The 32nd Annual Nebraska

Women in Agriculture Conference
Educate. Advocate. Communicate.

Women in Agriculture:
The Heart of the Farm

February 23-24, 2017—Kearney Holiday Inn
Kearney, NE

Empowering Women in the Agriculture Industry!!
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

9:15 - 10:00 am Registration

10:00 - 10:10 am Welcome! Cheryl Griffith - Conference Coordinator
Larry Van Tassell - Dept. of Ag Economics

10:10 - 10:55 am Kick-off: Continuing the Nebraska Legacy of Family Farming and Ranching
Dr. Ron Hanson - Nipomo, CA

11:00 - 12:15 pm Workshop Session 1

12:30 - 1:25 pm Lunch: To be Announced!

1:30 - 2:45 pm Workshop Session 2

2:45 - 3:15 pm Break (Loper Rooms)

3:15 - 4:30 pm Workshop Session 3

5:30 - 7:15 pm Dinner with door prizes!!! Celebrate Nebraska!
with Barb Batie

7:15 - 8:30 pm FUNShops!!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

7:30 - 8:30 am Breakfast Buffet

8:20 - 8:30 am Opening Remarks Cheryl Griffith

8:30 - 8:50 am Morning Update: To be Announced!

9:00 - 10:15 am Workshop Session 4

10:15 - 10:45 am Break (Loper Rooms)

10:45 - 12:00 pm Workshop Session 5

12:00 - 1:30 pm Lunch & Finale: Connected Across the Generations -for Women in Agriculture
Amanda Freund – East Canaan, CT

Safe Journey Home!
Our Speakers!

Keynote Speaker

Ron Hanson

“Continuing the Nebraska Legacy of Family Farming and Ranching”

Most farm families understand both the importance as well as the urgency for developing and implementing a succession plan for their farm. But this seldom ever happens! We will discuss the potential obstacles and personal fears (especially by parents!) which can become road blocks to farm business ownership succession planning. Few families have accomplished a succession plan to protect their farm estate and guarantee that their family farming legacy continues for the next generation. How do you begin this discussion with other family members? Avoiding these “what if family succession issues” now could result in disastrous consequences later. If a family fails to resolve these succession issues and no plan is put in place for the next generation, the family legacy may not survive for another generation. We will share ideas of how to work through these emotional as well as stressful situations in a positive manner to accomplish a successful plan, with the goal being the implementation of a plan to protect your farm or ranch legacy.

Retired from the University of Nebraska Lincoln in May 2016 and currently serving as the Harlan Agribusiness Professor Emeritus, Dr. Hanson has earned 31 university and national award recognitions. His proudest career honor was being named the Nebraska Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation. In addition to teaching, Ron has counseled Nebraska farm families for more than 40 years to help them resolve family conflicts in a more positive manner and to improve family relations through better communications. He has been honored by both the Nebraska Ag Youth Council and the Nebraska FFA Foundation for his dedicated service to both the rural youth and farm and ranch families in Nebraska. Dr. Hanson taught thousands agricultural economics students during his exceptional tenure at UNL.

Dr. Hanson is sponsored by Farm Credit Services of America
Women have always had an important role in agriculture and that role continues to evolve and change. The woman’s role on the farm is extremely critical to the success of our farm families and farming communities. You are the “Heart of the Farm.” To increase the capacity of female farmers and ensure successful farming enterprises, we need to work together to connect aspiring female farmers with experienced role models and mentors, connecting across the generations. By giving more women the encouragement to become part of the agricultural community we hope to counter the net loss of farms across the country and connect with the consumers of the end products that come from our farms.

