Agriculture in Missouri

From the rice and cotton fields of Missouri’s Bootheel to the rolling pastures of northwest Missouri to the research and processing facilities in the state’s urban areas, agriculture is central to the livelihood and lifestyle of Missourians. In addition to the outstanding agricultural production in rural communities, Missouri’s cities have earned worldwide recognition as centers for plant, life sciences and animal health research. St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Joseph and Springfield are home to numerous manufacturers and processing companies that supply raw materials to Missouri’s agricultural output. In fact, studies support that half of the jobs tied to the food export trade are located in cities.

Missouri ranks second in the nation in the number of farms and Missouri’s crops, livestock, processing and other agricultural sectors account for about $14 billion each year. More than 240,000 Missourians are directly employed in farming and in agribusinesses. That number ranges from 400,000, or 15 percent of Missouri’s workforce, when adding food processors and other industries that contribute to the value of agricultural products. Missouri also ranks second nationwide in beef cows, second in hog production, third in hogs, fourth in rice, seventh in soybeans, tenth in corn and tenth in cotton. Missouri exports more agricultural products than 34 other states.

Agriculture’s reach extends even farther in Missouri. Every motorist in the state drives through fields of Missouri’s Bootheel, to the rolling pastures of Missouri’s agricultural products are no less diverse as its producers and processors. Soybeans are Missouri’s largest exported commodity, with about 10 percent of the crop exported each year, almost $1.4 billion. Missouri’s agricultural products are exported throughout the world, including Mexico, China, Canada, Japan and the European Union, which receive the bulk of Missouri’s exported agricultural products.

We Salute All Farmers During National Ag Week

We appreciate our local farmers.
National Ag Week
March 17-23, 2013

We Salute all Farmers During National Ag Week

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March 17-23

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March 14, 2013
PAGE 2

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Mound City, MO 660-442-3525

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Larry Russell
Tax Service
Proudly Supporting Our Area Farmers During National Ag Week

We Salute Out Area Farmers During National Ag Week March 17-23, 2013

March 17-23, 2013

We appreciate our local farmers. National Ag Week March 17-23, 2013

From Missouri Department of Agriculture’s 2012 Yearly Review

March 17-23, 2013

National Ag Week
March 17-23, 2013
Graves-Chapple offers opportunity to support research benefitting Missouri farmers

Graves-Chapple Research Center has been a resource for farmers in northwest Missouri and surrounding states for more than 20 years. The 1,000-acre farm has hundreds of thousands of acres of crop and cover crops, and research conducted at the center aims to improve the productivity of local producers while helping them conserve natural resources and sustain their farms for generations.

Since beginning no-till trials in 1988, research at the center has led to a nearly 70 percent increase in the adoption of no-till practices in Holt and Atchison counties, helping to conserve the area’s most precious agricultural resources—the soil. Estimates show 16 million tons of topsoil have been protected from erosion, keeping the resources in the fields and out of waterways.

More than 600 people visit the center each year through field days, a youth education and workshops and other events. Graves-Chapple is integral to the northwest region of Missouri in sharing research and education not only with producers, but 10 percent of the time and above $6 per bushel 10 percent of the time. Actual volatility and uncertainty may be even greater, Westhoff said.

A rebound in global grain prices is expected in 2013 with lower prices in 2014. Soybean production was cut by drought, but not as much as corn. Late-season rains helped yields. For 2013, FAPRI estimates new highs in soybean production, exceeding the 2009 record. Prices drop sharply. Despite crop drops, two measures suggest 2013 will be the third straight year of high incomes for farmers, Westhoff said.

Net farm income in 2013 could reach the highest level since the early 1970s, even as corn prices pull another 10 million acres into crops in 2012. Total planted area remains high in 2013, but declines with lower prices in 2014. Conservation Reserve acres drop again in 2013. The analysis was included in "U.S. Baseline Briefing Book: U.S. Agricultural Supply-Demand Equilibrium." The 50-page book was prepared by the team of MU FAPRI and Agricultural and Applied Economics at the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

The book is on the MU FAPRI website at www.fapri.missouri.edu.

MU FAPRI baseline report goes to U.S. Congress; corn prices drop, net farm income remains strong

If average weather returns, look for a record 2013 corn crop. The corn prices to drop $2 per bushel, says a University of Missouri (MU) economist.

