

Chandan Bhattarai
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Department of Agricultural Economics
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Education

Ph.D. Agricultural Economics – **Kansas State University**, Manhattan, KS 2023 - 2027

Advisor: Dr. Jesse Tack

Dissertation Title: “Essays on Risk Management in Agriculture: Insurance Rating, Contract Incentives, and Investment Decisions”

M.S. Agricultural Economics – **University of Arkansas**, Fayetteville, AR 2021- 2023

Advisor: Dr. Andrew McKenzie

Thesis Title: “Risk Return of Forward Contracting Southern Row Crops with Crop Revenue Insurance”

Teaching Experience

Instructor Aug 2026 – Present

KSU: Agricultural Economics, Manhattan, KS

AGEC 115: Decision Tools for Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness

- Teach and prepare course materials, including lectures, in-class activities, and applied exercises.
- Assess and support student learning through grading, feedback, office hours, and answering questions.

Graduate Teaching Assistant Jan 2025 – May 2025

KSU: Agricultural Economics, Manhattan, KS

AGEC 120: Introduction to Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness

- Responsibilities: Proctoring Exam, obtaining solutions for examinations, grading, and answering 90-100 students’ questions

Graduate Teaching Assistant Jan 2021 – May 2021

UofA: Agricultural Economics, Fayetteville, AR

AGEC 3413: Principles of Environmental Economics

- Taught class lectures in the absence of the instructor (90 students)

- Responsibilities: Proctoring Exam, obtaining solutions for examinations, grading, answering students' questions, and helping 80-90 students to prepare for exams

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

Aug 2023 – Present

KSU: Agricultural Economics, Manhattan, KS

- Applied econometric methods to Kansas Farm Management Association (KFMA) farm-level panel data to assess Kansas farmers' risk preference parameters.
- Collaborated with researchers at the Rural and Farm Finance Policy Analysis Center (RaFF), University of Missouri, to projects 2025 and 2026 ARC-CO and PLC payments for corn, soybeans, and wheat under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA); findings disseminated as RaFF policy briefs.
- Developed theoretical and empirical models examining moral hazard in forward contracting under crop insurance, contributing to dissertation research on contract incentives and risk management in agriculture.
- Constructed and analyzed multi-source panel datasets (crop field trial records, weather data, and RMA insurance data) to estimate how previous crop choice affects yield risk premiums in winter wheat and assess implications for actuarially sound insurance rating.
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Graduate Research Assistant

Aug 2021 – Aug 2023

UofA: Agricultural Economics, Fayetteville, AR

- Estimated the risk return of crop insurance participation on producers' forward-contracting behavior for corn, rice, and soybeans using econometric models and Monte Carlo simulation; findings contributed to thesis and a peer-reviewed publication in the *Journal of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association*.
- Constructed multi-year county-level datasets combining USDA-NASS yield and price series with RMA actuarial base rates for five Arkansas counties; used stochastic simulation to evaluate risk–return trade-offs and quantify non-delivery exposure under alternative marketing strategies.

Publications

Journal Articles (*Published*)

1. **Bhattarai, C.**, McKenzie, A., Biram, H., Durand-Morat, A., & Tack, J. (2026). Risk-Returns of Forward Contracting Corn with Crop Insurance. *Journal of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association*.
2. Wongpiyabovorn, O., Pongspikul, T., Plastina, A., Paudel, A., **Bhattarai, C.**, & Ifft, J. (2026). Expanded Farm Safety Net Payments Under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*.