Amanda and her family manage three unique farm businesses in Connecticut; a dairy farm, a farm market with a greenhouse and garden center and a production facility manufacturing their value added product “CowPots.” Together with her family, the second and third generations work together and all three businesses continue to grow by adopting new technologies and meeting consumer demands. Amanda graduated from Cornell University with a BS from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Before returning to her family’s farm, she worked for a member of Congress, with the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association (CFBA), served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Zambia and worked briefly with USDA NRCS and UConn Extension. In addition to her various roles on the family farm she is also a member of the CFBA Young Farmers Committee, her dairy cooperative, Agri-Mark’s Young Cooperators and is active in her local community.
A Big Thanks to
Our Wonderful Sponsors!!!

Premiere Sponsor (Minimum gift of $3,000)
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Nebraska Department of Agriculture Valley Irrigation/Ag Sense
Central States Center for Ag Safety & Health AFAN
Heartland Farm Partners

Friends of Women in Agriculture
The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR)
UNL Agricultural Economics Department Nebraska Extension

We are committed to providing opportunities for all Nebraskans to develop management skills in every facet of agriculture by providing leadership, learning support, and networking avenues.

Presented by:
The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Nebraska Extension
UNL Department of Agricultural Economics

Nebraska Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Nebraska Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.
Workshops
Session 1: Thursday, 11:00 AM — 12:15 PM

Cost-Control—Farm and Nonfarm

_Tina Barrett, Nebraska Farm Business, Inc._

In the tightening margins we are experiencing today, cost control of all kinds is important. We will look at how costs have increased over the past decade and where some producers have started to reduce those costs. This is important both from a farm cost side as well as the nonfarm or family living costs. We will focus on ways recordkeeping can help you control costs on your farm.

Managing Grazing Land and Forage Production Risk with PRF & Annual Forage Insurance

_Jim Jansen, Extension Educator_

Agricultural producers across Nebraska face weather-related risk on their grazing lands or forages. The Pasture, Range, and Forage (PRF) and Annual Forage Insurance program provides protection against adverse weather related forage losses. In this session we will cover the basics of these two insurance programs and discuss how these programs work with examples given in two case studies.

A Potpourri of Agricultural Law

_Dave Aiken, Extension Water Law Specialist_

What is the portability rule? How does a City of Des Moines vs Iowa rural drainage districts lawsuit affect Nebraska farmers, feedlot owners and State municipalities? What is the Nebraska Livestock Development Matrix and why should you care? You will find the details to these ag law questions and maybe more in this session.

Sell or Store? Grain Marketing

_Jessica Groskopf, Extension Ag Economist_

Prices go up, and prices go down — and stay down, but when should you sell? Many farm families have a hard time “pulling the trigger” when it comes to selling grain. This workshop will help you understand marketing signals and work to develop a grain marketing plan for your operation and make it work in many different marketing conditions.
Key Cash Lease Communications and Lease Provisions for 2017

Allan Vyhnaelek, Extension Educator

Some cash lease negotiations might be difficult for 2017. Landlords are concerned about high taxes and maintaining the income and return on assets that they have. Tenants are facing the fourth straight year of low crop prices and incomes. Allan will cover key lease provision and communication conversations that landlords and tenants need to consider.

Find Out What Your Neighbor is Really Thinking!

Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel, Extension Specialist, Community Vitality

If you want to find the pulse of rural Nebraska, then this session is for you! Discover rural residents’ opinion about important issues related to community life; housing, education, schools, the local church, and other components of rural life. Over 20 years of University of Nebraska Rural Poll data has been boiled down into trends to see how some rural opinions have changed over time and others have been relatively stable. Participants will get the chance to share their views on a variety of issues and then see how they compare with the statewide poll results.

Session 2: Thursday, 1:30 PM — 2:45 PM

Can the Plant Feed the Cow?

