How much is cash rent?

In a world of rapidly changing commodity prices and land values, it is more challenging than ever before to determine equitable lease arrangements in Kansas.

K-State Research and Extension Marion County recognizes the value of local rental rate information. The following link, http://www.marion.k-state.edu/ will take you to a lease survey being conducted by Marion County Extension.

While no average value will hold true for all rental arrangements, the goal of the survey is to provide agricultural producers, agricultural lenders, and local or absentee landowners with local lease information that can be used as a basis to begin lease negotiations.

There are two surveys, one for crop land and one for pasture land. Tenants and landowners are invited to complete as much of the surveys as possible. These surveys will remain active for much of December. In January a summary paper will be posted at this same site.

If you have any questions please contact Rickey Roberts at the Marion County Extension Office at 620-382-2325 or rroberts@ksu.edu.
Agriculture & Natural Resources

Farm Financial Workshops

An opportunity for an individual appointment with a K-State Farm Analyst to evaluate your farm’s financial performance and to plan for the future.

Jan. 11th & 12th—Salina, KS
Jan. 23rd & 24th—Kingman, KS
Feb. 7th—Colby, KS
Feb. 8th—Dodge City, KS
Feb. 12th & 13th—Emporia, KS

To register for a workshop appointment contact:
Robin Reid
K-State Ag. Economics
785-532-0964
robinreid@ksu.edu

All information provided by participants is strictly confidential. An envelope will be provided for sealed records to be turned in that will only be viewed by Farm Analysts assigned to your family.

Program Description:
K-State Research and Extension recognizes the financial stress that farmers and ranchers are experiencing due to low commodity prices and high input costs. We are currently seeing one of the lowest levels of farm profitability in history, with many parallels to the 1980s.

To be proactive in assisting farmers and ranchers through these difficult times, K-State Farm Financial Workshops are being offered across Kansas. The goal of this program is to pair a farm family with a Farm Analyst for a 4-hour individual appointment, turning their farm records into financial statements to assess their current financial position. From there, strengths and weaknesses can be identified and alternative scenarios will be built to increase financial security and profitability.

Workshops will expose producers to the Farm Analyst program and provide services at a reduced cost. Participation is encouraged for those farmers and ranchers who are experiencing financial stress or simply recognize the value of a farm financial consultation. A first-year reduction in membership fees to the Kansas Farm Management Association will also be available to all workshop participants.

2018 Corn Management Schools

Central Kansas: Monday, January 8, Hesston—AGCO building, 420 W. Lincoln Blvd
Western Kansas: Tuesday, January 9, Garden City—Clarion Inn, 1911 E. Kansas Ave.
Eastern Kansas: Friday, January 12, Leavenworth—The Barn, 17624 Santa Fe Trail

Topics are focused on agronomic practices and research updates. Each school’s sessions are designed to fit the farmers in the region. Topics include: weed control, production management, nutrient management, insect update, disease update, planter technology update, corn marketing and price update, usable corn condition progress tools.

Schools are free to attend thanks to the generous support of DuPont Pioneer and Kansas Corn. Lunch is included, so please pre-register online at: KScorn.com/Cornschool
You can also register with KSRE local extension offices.
Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!

From:
Rickey, Tristen,
Myrta, & Jana

Program Description:

Farmers and ranchers are currently experiencing one of the biggest downturns in history with many parallels to the 1980’s. Planning for the future is critical for the short-term viability of the farm business but also for the long-term growth and sustainability of the farming legacy.

This program will offer a host of outlook talks to assist in planning for the upcoming years. Having a grasp of input costs and projected prices can assist in making equipment purchasing decisions, land rental arrangements, cattle and grain marketing plans, and much more. Managing a farm’s financials will also be discussed, as it pertains to the current economic times.

At the end of the program there will be sign-up opportunities to work one-on-one with a K-State Farm Analyst. These appointments will be locally offered approximately 3 weeks after the Farming for the Future program to assist producers in gathering their financial information and planning for the upcoming year and future direction of their business.

Locations and Registration Information:

Register for any location online at: [http://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUagecon](http://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUagecon)

Or contact the local office number listed below.