Put Westhoff nailed corn prices are projected to average $5 per bushel, down from $7 for the crop harvested last fall. Those were among thousands of numbers in the annual MU Food Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) baseline sent to the U.S. Congress.

The FAPRI corn price declines in the face of lower prices in 2013, FAPRI estimates new highs in soybean production, exceeding the 2009 record. Prices drop sharply. Despite crop drops, two measures suggest 2013 will be the third straight year of high incomes for farmers, Westhoff said.

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### Table 1. County Summary Highlights: 2007

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average acres</td>
<td>1,109,014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderate and large enterprises (sales of product or service)</td>
<td>8,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of farms</td>
<td>17,727</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Market value of agricultural products sold</td>
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<td>Cattle and calves sold</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Oats for grain</td>
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MU economic report: U.S. meat producers need big grain crop to lower feed costs, boost profits in 2013

The pounds of meat produced in the United States will drop in 2013 for the second time in five years. That includes beef, pork, chicken and turkey, according to a report given to Congress.

Livestock farmers struggle to fill growing world meat demands, not because of low prices but because of high costs, Scott Brown, University of Missouri (MU) economist, reported to House and Senate agriculture committees.

The annual MU economic baseline projects production and prices for the coming decade.

When we look at 2013, the big issues for livestock and dairy farmers are feed costs. If we get a decent crop in the bin this fall, 2013 and beyond looks much better,” Brown said.

Crop losses produced below-trend-line yields for three years, 2010 through 2012, bringing lower yields. “Last year was a real down year in decades. If anything causes job losses and low-trend-line yields for three years, 2010 through 2012, bringing lower yields. Weather remains a big un-known in price projections. For their analysis, MU econo-

mists assume normal weather ahead.

“Producer see record live stock numbers but no record prices,” Brown said. “Markets again are struggling in the beef and hog sectors. Even with good price incentives, it takes time to rebuild core herds.

“The U.S. needs economic growth to sustain record prices,” Brown said. “Most prices have stayed strong in the worst economic downturn in decades.

If anything causes job growth to slow or if the economy begins to move, those most prices can’t be sustained.

Brown doesn’t expect income from cattle to remain strong in the future. Beef prices were up 49 percent in the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same period in 2009. Brown said that the challenge will be to maintain the gains.

U.S. consumers have experienced near-record consumer beef prices over the past decade. Beef was tops in the baseline projections for Agricultural and Trade Policy (ATP) acreage payments. Beef prices can be expected to moderate in the future as feed costs in times of low and drought-stricken areas.” Producers remain concerned about animal prices.

“Beef, soy beans and corn is the most important in terms of production. Brown said. As in-

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More than costs are in play in the baseline. The general economy remains a big un-known in the projections.

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Gardening tips for beginners

Gardening is a rewarding hobby that many enthusiasm continue to enjoy through the years. Even those who are new to the art can find great pleasure from it. In this issue, we’ll take a look at some basic gardening tools and techniques that will help you get started on the right path.

1. Start Seeds Indoors: Starting seeds indoors is a great way to ensure a successful garden. It is important to choose the right type of seeds for your climate and soil conditions. Seeds can be started in a variety of containers, such as plastic cups or pots with drainage holes.

2. Transplant Seedlings: Once the seedlings have grown strong enough, they can be transplanted into larger containers or directly into the garden. Be sure to transplant them when the danger of frost has passed and the ground has warmed up.

3. Watering: Adequate watering is crucial for the success of your garden. It is important to water your plants regularly, but not too much, as this can lead to waterlogging and root rot. Aim to water your plants thoroughly, but not too often, to keep the soil moist but not waterlogged.

4. Fertilizing: Fertilizing your garden plants is important for their growth and health. There are many different types of fertilizers available, so choose one that is appropriate for the plants in your garden. Some fertilizers are designed for specific types of plants, while others are more general.

5. Pest Control: Pests can be a major problem for gardeners. It is important to monitor your plants for any signs of pests and take action to control them. Some common pest control methods include hand-picking, using natural predators, or applying pesticides.

6. Soil Preparation: Preparing your soil for planting is crucial for the success of your garden. It is important to choose the right type of soil for your plants, and to amend it with organic matter such as compost or manure to improve its fertility and drainage.