Bethany Johnston, Extension Educator

Of course plants feed cows, but have you considered the cow’s nutrient needs versus what nutrients the grazed plant community is providing? Food labels on our food are reliable. The granola bar you ate has the same calories, fiber, vitamins, and protein as listed on the label, whether you buy it now or a month from now. Unlike our food labels, nutrients supplied by the grass is impacted by weather, time of year, and plant growth. On the flip side, the cow’s nutritional needs are impacted by weather, time of year, growth, pregnancy, and lactation. To make it even more complicated, the microbes in the cow’s rumen also need a certain diet! Because we all know it’s those little bugs that do most of the heavy lifting when it comes to feeding the cow. So beef nutritionists really balance two rations to feed both the microbes and the cow. Learn the concepts of how to balance and when to supplement cows grazing on forage! Follow cows and grass throughout the year and learn when to supplement.
Introduction to Crop Diseases in Nebraska, Including Bacterial Leaf Streak of Corn, First Reported here in 2016.

Tamra Jackson-Ziens, Extension Plant Pathologist

Diseases cost producers grain quality and yield every year. In this session, we will discuss the biology, identification and management of some of our common diseases in Nebraska and learn what weather conditions and production practices favor their development. You will also be updated on Bacterial Leaf Streak disease of corn, reported in Nebraska in 2016 for the first time in the United States.

USDA Farm Service Agency: Program Opportunities for All Farm Sizes and Types

Presenter yet to be determined

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) continues to make adaptations to its Farm Bill and Farm Loan programs in order to make these programs more accessible and useful to all varieties and sizes of agricultural entities. In the past year, USDA implemented changes to the Farm Storage Facility Loan program, expanding its scope significantly and creating easier application options for small producers, and created an EZ Guarantee Loan program, designed to streamline guaranteed loans for small scale farms and urban producers. These and other programs will be discussed during this session.

The DuPont System for Farm Profits

Robert Tigner, Extension Educator

There are three areas of financial performance calculations: earnings, turnings and leverage. DuPont financial analysis allows farms and ranches analyze their financial performance using balance sheets and income statements. This analysis will then point out what areas of your operation are adding to or detracting from the operation’s performance. Knowing this shows you where you can improve your operation’s financial performance.

Trends in Nebraska Farmland Values and Rental Rates

Jim Jansen, Extension Educator

Nebraska farm real estate set record market values in 2014 and 2015, but since then have declined due to lower prices for crops and livestock. Rental rates for agricultural land across Nebraska has also reflected these changing market dynamics. In this session we will look at an overview of the current market value for agricultural land across the state, along with trends in rent for cropland and grazing land across Nebraska.
Workshops

Sleepless in Nebraska

Susan Harris-Broomfield, Extension Educator and Emily Freudenburg, Rehabilitation Specialist, Easter Seals of Nebraska. An AgrAbility Presentation

Having trouble sleeping? Not only does lack of sleep affect your health, it messes with your ability to think clearly and make good decisions in order to stay safe while you work. As a result, injuries on the farm or ranch can happen more frequently. Learn tricks to get better sleep and discover ways to overcome injuries and health problems on the farm. Just don’t fall asleep during the presentation!

Session 3: Thursday, 3:15 PM — 4:30 PM

Working Through the Challenges of Farm/Ranch Succession: Planning for Success

Ron Hanson, Family Succession Planning Specialist

As you begin the task of developing a succession ownership plan for your future, you will be confronted with several challenges. Don’t become tangled up in a mess of legal problems or deal with the personal conflicts between your children. Who makes the final decisions? Can you be fair to everyone involved (both farm and non-farming children)? Will the sweat equity invested in the farm be rewarded? What if there is not good communication within your family? What if your in-laws decide to get involved? How do you keep emotions and personal sibling jealousies from taking over and prevent you from good decision making? This session will provide a framework as well as solutions to help your family overcome these challenges to succession planning and to insure a new generation of young farmers. Developing a succession plan that is understood as well as agreed to by all your family members involved is critical for your successful transition of farm ownership to the next farming generation.

Who Knew Beef Cows Needed so Many Apps?

