

WEEKLY NEWS COLUMN
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K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION PROVIDES HELPFUL RESOURCES TO AG PRODUCERS IN THE MIDST OF COVID-19

Thanks to a decision made by the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), farmers and ranchers are among those on the front lines fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. The department deemed thousands of agricultural related jobs and related fields as “essential critical infrastructure workers”.

While this decision helps to secure jobs and ensure that producers receive the products and materials needed to move forward in their operations, it does not mean agriculture is immune to the economic impacts of COVID-19. In an effort to better inform ag producers about economic trends and situations they are faced with during the COVID-19 outbreak, the KSU Department of Ag Economics is hosting weekly discussions on Thursday evenings with additional information held throughout the week. Each discussion is led by K-State faculty. Upon registration, participants are encouraged to submit questions to be answered during the session. The discussion is recorded and posted online at agmanager.info for later viewing.

Session topics have included: “Grain Markets and Planting Intentions with Dan O’Brien and Greg Ibendahl”, “Ongoing Effects on Livestock Markets with Glynn Tonsor”) and “Effects on Land Values with Mykel Taylor” (April 16). Additional discussions are “Addressing Concerns Amid COVID-19, a Follow-up to Farm Financial Skills for Kansas Women in Ag”, “SBA Paycheck Protection Program for Cooperative and Farmers” and “A Discussion of the Agricultural Provisions in the CARES Act”. Discussions that have already occurred are available for viewing at <https://agmanager.info/news/recent-videos>.

The weekly online gatherings are taking place on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. There is no fee to attend, but RSVP's are required and participation is limited to 300. Links to RSVP are listed under “Upcoming Events” on agmanager.info. Webinars will be recorded each week and the link will be provided to producers after the recording.

K-State Research and Extension is committed to making a difference for agricultural producers, families and consumers. For more information, contact the Cowley County Extension Office 221-5450, 441-4565.

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