

News Column

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Farm & Pasture Land Leasing Arrangements Workshop – Great Bend

I guess it should come as no surprise to me that consistently one of the most asked question(s) each year pertains to leasing of agricultural land. Whether it is average cash rents, crop sharing, leasing termination, common leasing arrangements, leasing forms, etc. After all Kansas is primarily an agriculture state with 87.5% of all Kansas land contributing to some form of agriculture production. More than 21 million acres in Kansas is harvested for crops and over 14 million is pastureland for grazing animals.

Even though several generations may be removed from the farm or ranch and live out of state, they still may own the land and thus lease it to someone else. Most farmers (tenants) lease ground from multiple landlords, in Kansas the average number of landlords that tenants have is approximately seven. You can imagine the struggles that tenants and landlords alike can experience in trying to communicate effectively with each other.

A **Farm & Pasture Land Leasing Arrangements program** will be held next Tuesday, January 21 in Great Bend. It will be at American Ag Credit, 5634 10th Street with registration beginning at 12:30 p.m. and the program will kick off at 1:00 and conclude at 3:00 p.m.

Topics of discussion will be differences and similarities of various leasing arrangements, active management of landowner-tenant relationships through effective communication, recognition of incentives and the principles of calculating an equitable lease, cash rental rates, current economic conditions in the ag sector and as always there will be time for your questions and answers.

Dr. Mykel Taylor, K-State Extension Ag Economist will be the speaker and Mykel has done a lot of work, research and even some surveys on various aspects of leasing of agricultural land in Kansas.

All interested people are invited to attend the Farm & Pasture Land Leasing Arrangements Workshop on Tuesday, January 21st in Great Bend. RSVP is appreciated by Monday, January 20th so we can have enough seating. Call the Cottonwood Extension District – Great Bend office at 620-793-1910 or email Brenda at bwalton@ksu.edu

Another program we are offering in Great Bend that is right around the corner is a **Grain Sorghum School**, it will be held on Thursday, January 30th at the Great Bend Recreation Commission, Burnside Room, 1214 Stone Street. Registration 8:30 a.m. program starts at 8:45 to 1 p.m.

The school will provide an in-depth training that will cover a number of issues facing sorghum growers: sorghum commission speaker, weed control, crop production, soil fertility and nutrient management.

RSVP by Monday, January 27th for meal count at <http://bit.ly/KSUSorghum> or call Cottonwood Extension – Great Bend office 620-793-1910. All interested people are invited to attend this free educational program.