service Restaurants" <i>Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics</i>, 46(2014)139-155.</p> <p>Ellison, B., J. Lusk, and D. Davis. "The Impact of Restaurant Labels on Food Choice: Results From A Field Experiment." <i>Economic Inquiry</i>, 52(2014)666-681.</p> <p>Grijalva, T., J. Lusk and D. Shaw. "Discounting the Distant Future: An Experimental Investigation", <i>Environmental and Resource Economics</i>, 59(2014):38-63.</p> <p>Jarmolowicz, DP, JBC Cherry, DD Reed, JM Bruce, J Crespi, J. Lusk and A. Bruce. "Robust Relation Between Temporal Discounting Rates and Body Mass." <i>Appetite</i>, 78(2014):63-67.</p> <p>Lusk, J. "Are Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Taxes a Cost-Effective Means of Reducing Weight?" <i>Canadian Journal of Diabetes</i>, 38(2014):9-10, 2014.</p> <p>Lusk, J. "Are You Smart Enough to Know What to Eat: A Critique of Behavioral Economics as Justification for Regulation", <i>European Review of Agricultural Economics</i>, 41(2014):355-373.</p> <p>Lusk, J. "Consumer Acceptance of Controversial Food Technologies: Causes and Root Controversies." <i>Annual Review of Resources Economics</i>, 6(2014):381-405.</p> <p>Lusk, J., B. Norwood and S. Marette. "The Paternalist Meets His Match." <i>Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy</i>, 26(2014):61-108.</p> <p>Lusk, J., R. Roosen, and A. Bieberstein. "Consumer Acceptance of Controversial Food Technologies: Causes and Root Controversies", <i>Annual Review of Resource Economics</i>, (2014):381-405.</p>

Identification	Title
	<p>Lusk, J., T. Schroeder and G. Tonsor. "Distinguishing Beliefs From Preferences in Food Choice." <i>European Review of Agricultural Economics</i>, 41,(2014):627-655.</p> <p>Smithson, K., M. Corbin, J. Lusk, and B. Norwood. "Predicting State-Wide Votes on Ballot Initiatives To Ban Battery Cages and Gestation Crates." <i>Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics</i>." 46(2014):107-124.</p> <p>Thompson, N.M., E. DeVuyst, W. Brorsen and J. Lusk. "Value of Genetic Information for Management and Selection of Feedlot Cattle." <i>Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics</i>, 39:139-155.</p> <p>Tyler, K., J. L. Lusk, G. Tonsor, T. Schroeder. "An Experimental Approach to Valuing Information." <i>Agricultural Economics</i>, 45(2014):635-648.</p> <p>Griffith, Andrew P., Mohua Haque, and Francis M. Epplin. Cost to produce and deliver cellulosic feedstock to a biorefinery: Switchgrass and forage sorghum. <i>Applied Energy</i> 127 (2014):44-54.</p> <p>Haankuku, Choolwe and Francis M. Epplin. Biomass yield enhancement required for a replacement switchgrass variety. <i>Agronomy Journal</i> 107-1(2015):287-297.</p> <p>Haankuku, Choolwe, Francis M. Epplin, and Vijaya Gopal Kakani. Forage sorghum response to nitrogen fertilization and estimation of production cost. <i>Agronomy Journal</i> 106-5(2014):1659-1666.</p> <p>Haque, Mohua, Francis M. Epplin, Jon T. Biermacher, Rodney Holcomb, and Philip Kenkel. Marginal cost of delivering switchgrass feedstock and producing cellulosic ethanol at multiple biorefineries. <i>Biomass and Bioenergy</i> 66(2014):308-319.</p> <p>Thompson, N.M., E.A. DeVuyst, B.W. Brorsen, and J. Lusk, 2015. "Yield grade and quality grade outcome distributions conditioned on molecular breeding values for commercial beef cattle," <i>Journal of Animal Science</i>, forthcoming. doi:10.2527/jas.2014-8511</p> <p>Thompson, N.M., E.A. DeVuyst, B.W. Brorsen, and J.L. Lusk, 2014. "Value of Genetic Information for Management and Selection of Feedlot Cattle," <i>Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics</i>, 39:139-155.</p> <p>Thompson, Nathanael M., Francis M. Epplin, Jeffrey T. Edwards, and Robert M. Hunger. Economics of foliar fungicides for hard red winter wheat in the Southern Great Plains. <i>Crop Protection</i> 59(2014):1-6.</p> <p>Tumusiime, E., B.W. Brorsen, and J.D. Vitale. 2014. "Vertical Integration in West Africa's Cotton Industry: Are Parastatals a Second Best Solution?" <i>Agricultural Economics</i>. 45(November):129-143.</p> <p>Vitale, Pilja P., Francis M. Epplin, Kristopher L. Giles, Norman C. Elliott, Paul A. Burgener, and Sean P. Keenan. Crop diversity on traditional Great Plains wheat farms. <i>Journal of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers</i> 77(2014):145-159.</p> <p>Williams, B., E.A. DeVuyst, D.S. Peel, and K.C. Raper, 2014. "Reducing Self-</p>

