From the Dean and Director

I encourage you to visit www.ksu.edu/challenges, which provides short videos about the five grand challenges and additional information about our programs.

John D. Floros, Dean, College of Agriculture, and Director, K-State Research and Extension

Investing in Research and Extension Benefits Everyone in Kansas

Kansas Dollars for Agricultural Research and Development

$33.6

10.2%

Average annual return

Long-term benefit-cost ratio

Studies for Kansas have shown a long-term benefit-cost ratio of $33.60 for agricultural research, yielding a 10.2 percent average annual rate of return to agricultural productivity that can be directly correlated with in-state investment.

K-State Research and Extension and College of Agriculture Expenditures (in millions)

$100

$90

$80

$70

$60

$50

$40

$30

$20

$10

$0

FY-08 FY-09 FY-10 FY-11 FY-12 FY-13 FY-14

$65.5

$66.3

$65.5

$66.3

$8.7

$10.7

$9.3

$11.5

$52.0 49.1 49.5 48.6 48.5 47.3

$11.5 11.8 12.3 14.9

$9.1 10.4 10.7 9.3 11.5

Directly correlated with in-state investment.

The Economic Returns to U.S. Public Agricultural Research, "

Julian M. Alston, Matthew A. Andersen, Jennifer S. James, and Philip G. Pardey

January 2015

Making a Difference for Kansans

K-State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

K-State Research and Extension is a great opportunity provided by and employed to, the University of Cooperative Extension Work, Act of August 8, 1914, as amended. Kansas State University, College of Agriculture, Kansas State University Cooperative Extension Center, and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating. John D. Floros, Director.
As the state’s largest employer, agriculture drives the Kansas economy. In 2013, the agricultural sector contributed $53 billion and 37 percent of the state’s gross regional product. The Kansas Department of Agriculture supports this $53 billion worth of goods making agriculture the No. 1 export category in 2013. We are improving food and agricultural systems to feed the world’s growing population, which will economically benefit Kansas.

What We Are Doing
- Developing and testing new crop, vegetable, and tree varieties that are suited to the Kansas climate.
- Reducing food waste caused by insects, poor storage, and improper techniques.
- Creating sustainable agricultural systems that internally productivity.
- Helping farmers to maintain cattle ranges threatened by variations in climate.
- Leading national and international teams to solve global food issues.
- Helping families stretch their food dollars.

Results
- Provided technical expertise to 532 contacts with 142 different companies and 86 additional entrepreneurs in 2013 through the Kansas Value-Added Foods Laboratory.
- Developed Everest wheat, which was planted on more than 60 percent of Kansas acres in fall 2013 than any other variety.
- Developed technology to schedule irrigation, determine quantity and location of water, and monitor systems for home and farm use.
- Developed or improved irrigation and drainage systems that reduce costs and water needs.
- Walks Kansas, an eight-week program to increase exercise and improve health outcomes, creates positive results for more than 6,000 Kansas seniors.

Results
- Introduced 4-H to 370 youth through multicultural and rural 4-H clubs in 12 Kansas counties.
- Trained adults in the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program.
- Partnered with state agencies to develop a Rural Grocery Tool Kit with resources for existing grocery stores and their communities and to establish a new store.
- Number of contacts provided by the Kansas Value-Added Foods Laboratory
- Percentage of irrigation water saved using subsurface drip irrigation
- Percentage of citizens who get their drinking water from rivers and reservoirs
- Number of Kansas students who annually participate in Kansas 4-H
- Number of adult and youth rural who annually participate in Kansas 4-H
- Hours of service donated by Master Gardeners who donated more than $1.15 million in 2013.