Steve Johnson, Great Plains Veterinary Education Center; Bethany Johnston, Extension Educator

With the increased use of Smartphones, there are millions of apps out there. We will show and demonstrate some of our favorite beef production-related apps that will assist you in your recordkeeping. You can keep track of your cow/calf data, grasses and pasture, body condition, track cows, and generate reports — all on your phone! Join us to get “App” to date!
Workshops

Why Should I Care About Rainfall in Argentina?

*Jeff Peterson, Heartland Farm Partners*

Do you ever wonder why weather conditions in Brazil are critical to the price of soybeans in Nebraska? Why do we watch political issues in Europe closely and why does it matter to our agriculture policy? Amazingly, what happens thousands of miles from the Midwest; whether it is political, climate-related, stock market-related or has to do with exports, has a major impact on our grain markets and in turn how you make decisions on marketing your product. Join Jeff as he shares his ideas on this ever-changing topic, “Global Marketing.”

Cash Flow and Tax Planning

*Tina Barrett, Nebraska Farm Business, Inc.*

Why does it always feel like your tax plan doesn’t fit with your cash flow? Do you always need to add expenses at year end when your operating note is maxed out? It’s hard to manage income taxes from a good management perspective. We will explore some of the reasons why there is a disconnect between cash flow and “good tax management” and some ideas of how to bring them together for the future.

File it Fast-Find it Easy

*Nancy Frecks, Extension Educator*

Papers, Papers, PAPERS!! What should you do with them, what do you keep, and where do you keep them? In this session we will discuss all of this, including how long to keep different documents. We will talk about a variety of filing systems including electronic ones and tips for how to use them.

“Be Loyal to the Soil!”

*Teri Edeal and Beth Hiatt, NRCS Kearney*

During this NRCS-led workshop you will see and hear from some of America’s top soil health experts and innovative soil health farmers. We will demonstrate soil health complete with videos featuring farmers who are farming with Soil Health Management Systems, followed by discussion. You will see first-hand why you need to be loyal to the soil!
**FUNShops!**

**FUNShops are optional workshops that provide a fun way to network, learn, and play in a non-pressure setting! Each workshop is no longer than 75 minutes and begins at 7:15 PM.**

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**Exercise!!!!**

Cheryl reports that there will be a fun exercise class scheduled, but we are still working on the details! No matter what it is, you will be able to make it work for you! So come join us as we work off all that great Holiday Inn food! Check back in January for specific workout details!

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**Design Direction**

*Michele Figgner CRS, ReDefining Design, Primrose, NE*

Paint colors, surface selections, furniture placements, window treatments, LED versus florescent lighting. Sound confusing? Changing your space, remodeling, or building a new home should be fun and exciting! We will share simple design tips including before and after photos to guide you in your next design project AND maximize your budget. I will reveal my number one design secret to get you going in the right direction!

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**Hello, My Name Is............**

*Jana Kruger and Jill Brown, Mother/Daughter Duo*

The Women in Agriculture Conference is full of wonderful women — let’s get to know one another! New friends will be made, and laughs will be had. We can’t wait to meet you!
Keep Your Farm in the Family for the Next Generation: Do You Have a Succession Plan?

*Ron Hanson, Family Succession Planning Specialist*

The entire process for mapping out a succession plan to transfer the eventual ownership of your family farm from you (parents) to the next generation (your adult children) can be an overwhelming task for many families. Where do you begin and who makes the final decisions? In this session we will outline the six steps necessary for you to implement and achieve a successful succession plan that avoids potential misunderstandings and family conflicts between your children. What are the hidden hints for a successful succession plan? A frequent cause of family conflict and sibling arguments is a lack of clarity and the failure to explain the specifics by parents when communicating their wishes. You must embrace your vision for passing on your farm that is understood by your entire family for this process to achieve a successful transition of ownership to your adult children. Insure that your family farming or ranching legacy is preserved!!

Unlock the Secrets of Quicken!