Identification	Title
Extension Bulletins and Fact Sheets	<p>Selection Bias in Feeder Cattle Premium Estimates Using Matched Sampling," <i>Journal of Agricultural and Resources Economics</i>, 39: 124-138.</p> <p>Williams, B., E.A. DeVuyst, D.S. Peel, and K.C. Raper, 2014. "The Likelihood of Positive Returns from Value-Added Calf Management Practices," <i>Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics</i> 46: 125-138.</p> <p>Doye, D. and R. Sah. "Oklahoma Pasture Rental Rates: 2014-2015". CR-216. February 2015.</p> <p>Doye, D. and R. Sah. "Oklahoma Cropland Rental Rates: 2014-2015". CR-230. February 2015.</p> <p>Doye, D. and R. Sah. "Wheat Grazeout versus Harvest for Grain." AGEC-241. Revised. February 2015.</p> <p>Shipman, L. and D. Doye. "Oklahoma Beginning Farmer Program." AGEC-234. February 2015.</p> <p>Doye, D. and S. Siems. "Paycheck Tracking." OSU Ag Econ mimeo. November 2014.</p> <p>Doye, D. and S. Siems. "Quicken 2015 for Farm Financial Records." Self-Study Guide and Workshop Notebook for Quicken 2015. OSU mimeo-. October 2014.</p> <p>Doye, D. and S. Siems. "Using Quicken to Track Payroll Expenses." OSU Ag Econ mimeo. November 2014.</p> <p>Sahs, R "Oklahoma Land Value Update", Centra Conference, November 2014.</p> <p>Sahs, R and D. Doye "Financing Cow-calf Operations for Beginning Farmers", Extension Risk Management Education National Conference presentation, April 2015.</p> <p>Siems, S. and D. Doye. "Financial Records for Youth Entrepreneurs." OSU Ag Econ mimeo. November 2014.</p>
Newsletters	<p>Doye, D., et al. "Master Cattleman Quarterly." Volume 22. OCES mimeo. December 2014.</p> <p>Doye, D., et al. "Quick Tips for Farm Management." Volume 77. OCES mimeo. December 2014.</p> <p>Doye, D., et al. "Master Cattleman Quarterly." Volume 22. OCES mimeo. March 2015.</p> <p>Doye, D., et al. "Quick Tips for Farm Management." Volume 77. OCES mimeo. March 2015.</p>
Professional Papers	<p>Witte, T., E.A. DeVuyst, B. Whitacre, and R. Jones, 2015. "Determining the Impact of a New Farm Credit Branch in East Central Oklahoma," Selected paper. Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, February 1-4, 2015.</p> <p>Campiche, J., E.A. DeVuyst, A. Barnaby, M. Taylor, and R. Reid. "The OSU-KSU</p>

Identification	Title
Software Tools	Farm Bill Decision Tool," Version 2.0, March 2015.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES (weather conditions, financial conditions, budget, administrative changes, etc):

Crop conditions

Drought conditions continue to improve with heavy rainfall across Oklahoma. According to the Oklahoma Mesonet, the statewide precipitation average for May 1st through May 11th was 5.13 inches, 3.5 inches above normal and the 3rd wettest period since 1921. In the weekly USDA crop progress report, the wheat crop condition was unchanged from last week's report with 38 percent good to excellent condition, 39 percent fair and 23 percent poor to very poor. Winter wheat jointing reached 99 percent and headed was 96 percent complete. The canola crop is rated 60 percent good to fair, up one point from last week.

The US Department of Agriculture's May 2015 Crop Production Report for Winter Wheat is predicting that Oklahoma wheat farmers will harvest their best crop since 2012, with an estimated 118.9 million bushels to be harvested this month and next. NASS expects 4,100,000 acres will be harvested with a yield of 29 bushels per acre. The 118.9 million bushels is sharply higher than the 47.6 million bushels that Oklahoma wheat farmers combined in 2014. The Oklahoma NASS estimate is higher than the prediction made by scouts who reported last week at the Oklahoma Grain and Feed Association annual meeting in Oklahoma City. The scouts predicted that the state would see a harvest of 108.8 million bushels in 2015 on 3.9 million bushels, with an average yield of 27.7 bushels per acre.

