

The Extension Cord
“Connecting K-State to the Community”
by Mark Ploger
Pratt County Extension Agricultural Agent

“Farming for the Future” Conference in Pratt - December 14th

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 variety 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 more. Managing a farm’s financials will also be discussed, as it pertains to the current economic times.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

8:30 AM	<i>Registration</i>
9:00 AM	<i>Overview of the Current Farm Financial Situation</i> <i>Kansas Land Values & Rental Rates</i>
10:00 AM	<i>Input Cost Outlook</i>
10:30 AM	<i>Break</i>
10:45 AM	<i>FSA Programs</i>
11:15 AM	<i>Grain Market Outlook for 2018</i>
12:00 PM	<i>Lunch</i>
12:45 PM	<i>Beef Cattle Market Outlook for 2018</i>
1:30 PM	<i>Macroeconomic & Interest Rate Outlook</i>
2:15 PM	<i>Break</i>
2:30 PM	<i>Farm Financial Management During Challenging Times</i>
3:30 PM	<i>Wrap-up</i>

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.

Registration fee for this program is \$20.00 in advance (5 days prior to meeting date) or \$30.00 at the door.

Date and Location: **Thursday, December 14, 2017**
Pratt Area 4-H Center
81 Lake Road
Pratt, KS

To Register: **Call the Pratt County Extension Office: 620-672-6121**
Or go online to: <http://commerce.cashnet.com/KSUagecon>