Registration fee is $20 per person in advance (5 days prior to meeting date) or $30 at the door

**December 14th – Pratt**
Pratt Area 4-H Center
Pratt County Fairgrounds
81 Lake Road
Pratt, KS 67124

To register contact:
Pratt County Extension
620-672-6121

**December 19th – Salina**
Webster Conference Center
2601 N. Ohio Street
Salina, KS 67401

To register contact:
Central Kansas Extension District
785-392-2147

**January 10th – Scott City**
Wm. Carpenter 4-H Building
608 N. Fairgrounds Rd.
Scott City, KS 67871

To register contact:
Scott County Extension
620-872-2930

**January 11th – Emporia**
Anderson Building
2700 W US Highway 50
Emporia, KS 66801

To register contact:
Lyon County Extension
620-341-3220
Did You Know?
During the Holidays one’s home is typically filled with food, family, and decorations galore. It can be one of the most wonderful times of the year, especially for kids. Unfortunately, the holidays can also be one of the most visited times of the year to the Emergency Room. Learning preventive steps for common holiday dangers is one way to protect your family this holiday season.

- **Poisoning:** Mistletoe, Holly, Poinsettias, and Jerusalem Cherry Plants are considered potentially poisonous and should be kept out of the reach of children and animals. Symptoms of plant poisoning can include rashes, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. If you suspect that your child has eaten any part of a plant, immediately call your doctor or the Kansas Poison Control Center: (800) 222-1222.

- **Food Safety:** Practice food safety by washing hands, utensils, and dishes. Take special care disinfecting when working with raw meat. Store leftovers properly and heat them thoroughly to 165 degrees before serving.

- **Choking:** Tree ornaments, light bulbs, icicles, tinsel, and small toys are potential choking hazards for small children because they may block the airway. The general rule of thumb is that if it’s small enough to fit in the mouths of babies and toddlers, it’s too small to play with.

- **Accidents:** Practice fire safety by having a family emergency plan, and check smoke detectors before you put up your holiday decorations. These steps will ensure that your family can celebrate many holiday seasons to come.

Healthful Donations This Holiday
Let’s give the gift of health this holiday season by providing nutrient-rich non-perishable food items to people in need! From now until December 21st, the Marion County K-State Research and Extension Office will be collecting your healthful donations for the Marion County Resource Center Food Bank. Our Office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and is located at 202 S. 3rd Street in Marion.
Radon Awareness

The month of January is National Radon Awareness. Radon is an odorless radioactive gas that results from the breakdown of uranium from soil and rock beneath and around the foundation, ground water wells, and some building materials.

Radon can leak into your house through the basement or crawl space – via adjacent or exposed soil and rock – or through well water.

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Radon causes 15,000-22,000 lung cancer deaths each year. Smoking combined with radon exposure is an especially dangerous health risk.

Testing your house for Radon is easy. A simple test will tell you if your home has a high Radon level. Most Radon Tests last between 2 and 7 days. It’s as easy as opening a package, and putting the test kit in the right place. After sending the test kit back to the address in the package, the company will send your Radon Test results in about 2 weeks.

Need a Radon Test Kit? Swing by the Extension Office and pick up a Radon Test Kit for $5.50!

Information Derived From: The US-EPA

Happy New Year!

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy

Ready to accomplish your New Year’s Fitness Goal? Join Marion and Harvey County Extension for Stay Strong, Stay Healthy!

SSSH is an evidence based eight-week program for older adults that meets the recommendation for healthy muscle strength.

Location: Alexanderwohl Church in Goessel
Dates: Mondays and Thursdays 3:00-4:00 PM
February 26th to April 19th
Cost: $20.00/Person

Register Today!
Phone: 620-382-2325
Email: tcope@ksu.edu

Join us in celebrating Family and Consumer Sciences Day by “Dining In” for Healthy Families! #FCSDAY #healthyfamselfie
**Kansas 4-H Day**  
with the Wildcat Women’s Basketball  
Saturday, January 13,  
at 1:00 P.M.  
KSU vs OSU  
Group Ticket Rate of $20/person. Includes game ticket, t-shirt, & meal voucher.  
**ONLINE Registration DUE DECEMBER 21**  
http://tinyurl.com/2018kae4ha

**Citizenship in Action**

**WHAT:** Participants will get an up-close look at the legislative process, including a tour of the Capitol building, tips on how to meet and talk with their legislators, and a discussion on how youth can have a greater impact in their communities. Youth are also encouraged to schedule individual meetings with their local legislators.