*Jenny Nixon and Jack Arterburn, Extension Educators*

Would you like to develop a better recordkeeping system to use in making farm management decisions? Join us for an overview of the Quicken software. This workshop will provide an understanding of basic Quicken features as a farm recordkeeping tool. We will also explore how to create the three major reports every business needs: balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow. You can share by bringing your best recordkeeping tips!

Crop Insurance 2017: The Basics, the Changes, the Options

*Jana Sittler, Auburn Agency Crop*

This session is for you if you are looking for basic crop insurance information. We will talk about the different types and levels of coverage, yield histories, farm units, calculating losses, premium costs and what is new for 2017. This is a must if you have questions, basic or detailed, about crop insurance. Jana will have all the crop insurance low-down for the upcoming growing season and why it’s an essential tool for your operation and risk management strategy.
Workshops

How Do We Work Together for Conservation?

*Simanti Banerjee, Experimental Economist*

In this session, you will take part in a hands-on activity while discussing the importance of natural resources coordination. Simanti will focus on different factors that can improve this coordination and why bottlenecks exist.

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Ag Policy Update

*Brad Lubben, Extension Ag Policy Specialist*

With a new administration and a new Congress underway, the ag policy outlook for 2017 is quickly unfolding. We will explore the biggest policy questions for agriculture, from the early discussion and development of the next farm bill to the trade and regulatory issues discussed at length during the campaign. How will agriculture fare and how will it engage in the debate? This session should provide you with some initial answers and some guidance for the months ahead.

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Meals in Minutes

*Nancy Frecks, Extension Educator*

Do you ever wish for the convenience of pizza delivery or maybe even take-out food that you don’t have to drive 30 minutes or more to get? With just a little planning and preparation you can have meals on the table for your family in less time than it would take to order and pick up take-out meals! Simple menu planning, grocery shopping and food preparation ideas will help you provide your family with healthy quick meals, especially on those days you are busy from sun up to sun down and longer! Let’s eat!

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The Buzz of Bees and Benefits

*Amy Timmerman, Pat Jones and David Lott, Extension Educators*

This unique workshop will discuss the importance of pollinators, how you can improve the ecosystem with plant diversity in your landscaping, and provide food sources to attract honey bees. We will also discuss the multiple health benefits and uses of honey in the home. Word has it there might be a little honey taste testing!
**Workshops**

**Herbicide Resistance: The How and Why of Development, Management, and Prevention**

*Nevin Lawrence, Integrated Weed Management Specialist*

There are currently 15 unique cases of herbicide-resistance in Nebraska. Each resistant weed in the state forces farmers to change their practices and add expense to their farming operations. Yet, the number of herbicide-resistance weeds in the state continues to grow too. In this workshop we will discuss the extent of herbicide-resistance in Nebraska, different types of herbicides and how they are used. You will also learn how herbicide-resistance develops, different management strategies that you can use to control herbicide-resistant weeds, and how to integrate weed management strategies into your operation. We will also break into groups and work on an herbicide-resistance management plan for a hypothetical farm in Nebraska.

**Tips for Making your Annual Lender Renewal a Breeze!**

*Tyson Benner and Dallas Zimbelman, Archer Cooperative Credit Union*

Part of the lender renewal process is going over financials with your lender. Do you know how your lender uses this information during the decision process? Do you, as the producer, know how to use this information to check your financial health throughout the year? Join us for the answers to these questions and more! See the annual renewal process from the eyes of the lender and take home tips to better be prepared for the next meeting!

**Smart Choices!!**

*Jay Parsons, Extension Farm Management Specialist*

Decisions can be tough and agriculture provides one of the toughest environments in which to make decisions. Most agricultural decisions involve lots of uncertainties and multiple objectives. That’s why it is important to have a process that keeps you focused on the right things. Join us for this valuable discussion about how to plan and set priorities for your future.
Workshops

Profit-Focused Genetic Selection Decisions

Matt Spangler, Extension Beef Genetics Specialist

In this session we will focus on identifying your breeding goals, genetic traits that impact profitability, and using economic selection indicators. The importance of fitting the genetic potential of animals to your production environment and advances in the use of genomics in your operation will also be discussed.

