



**Indiana**

**Cultivating Strong Farm Families**

Cultivating Strong Indiana Farm Family Relationships for Today and Tomorrow was designed to provide farm families with the risk management tools to develop strong communication skills and an outline for succession planning. The two-part workshop/conference series was developed by the Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture and Farm Succession Planning Teams. The impetus for this project was the demand from current and incoming farm business owners who reported they wanted more specific legal, accounting and communication information and assistance in order to begin the planning and development of a plan for succession planning for their farm and to enhance their farm business viability.

Over 160 farmers attended workshops at five Indiana sites. In addition, four breakout sessions on succession planning were offered at the 2013 Midwest Women in Agriculture Conference. Speakers at the conference provided hands-on

resources and vital support which the families needed for their future succession planning decisions.

Of the workshop attendees, 93% felt the workshops provided them with resources to support them in future succession planning decisions and 88% agreed that participating in this program increased their knowledge of the different business structures available for succession planning. 74% increased felt more confident to initiate effective conversations with family members about succession planning. Six months after the workshops were completed, one producer called to share that his family was successful in setting-up a LLC for their farm operation, which was one of the goals he developed during the program. Another producer reported how important it was to understand that “fair is not equal and equal is not always fair” when considering estate planning. Co-Director Kelly Heckaman reported that women attending the Women in Agriculture Conference said they felt the comfortable atmosphere of the conference provided them with a positive learning environment which included conversing with others looking for the same information.



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**EXTENSION  
RISK MANAGEMENT  
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United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

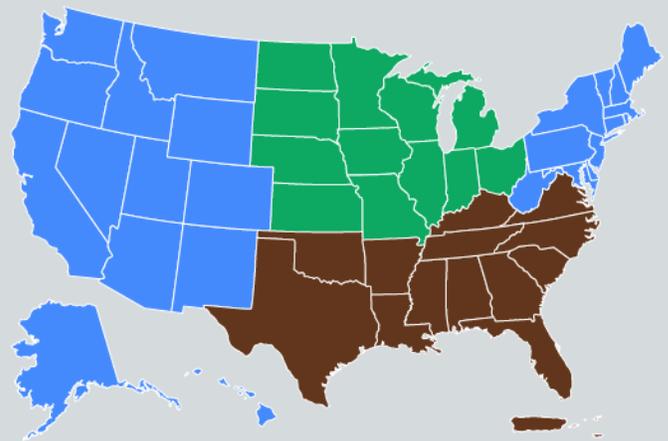
National Institute  
of Food and  
Agriculture

**“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**



**NORTH CENTRAL  
EXTENSION  
RISK MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION**

University of Nebraska  
Dept. of Agricultural Economics  
303 Filley Hall  
Lincoln, NE  
68583-0922

(402) 472-1742  
NCERME.org



**NORTHEAST  
EXTENSION  
RISK MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION**

University of Delaware  
Dept. of Applied Economics  
and Statistics  
112 Townsend Hall  
Newark, DE  
19716-2130

(302) 831-6540  
NERME.org



**SOUTHERN  
EXTENSION  
RISK MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION**

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Little Rock, AR  
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(501) 671-2165  
SRMEC.uark.edu



**WESTERN  
EXTENSION  
RISK MANAGEMENT  
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