7. Disease Prevention: Disease can be a major problem for gardeners. It is important to monitor your plants for any signs of disease and take action to control it. Some common disease control methods include using resistant plant varieties, rotating crops, or applying fungicides.

8. Harvesting: Harvesting your garden plants at the right time is important for their quality and yield. Some plants are harvested once they have produced a crop, while others are harvested during the growing season.

9. Storage: Proper storage is important for the success of your garden. Once your garden season is over, it is important to store your plants properly to ensure their survival for next year. Some plants can be stored in a cool, dry place, while others may need to be refrigerated or frozen.

10. Winterizing: Winterizing your garden is important for the success of your plants. It is important to protect your plants from cold temperatures and harsh weather conditions. Some plants may need to be covered with burlap or frost cloth, while others may need to be brought inside or into a greenhouse.

Overall, gardening can be a little intimidating at first, but with the right tools and techniques, it can be a very rewarding hobby. With the right planning and preparation, you can enjoy a thriving garden to reward all who visit it.
Challenges facing farmers today and tomorrow

Though farming was once big business in the United States, by 2012 less than 1 percent of Americans were professional farmers. Many challenges face today's farmers, many of which are largely unknown to the general public. Many people have an out-dated view of farm as a small, family-owned and op- erated parcel of land where livestock is raised in open pens and crops are hand-harvested when ripe. This reality is that modern-day farms have had to overhaul operations to meet demand and remain competitively priced while adopting to the ever-changing ways technology infiltrate all parts of life. Each of these factors present obstacles for today's farmers.

Technology

Rural farming communities are expected to make an effort to integrate modern technology into an industry that has been around for centuries, but much remains in rural areas, where communica- tions systems may not be as up-to-date as those in urban areas, is not always as easy.

According to the Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council, a shift from a resource-based to an information-based economy, compounded by the rapid introduction and expansion of new technology in the workplace, has altered farm operation and the skills in demand. Older or younger workers who have been schooled in one way of agri- culture may have a signifi- cant impact on labor supply and the vitality of farming as a career. Younger adults who are knowledgeable in technology may no longer seek out agricultural ca- reers.

Decrease in farming as an occupation

The United States En- vironmental Protection Agency says that only about 960,000 Americans claim farming as their principal occupation. As that figure has dwindled, the average age of farmers continues to rise, as the Bureau of Lab- or Statistics notes that roughly 40 percent of the farmers in this country are 55 years or older. This has led to concerns about the long-term health of family farms throughout the United States.

Environmental concerns

Many farmers have come under scrutiny for how farming impacts the envi- ronment. A growing em- phasis on sustainability and conservation has led to concerns about the long-term health of family farms throughout the United States.

The ongoing recession of the last half-decade has also affected farmers. In November of 2012, the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics indicated that the unemployment rate within the agricul- ture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industries was at 13.6 percent, far higher than the national unem- ployment rate. As a result, many farm families have found themselves stuck between a rock and a hard place, as rising costs for equipment and technology are being coupled with de- creasing profits and rising unemployment.

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Further complicating matters is competition from corporations and in- ternational food producers who have made it difficult for family farmers to turn a profit. Many farm families rely on loans and lines of credit to survive, but thanks to changes in the financial sector that saw banks be- come less willing to extend lines of credit, some farm- ers are facing bankruptcy. Though it can be easy for those who do not work in the agricultural industry to overlook the struggles facing today’s agricultural professionals, a greater un- derstanding of these strug- gles and the challenges that lay ahead can benefit the industry and its em- ployees down the road.
Drought affecting corn crops promotes ethanol debate

National Ag Day expands celebration for 40th Anniversary

Two days of high-profile events set for Washington, D.C., on March 18 & 19

In response to growing attention on global availability of food, and in recognition of the 40th Anniversary of National Agriculture Day, March 19, 2013, the Agricultural Council of America (ACA) has announced a full two-day line-up of events on the theme of ‘Mix-and-Mingle Luncheon: A luncheon sponsored by Key Ag Day sponsors. A complete listing of National Ag Day is made possible by a number of partnering organizations and sponsors. A complete listing of all Ag Day winners of the Ag Day essay, Young Women of the Year, and Teresa Scanlan, Miss America, will be available at www.agday.org. National Ag Day is organized by the Agricultural Council of America (ACA) and celebrated in classrooms and communities across the country. ACA is a nonprofit organization composed of leaders in the agricultural, food and fiber community, dedicated to increasing the public’s awareness of agriculture’s role in modern society. Founded in 1973, National Ag Day encourages every American to understand how food and fiber products are grown and harvested. We're a local Independent Bank and we're proud to be involved in farming agriculture. The first and only flexible corn head