Late season rains have helped the Oklahoma canola crop. OSU Canola Specialist **Josh Bushong** said overall the crop is highly variable, but the farmers that have received good moisture this spring have a good pod set. "For the most part, pod density has been good and we've had good seed set within those pods so far," Bushong said. "Really good pollination this year. Not having those April freezes definitely was a help, but for the most part we have a decent crop out there....In the Lahoma and Enid area, there will be more challenges where the canola crop started to rebloom." If the rain continues, Bushong said farmers likely won't be able to swath the crop on time, so farmers may resort to using a desiccate to shut down the crop.

Budget

Oklahoma is facing a \$611 million budget shortfall (last year's shortfall was \$188 million) and current predictions are that next year might be worse. Low oil and gas prices plus last year's decision to lower state income tax rates have worsened a budget structural problem. Off-the top allocations for roads and bridges, rising health care costs, smaller workforce, more tax breaks, costs associated with high incarceration rates, growing pension obligations, etc. also make balancing the budget difficult.

NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015

State: Ontario

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
L (6 mo secondment)	Jennifer Stevenson	April 27	Finance and Investment
R	John Bancroft	January 1	Commodity Marketing
L	Annette Anderson	Spring 2014	Manager
L	Adrienne DeSchutter	May 2015	Training coordinator
N	Peter Coughler	Spring 2014	Acting Manager
N	Advertised	Summer 2015	Business Management Specialist
N	Advertised	Summer 2015	Commodity Marketing

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or left (L).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person
Value Chain	N	Our unit is expanding our focus along the value chain, looking to work more closely with processors and retailers.	Peter Coughler

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
<p>The U.S. Farm Bill and You – concurrent session at South West Ag Conference - Ridgetown Dr. David Schweikhardt, Michigan State University What is the new bill? How will it affect U.S. farming decisions, and how might it affect Canadian farmers?</p>

4. New Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
Publication 540	Ontario Farm Record Book	July 2014
13-041	Lease agreements – Land leases	Sep 2014
13-047	Lease agreements – Crop share leases	Sep 2014
13-059	Farm Equipment	Sep 2014

4. New Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
13-055	Farm Buildings	Sep 2014
14-015	Flexible Cash Leases	Sep 2014

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES (weather conditions, financial conditions, budget, administrative changes, etc):

Significant recent issues:

- Neonicotinoid legislation proposed to reduce the use of the seed treatment by 80% by 2017
- Avian influenza – 2 confirmed cases in Ontario since April 5, 2015
- PED swine – 11 confirmed cases in 2015, 80 confirmed cases since our first in January 2014
- As of May 14, good planting conditions have 100% corn and 50% soybeans planted. Could use some rain now

**NORTH CENTRAL FARM MANAGEMENT EXTENSION COMMITTEE
Spring 2015**

State: Wisconsin

1. Staffing Changes			
Type (a)	Name	Effective Date	Area of Responsibility
None			

(a) Refers to new (N), retirement (R), change in assignment (C) or left (L).

2. Program Changes			
Subject Matter Area	Emphasis (b)	Brief Description	Contact Person
None			

(b) Refers to new (N), redirected (R), increased (I), deleted (D).

3. Successful Activities
<p>No major changes. Mark Stephenson offered a series of meetings to explain the new dairy margin insurance program. Participation levels in the Midwest have exceeded expectations.</p> <p>Ag Land values increased another 4-5% in 2014. Number of dairy farms dropped below 10,000 this month! This trend has been going on for many years. We had 16000 dairies in 2005!</p> <p>While total dairy farms continues to decline, the number of CAFO dairies (>700 milking cows) has grown to more than 220. Milk Source (one of our larger operators now employs more than 400 people and manages 35,000 cows.)</p>

4. New Publications		
Identification	Title	Date
Cdp.wisc.edu	Wisconsin Agricultural Land Prices 2009-2014	3/2015

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES (weather conditions, financial conditions, budget, administrative changes, etc.):

State's economy has been weak. Proposed state budget includes a \$300 million hit to the University – which translates to a \$6 million dollar cut to CALS. UWEX may be losing up 50 county agent positions.