**WHEN:** Feb. 18–19. It is open to youth who will be 13–18 years old prior to Jan. 1, 2018.

**WHERE:** Kansas Capitol building in Topeka

**Registration deadline is Jan. 15**

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**Citizenship Washington Focus**

**June 14-25, 2018**

Road trip across the USA stopping to see Philadelphia, Gettysburg, the Liberty Bell and more! Walk among places that have made history and places that are making news today. Visit Capitol Hill, government departments, historic sites, and memorials. Get a close-up view of political process through visits to Capitol Hill. Meet with the Kansas Congressional and Senate delegations to discuss legislative issues. Participate in workshops and assembly groups to learn life skills and discuss possible solutions to domestic and international problems.

**Who:** Youth 15-18 years old by January 1, 2018

**Registration Deadline:** January 15 or until 50 spaces are filled

Adults (21 years and older) interested in serving as a chaperone should complete the same application as the youth, online. Chaperones must be Volunteer Registered. There will be at least one adult chaperone for every 15 youth participants. There is no fee to be a chaperone.

[http://www.kansas4-h.org/events/index.html](http://www.kansas4-h.org/events/index.html)
The 2018 Harvey, Marion & McPherson County Club Day will be held on Saturday, February 17, at Chisholm Trail Middle School (901 E. 1st St) in Newton, KS. Club Day is a great way to practice public speaking and show off your many talents. There will be events for everyone! Stay tuned for information regarding registration.

**Kansas 4-H Dog Care & Training Project Scholarship**

High school seniors or current college freshman who have been in the Kansas 4-H Dog Project for three or more years may apply for the Keith Neway and Jim Adams Kansas 4-H Dog Care and Training Project Scholarship. This 4-H scholarship is a one-time payment of $500.00 that will be awarded during the Kansas State Fair 4-H Dog Show in September. Applications must be received on or before 5 p.m., Thursday, February 1. Find the application on the Kansas 4-H web site: [http://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animals/dog.html](http://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animals/dog.html).

**Kansas 4-H Ambassador Training**

February 23-24 at the Rock Springs 4-H Center. It is open to all county/district 4-H ambassadors, interested teens, ambassador advisors and Extension staff. The theme is “4-H Ambassadors: Leadership on Target.” There will be six youth workshops, three adult workshops, two speakers, with lots of fun and fellowship. To register, visit [http://www.kansas4-h.org/events/index.html](http://www.kansas4-h.org/events/index.html). REGISTRATION CLOSES FEBRUARY 8

For more information visit: [http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/ambassador-training/index.html](http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/ambassador-training/index.html).

**DUE JANUARY 29th!** Staple entire application packet in upper left-hand corner and submit to the local extension office. Complete all blanks on form as “NA” if not applicable.

2018 Kansas 4-H Scholarship Application

Scholarship Process: (Submit scholarship application packet in the following numerical order)

1. Complete Kansas 4-H Scholarship Application Form. Required information must be submitted on separate one-sided pages with 1.5-inch left margin and 1-inch top and right margins. Font size minimum of 10 point. If handwritten must be legible. Illegible forms will not be considered.

2. High School Transcript or most recent college semester grades. Transcript can be unofficial and is not required to be in sealed envelope. Homeschool students must provide appropriate documentation for grades.

3. A letter of recommendation from high school or college personnel, whichever is most appropriate for current student.

4. A letter of recommendation from a non-related 4-H leader or non-related extension agent, assistant, or specialist currently employed by K-State Research and Extension.

5. One-page single-spaced summary of 4-H significant leadership, community service, participation and recognition, up to and including the 2017-2018 4-H year. Bullet lists or tables may be used. Start with the most recent accomplishments. Label the 4-H activities: L=local; C/D= County/District; A/R= Area/Regional; S=State; N=National; I= International.

6. One-page essay, double-spaced, on how “4-H has impacted me.”

7. One-page single-spaced summary of non-4-H leadership, community service, participation and recognition in school and community, up to and including the 2017-2018 4-H year. Start with the most recent accomplishments.

8. A short paragraph about your educational and long-term career goals. Scholarship Scoring: 4-H Leadership = 40% 4-H Citizenship/Community Service = 30% 4-H Participation, Recognition = 20% Non-4-H Leadership, Citizenship, Recognition = 10%
Upcoming Events

December 25 & 26—Office Closed
January 1—Office Closed
January 13—Kansas 4-H Day
January 20—4-H Leadership Forum
January 26-28—4-H Horse Panorama

ALSO INSIDE—Dates for upcoming Farm Financial Workshop, Corn Management Schools, and Farming for the Future programs