Recognizing our area farmers National Ag Week March 17-23, 2013

We Salute Our Area Farmers National Ag Week March 17-23, 2013

C & M Seed Center

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Proudly Supporting Our Area Farmers During National Ag Week

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We support our area farmers National Ag Week March 17-23, 2013

National Ag Day

Celebrating National Ag Week 2013

March 18, 2013

Farm to Park Politics: An inside look at the standing of farmers and bio-fuels in the DC policy sphere. A panel discussion moderated by Sara Wyant of Agri-Pulse and featuring J.R. Penn, Chief Economist, John Deere; Dr. Keith Collins, former Chief Economist, USDA; and B. Hudson Rieth, Senior Von’s Market Research and Information Services Division, National Restaurant Association.

March 19, 2013

USDA Food Dialogue: The Next Generation of Food Farming—A special event featuring young influencers exploring food trends and advancements in agriculture. Location TBA. 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Mix-and-Mingle Luncheon: A luncheon sponsored by Key Ag Day sponsors. A complete listing of Ag Day winners of the Ag Day essay, Young Women of the Year, and Teresa Scanlan, Miss America, will be available at www.agday.org. National Ag Day is organized by the Agricultural Council of America (ACA) and celebrated in classrooms and communities across the country. ACA is a nonprofit organization composed of leaders in the agricultural, food and fiber community, dedicated to increasing the public’s awareness of agriculture’s role in modern society. Founded in 1973, National Ag Day encourages every American to understand how food and fiber products are grown and harvested.
The Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRREC) has reached a preliminary consensus recommendation for the Corps to acquire 106,750 acres of land along the lower Missouri River for fish and wildlife habitat as mitigation for the Bank Stabilization and Navigation Program. The MRREC is supported by the U.S. Army (Civil Works) and was established in 2008 by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) to promote recovery of the Missouri River system, and on recovering three listed species: the endangered pallid sturgeon and least tern, and the threatened piping plover.

The MRREC has reached a consensus recommendation for the Corps to purchase the 106,750 acres of land along the Missouri River. The committee met quarterly at different locations throughout the Missouri River Basin. The next MRREC meeting will be held May 21-23 in Rapid City, SD. For more information on the MRREC, please contact Dr. Michael Mac, Committee Chair. More information is available at fleet.nrec.org. Links related to the Missouri River recovery efforts are available at MissouriRiverRecovery.org. The Office of South Dakota, Bureau of Reclamation, National Resources Conservation Service, hydroelectric and flood control. The MRREC is comprised of stakeholders and representatives of local, state, and tribal governments, as well as federal agencies located throughout the Missouri River Basin. The committee advises the federal agencies on management of the Missouri River system, and on recovering three listed species: the endangered pallid sturgeon and least tern, and the threatened piping plover. The MRREC was authorized by Congress in the 2007 Water Resources Development Act and was established in 2008 by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) to promote recovery of the Missouri River system, and on recovering three listed species: the endangered pallid sturgeon and least tern, and the threatened piping plover.

The MRREC is supported by the U.S. Army (Civil Works). Its duties include providing recommendations to the Secretary of the Army and other federal, state, and tribal governments on efforts to recover Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species, mitigate habitat loss, and restore the ecosystem to protect other native species. The MRREC is supported by the U.S. National Estuarine Research Reserve, a national network of 28 estuaries across the country, including the Missouri River. The MRREC is supported by the U.S. Army (Civil Works) and was established in 2008 by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) to promote recovery of the Missouri River system, and on recovering three listed species: the endangered pallid sturgeon and least tern, and the threatened piping plover. The MRREC was authorized by Congress in the 2007 Water Resources Development Act and was established in 2008 by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) to promote recovery of the Missouri River system, and on recovering three listed species: the endangered pallid sturgeon and least tern, and the threatened piping plover.

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