Extension Articles

1. Pongspikul, T., Paudel, A., **Bhattarai, C.**, Wongpiyabovorn, O., Ifft, J., & Plastina, A. (2025, November). *Projected 2025 and 2026 ARC-CO and PLC payments for soybeans (RaFF Policy Brief No. 2025-11(3))*. Rural and Farm Finance Policy Analysis Center, University of Missouri. <https://raff.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/2025-11-3-RaFF-Policy-Brief.pdf>
2. Pongspikul, T., Paudel, A., **Bhattarai, C.**, Wongpiyabovorn, O., Ifft, J., & Plastina, A. (2025, November). *Projected 2025 and 2026 ARC-CO and PLC payments for corn (RaFF Policy Brief No. 2025-11(2))*. Rural and Farm Finance Policy Analysis Center, University of Missouri. <https://raff.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/2025-11-2-RaFF-Policy-Brief.pdf>
3. Ifft, J., Joseph, D., Paudel, A., & **Bhattarai, C.** (2025, October). *Projected ARC, PLC, and crop insurance net payouts per acre under OBBBA*. (K-State Department of Agricultural Economics Extension Publication). Kansas State University. <https://agmanager.info/crop-insurance/crop-insurance-papers-and-information/projected-arc-plc-and-crop-insurance-net>
4. Pongspikul, T., Paudel, A., **Bhattarai, C.**, Wongpiyabovorn, O., Ifft, J., and Plastina, A. (2025, October) “*Projected 2025 and 2026 ARC-CO and PLC Payments for Wheat.*” RaFF Policy Brief 2025- 10(4), Rural and Farm Finance Policy Analysis Center, University of Missouri-Columbia. <https://raff.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/2025-10-4-Policy-Brief.pdf>
5. **Bhattarai, C.**, Ifft, J., Paudel, A., & Joseph, D. (2025, September). *Estimated net returns to Supplemental Coverage Option participation before and after OBBBA changes* (K-State Department of Agricultural Economics Extension Publication). Kansas State University. <https://www.agmanager.info/crop-insurance/crop-insurance-papers-and-information/estimated-net-returns-supplemental-coverage>
6. **Bhattarai, C.**, Ifft, J., Paudel, A., & Joseph, D. (2025, September). *SCO Expected Net Indemnity Payments Map* (K-State Department of Agricultural Economics Extension Publication). Kansas State University. <https://agmanager.info/crop-insurance/crop-insurance-papers-and-information/sco-expected-net-indemnity-payments-map>
7. Ifft, J., Joseph, D., Paudel, A., **Bhattarai, C.**, & Moss, L. (2025, July). *Mapping the Farm Safety Net: County Average Commodity Payments and Crop Insurance Net Indemnities, 2014–2023* (K-State Department of Agricultural Economics Extension Publication). Kansas State University. <https://www.agmanager.info/crop-insurance/crop-insurance-papers-and-information/mapping-farm-safety-net-county-average>
8. Biram, H., McKenzie, A. M., & **Bhattarai, C.** (2025, June 11). *How can crop marketing and crop insurance go together?* *Southern Ag Today*, 5(24.3). <https://southernagtoday.org/2025/06/11/how-can-crop-marketing-and-crop-insurance-go-together/>

Work in Progress

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1. Measuring Kansas Farmers' Risk Preferences Using Farm Level Data (with Jesse Tack)
 2. Risk Premiums of Previous Crop in Winter Wheat and their Implications for Insurance Rating (with Jesse Tack and Romulo Lollato)
 3. Can Forward Contract Delivery Penalties Mitigate the Moral Hazard Incentives Induced from Crop Insurance? (with Jesse Tack)

Presentation

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1. **Bhattarai, C.**, McKenzie, A., Biram, H., & Tack, J. (2026). How can crop marketing and crop insurance go together? **Oral**. *2026 Risk and Profit Conference, Manhattan, KS*; Aug 20-21, 2026
 2. **Bhattarai, C.**, & Tack, J. (2026). Measuring Kansas farmers' risk preferences using KFMA data. **Oral**. *2026 AAEA Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO*; July 26-28, 2026
 3. **Bhattarai, C.**, & Tack, J. (2026). Measuring Kansas farmers' risk preferences using KFMA data. **Oral**. *SCC-76 Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO*; March 22-24, 2026
 4. **Bhattarai, C.**, McKenzie, A. M., Biram, H. D., & Durand-Morat, A. (2023). Risk>Returns of Forward Contracting Southern Row Crops with Crop Revenue Insurance. **Oral**, *Agricultural & Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC; July 23-25, 2023
 5. Khatri, B., Pokharel, S., & **Bhattarai, C.** (2018), Economic Analysis of Fish Marketing in Nawalparasi District of Nepal, **Poster**, *International Agricultural Marketing Conference on Marketing and Value Chain Development in Agriculture and Food System*, Kathmandu, Nepal, June 4-5, 2018

Service, Memberships, and Awards

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), Member	Mar 2023 – Present
KSU Alumni Scholarship Award, KSU	Apr 2025
Student Opportunity Award, Kansas State Foundation	Apr 2024
International Student Center Scholarship, International Student & Scholar Services, KSU	Apr 2024