



Sno	Project	Status	Paid	Amount
1	Project 1	Hold	No	0
2	Project 2	Hold	No	0
3	Project 3	Hold	Yes	0
4	Project 4	Progress	Yes	0
5	Project 5	Hold	No	0
6	Project 6	Progress	NA	0
7	Project 7	Progress	NA	0
8	Project 8	Hold	No	0
9	Project 9	Hold	No	0
10		Progress		0

Kansas

Access to Risk Management Tools Through Excel Training

Many people think computer training sessions featuring Excel software may be a thing of the past. This software continues to evolve, making it still a mainstay for agricultural producers when they create budgets and spreadsheets. According to project director Kevin Dhuyvetter from Kansas State University (KSU) the inability to use Excel spreadsheets limits producers' capability to benefit from the many Excel calculators and tools available.

This project developed a series of six day-long hands-on workshops to provide Excel training in six Kansas counties. During the workshops participants created four spreadsheets, developing and enhancing their skills to estimate machinery costs, crop budgets, determine principal and interest payments, and livestock economics. At the end of the day producers were able to create the appropriate mathematical formulae using correct functions, a link between sheets, understand and learn the use of absolute and relative references, formatting, copying, and data analysis. Over 102

participants took part in these popular software learning sessions.

An unexpected result of the project was the number of producers that wanted this basic Excel training. With more transitioning producers coming into agriculture the need to continue with basic software education still exists. Pre-workshops were held prior to the more intense one-day training to acquaint producers with the very basic Excel tools. This allowed educators to cover more information in the full-day session and learning was enhanced.

Outcomes of this project are many. Kansas State University has an on-line decision tool site called AgManager.info. When participants felt comfortable with the Excel training they were directed to use the Excel decision tools available on AgManager with regards to making future decision. Nearly 50% of attendees are expected to transition to AgManager.info for their future risk management decision-making.

Comments from producers included: "The better records I can keep the better decisions I can make", "I enjoyed using the 'what-if' scenarios to see the changing numbers.



"The better records I keep the better decisions I make"

Risk Management Tools Through Excel Training





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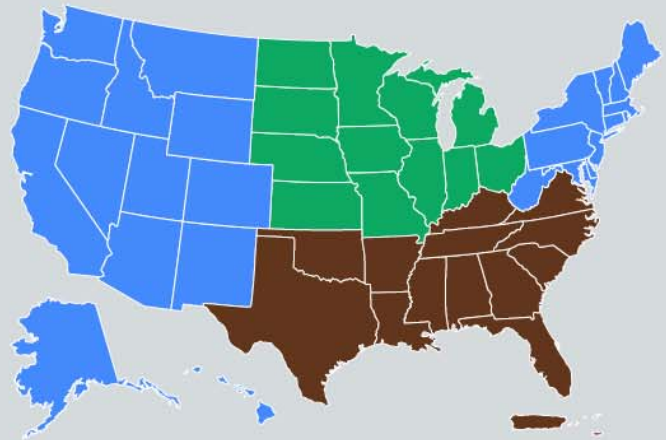
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**“Educating America’s farmers and ranchers
to manage the unique risks of producing food
for the world’s table.”**

Extension Risk Management Education (ERME) is delivered through four regional centers that provide grant funding and leadership within their regions.

Projects are producer-focused, results-based and encourage public-private partnerships. Funded projects must identify targeted results that will help producers manage risk and then describe how the project will measure those results.

Extension Risk Management Education has funded innovative programs that have generated tangible results for producers in every state. ERME is committed to funding results, providing transparent accountability, and encouraging collaboration. View the accomplishments of all funded projects on our website. <http://ExtensionRME.org>



ERME Regional Centers



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