Harvesting Happiness: What Ag Women Need to Know About Depression

Tina Chasek, LIMHP  University of Nebraska at Kearney

Women in agriculture face many challenges including production issues, financial concerns, family demands, and personal stress. These challenges very often can be overwhelming and lead to difficulty managing your day-to-day life. Farmers and ranchers today face very uncertain financial challenges. What do these challenges look like in your life? Are stress and depression affecting you or your family? How do you manage these challenges for better health? This session will help you define, identify and learn to overcome depression symptoms for better mental and physical health.

Remember.....

For more information check out our web page: http://wia.unl.edu.

Visit us on Facebook: facebook.com/NebraskaWIA

Twitter: @newomeninag #newia2017
#heartofthefarm
How to Register

Registration Fee
The on-line registration site will open on Thursday, January 5. The early-bird registration fee of $125 per person is due by February 13. Beginning February 14, the fee is $150. This fee includes workshop materials, registration, breaks, lunch, and dinner on Thursday and breakfast and lunch on Friday.

Cancellations
The full registration fee is refundable up to February 17, a $62.50 refund until February 21 and no refund after February 22. In the event of a weather cancellation it will be announced on KRVN and local TV stations, as well as by email and posted on the WIA website and Facebook page.

How to Register
1. Register On-line: http://wia.unl.edu. This is the preferred and easiest method!!
2. Register by phone: 800-535-3456 (We will invoice you)
3. Register by mail: Mail a completed registration form (page 17) with a check made out to University of Nebraska: Women in Agriculture Conference
   Sandy Sterkel
   303 Filley Hall,
   Lincoln, NE 68583-0922

***Please note that the University of Nebraska can not take credit card numbers by email, over the telephone, or in the mail. This is for your credit safety. If you have any questions about the on-line registration process, contact Michael Riese at 402-472-9053 or mriese3@unl.edu.

For questions about the conference or the workshops, contact Sandy at 800-535-3456 or ssterkel1@unl.edu.

If you have a sponsor (bank, co-op) you will need to pay the registration fee and receive reimbursement directly from your sponsor. We can not bill sponsors.

Hotel Information
Reservations should be made directly with the Kearney Holiday Inn. Their special room rate is $97.95 per room. The hotel is holding a block of rooms until January 23 for the Women in Agriculture Conference.

Phone 308-237-5971

Address 110 Second Ave., Kearney, NE 68848. Located north of 1-80 at Kearney Exit 272

Tax Deductible
The expenses of continuing education when taken to maintain and improve professional skills are tax deductible. Consult your tax advisor for more details.
Registration

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________ County: ________________

City: ____________________________ State: __________ Zip: ________________

Phone: _________________ Email: ______________________________

Indicate your choice of workshop sessions. Only ONE per session!

Session 1:
Cost Control _____
Managing Grazing and Forage_____ 
Potpourri of Ag Law ______
Sell or Store _____
Cash Lease Provisions _____
The Rural Pulse _____

Session 2:
Feeding the Cow _____
FSA Programming_____ 
Crop Diseases_____
DuPont Method for Profits _____
Trends in Farmland Values _____
Sleepless _____

Session 3:
Challenges to Succession _____
Cows & Apps _____
Cash Flow _____
Global Marketing____
File it Find it! _____
Loyal to the Soil _____

Session 4:
Is There a Succession Plan? _____
Quicken _____
Crop Insurance 2017 _____
Working Together for Conservation _______
Ag Policy Update ______
Meals in Minutes _____

Session 5:
Buzzing Bees _____
Herbicide Resistance _____
Renewal with Lender _____
Smart Choices _____
Genetic Beef Selections _____
Harvesting Happiness _____

Fun Shops
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Hello!!! _____

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