

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Kansas State University

Position: Extension Specialist, Agricultural Economics, Instructor.

Location: Southwest Research and Extension Center, Garden City, Kansas.

Date Available: October 1, 2015

The Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University seeks to fill an extension specialist position based at the Southwest Research and Extension Center. The position carries a 100% extension appointment.

The Department has a reputation for excellence in all three functions of the University's land grant mission (teaching, research, and extension). The successful candidate is expected to be an active contributor to the Department's extension and research programs. The Department offers B.S. degrees in agricultural economics and agribusiness, M.S. degrees in agricultural economics and agribusiness, a Master of Agribusiness (MAB) degree, and a Ph.D. in economics with a specialization in agricultural economics.

Southwest Kansas is characterized by intense agricultural production and the importance of managing the finite water supply available from the Ogallala Aquifer which is the economic engine of Kansas agriculture. Nine of the 10 top agricultural producing counties in the state are located in southwest Kansas. Irrigated and dryland crops are key to the beef industry and the expanding swine and dairy operations in the region. Thus, this position is important to the producers, citizens, and other stakeholders in the area as well as the researchers at the Southwest Research and Extension center.

Areas of Extension and applied research emphasis may include, but are not limited to farm management, agricultural finance, production economics, or agricultural marketing. Specifically, the areas of emphasis of this position will include the economics of cropping systems including such items as the economics of water use and bioenergy, the interaction of agricultural and environmental policy with firm decision-making, and the profitability and risk associated with crop and tillage selection in western Kansas under both irrigated and dryland production systems. The Extension education program may also include related crop production topics such as equitable cropland rental agreements, and farm program issues. Duties could also include some work with the economics of livestock production, pasture leasing, and related livestock production issues. The specialist will cooperate with Extension agents and state/area specialists in the Department of Agricultural Economics and various other departments in the Kansas State University College of Agriculture, and communicate Extension and applied research results and needs appropriately. The specialist will cooperate with other specialists and research faculty to provide applied economic analysis of agricultural practices being investigated at the Western Kansas Agricultural Research Centers. The specialist will be expected to provide current, relevant, research-based information to the agricultural clientele of Kansas through public meetings, bulletins, field day reports, press releases, newsletters, individual consultations, and electronic media.

The KSU Department of Agricultural Economics is known for Extension and applied research programs that address real-world problems in local, state, national, and global agriculture and agribusiness. More information on the Department can be found at www.ageconomics.ksu.edu or www.agmanager.info. More information on the Southwest Area Extension office can be found at www.southwest.ksu.edu. More information on the Western Kansas Agricultural Research Centers can be found at <http://www.wkarc.org>.

Responsibilities:

- Develop and deliver a nationally recognized Extension and applied research program
- Develop collaborative programs/project with other faculty, units, and departments at Kansas State University, and with allied industry organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders.
- Attract grant funds to support Extension and applied research programs
- Create an environment that fosters diversity and collegiality while working in a multi-cultural setting
- Contribute towards the Department's Extension website (www.AgManager.info).

Required Qualifications:

- Earned M.S. degree in agricultural economics, applied economics, economics, or closely related field
- Commitment to excellence in Extension programming
- Strong record of academic achievement
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Strong commitment to expanding and fostering diversity
- Knowledge of agricultural production practices and related previous experience
- Self-starting and independently motivated. Ability to advance project activities with a minimum of close administrative supervision

Salary and Benefits: This is an unclassified position at Kansas State University. The salary will be commensurate with the qualifications of the applicant. The K-State benefit package includes a retirement plan, group health and life insurance, worker's compensation, vacation, sick leave and other benefits. For additional information on benefits, see <http://www.k-state.edu/hr/current-employees/benefits/summary.html>.

How to Apply: Qualified persons are invited to apply by sending the following materials: (1) a letter of application that includes a statement of professional goals for extension and research; (2) a

completed curriculum vitae; and (3) transcripts of all university-level work. In addition, (4) three letters of reference should be arranged to be sent by the deadline.

Application materials (pdf files preferred) should be sent electronically to: Judy Maberry, Program Assistant, Department of Agricultural Economics, 342 Waters Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, 66506, Email: judym@ksu.edu, in the subject line please refer to SW AREA EXT. Questions and inquiries of interest may be made to the Search Committee Chair, Dr. Daniel M. O'Brien (Phone 785-462-6281; dobrien@ksu.edu).

Minority and female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

A background check is required prior to hiring.

Closing Date: Review of applications will begin on September 15, 2015 and continue until the position is filled. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Equal Employment Opportunity: Kansas State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, or other non-merit reasons (including employment of disabled veterans and veterans of the U.S. Military).