

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

- * **January 1:** New Year's Day - Office Closed
- * **January 8-10:** Topeka Farm Show
- * **January 9:** Kansas Soybean Expo
- * **January 16:** K-State Soybean School (Holton)
- * **February 5:** QuickBooks Training (Oskaloosa)
- * **February 7:** KSU Dairy Days (Seneca)
- * **February 13:** Farm Transition Planning Workshop (Holton)
- * **February 19:** Lease Meeting (location TBD)

For more information on these or other K-State Research & Extension events, feel free to e-mail me at dhallaue@ksu.edu or by contacting any Meadowlark Extension District Office.

Dear Producer:

This time of year is often a time of reflection. With any luck, you might be able to slow down for a family get together or take a little more time indoors. It's also the time of year for meeting with the accountant, making seed and fertility decisions and finishing up book work. Not always enjoyable, but necessary.

Whatever you are doing, please remember that you are appreciated. It doesn't often get said, but your work keeps businesses open and community members at work. It provides food and fiber to a population that may not know where it comes from - but appreciates being able to eat! Last but not least, I appreciate what you do. Whether reading this newsletter, attending a meeting, hosting a plot, or just take a minute to visit when I stop in, thank you for all you do.

From the Meadowlark Extension District family - and mine as well - I hope you have a VERY Merry Christmas and a prosperous and productive New Year!

David G. Hallauer
Meadowlark Extension District Agent,
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K-STATE
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You Are Invited!

K-State Soybean School

Wednesday, January 16, 2018

*NEK Heritage Complex, 12200 214th Rd., Holton
(2 miles South of Holton on Highway 75 to 214th Rd & 1/4 mile East)*

3:00 p.m. — Registration

3:30 p.m. Markets, Disease Update, Soybean Fertility, & Weed Control

(from K-State Research & Extension Specialists Dan O'Brien, Doug Jardine, Stu Duncan, Ignacio Ciampitti, Dorivar Ruiz-Diaz and Dallas Peterson)

6:00 p.m. Supper - sponsored by the Kansas Soybean Commission

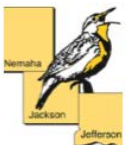
Registration requested to for meal planning and handouts. Please RSVP by Wednesday,

*January 9th via a Meadowlark Extension District Office (Holton: 785-364-4125/
Oskaloosa: 785-863-2212/Seneca: 785-336-2184) or by e-mail to dhallaue@ksu.edu.*

Online registration available at: <http://bit.ly/KSUSoybean>

Hope to see you there!

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Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Farm Bill 2018)

The following are just a *few* highlights from version two of a publication on the most recent Farm Bill assembled by K-State Research & Extension Agricultural Economists Robin Reid, Art Barnaby, Rich Llewelyn, & Mykel Taylor. For the entire publication, visit the Kansas State University Department of Agricultural Economics website at <http://www.agmanager.info/ag-policy/2018-farm-bill/first-look-agricultural-improvement-act-2018-farm-bill-2018>.

- Producers will elect a program per commodity for 2019 & 2020, then have ANNUAL elections beginning in 2021.
- Base acres that have been planted to grass or pasture and planted none of their base acres to program crops for all years of 2009-2017 will effectively be “suspended” from receiving payments, but still maintain their historical base.
- The individual payment limit remains the same at \$125,000, but allows the definition of family to extend to nieces, nephews, and first-cousins. The Adjusted Gross Income cap remains at \$900,000.

Some provisions that have changed specific to PLC:

- All producers will get an opportunity to update their payment yields with the 2020 crop year.

Some provisions that have changed specific to ARC-County:

- ARC-County payments will be calculated based on the physical location of the farm, not administrative county.
- USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) yields per planted acre will be used as the first source of county-yield information to set revenue guarantees and calculate payments.
- A separate irrigated and dryland ARC-County guarantee and payment will be calculated in EVERY county
- USDA Farm Service Agency will be required to publish the source of data used to calculate county yield along with the number & outcome of occurrences in which yield was reviewed, changed, or determined not to change.
- Approved insurance providers (AIP’s) will be required to submit producer yields 30 days after the final reporting date, hopefully speeding up the process of publishing a county yield value and allowing producer and lenders to estimate an ARC payment for cash flow purposes.

The nutrition title (Title IV: SNAP), ended up with virtually no change.

View more information about the authors of this publication and other K-State agricultural economics faculty. For more information about this publication and others, visit AgManager.info.

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