



The 31st Annual Nebraska _____

Women in Agriculture Conference

Educate.Advocate.Communicate.

Women in Agriculture: Today's Critical Difference

February 25-26, 2016—Kearney Holiday Inn

Kearney, NE

**Empowering Women in the
Agriculture Industry!!**



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 9:00 - 9:45 am Registration
- 9:45 - 9:55 am Welcome! *Cheryl Griffith-Conference Coordinator*
Larry Van Tassell-Dept. of Ag Economics
- 9:55 - 11:10 am Kick-off: **“The Balancing Act: 10 Ideas to Relieve Stress and Bring Renewal to Our Farm and Family Life”**
Jolene Brown-West Branch, Iowa
- 11:15 - 12:30 pm Workshop Session 1
- 12:30 - 1:30 pm Lunch & and time to network!!
- 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 - 6:30 pm Dinner with video and door prizes!!!
- 6:30 - 7:30 pm FUNShops!!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 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: **Passion for the Purpose**
Trent Loos -Litchfield, Nebraska
- Safe Journey Home!*

Our Speakers!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

JOLENE BROWN

“The Balancing Act: 10 Ideas to Relieve Stress and Bring Renewal to Our Farm and Family Life”

We balance soil fertility, feed rations, tires and our checkbooks. We overwork, overwhelm and overload ourselves. Something’s wrong with this picture! It’s time we learn 10 realistic and applicable ideas to help bring a breath of fresh air, renewal and balance to our work and family life. Come and learn with Jolene Brown, grain farmer, author, family business consultant and an internationally recognized professional speaker. With valuable content, real life examples and a whole lot of fun, you, your family and the farm or ranch will be glad you did!



*Jolene is sponsored by **Farm Credit Services of America***



CAPSTONE SPEAKER

TRENT LOOS

Passion for the Purpose

We’ve all heard the phrase “a crime of passion” but how far would you go to protect or promote what you are passionate about? Trent’s passion for promoting agriculture was born out of the reality that people were spreading vicious untruths about the industry he grew up in and dearly loved and nobody was setting them straight. What will it take to motivate you to share your story and fight for the things that you think are worthwhile? Listen as Trent shares stories from his worldly travels about the amazing people that are making a difference in so many fields in countless different ways. Whether you prefer a pen and paper or a podcast, your story can change a life and Trent will show you how. Let your heartfelt passion help you define a meaningful purpose in your life beginning today.

Conference Sponsors

A Big Thanks to Our Sponsors!!!

Premiere Sponsor (Minimum gift of \$3,000)
Farm Credit Services of America

Additional sponsors may
be announced at
conference time.

Silver Sponsor (Gift of \$1,000 to \$1,999)

Reinke Irrigation, Inc. Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation

Bronze Sponsor (Gift of \$350 to \$999)

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CASNR)

Waddell & Reed

Nebraska Corn Board

Nebraska Ethanol Board

Nebraska Department of Agriculture

Nebraska Independent Community Bankers



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 US 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, 11:15 AM — 12:30 PM

“Farmer Brown” on Family Business™

Jolene Brown, Family Business Consultant

Jolene's been called agriculture's version of Dr. Phil. Her 30+ years of working with farm and ranch families have taught her valuable lessons of what works...and what doesn't. She knows that if you want to honor the family, you'd better do the business right. If not, you may end up with neither family nor business. In a no-nonsense and interactive question and answer session, she'll listen to your stories, questions and concerns about your family farm business. She'll bring her insight and tested take-home tools to create a positive transition for labor, management, leadership and ownership. With lots of laughter and unscripted but focused conversation, you'll learn what it takes to identify roadblocks and take positive action. Together we'll celebrate the joys of making a good family business even better.

Crop Insurance 2016: Covering the Basics

Jana Sittler, Auburn Insurance Agency

This session is for people who are looking for basic 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 2016. A must for all who have questions about insurance. Jana will have all the crop insurance low-down for the upcoming growing season!

Profiting from Sheep and Goats!

Randy Saner, Extension Educator

So you have heard of producers adding a sheep or goat herd to their operation. Would that fit into your business? Learn how producers are finding ways to make this a profitable venture?

Diversifying Tree Species after Ash Borer

David Lott, Extension Educator

This program is a follow-up to last year's program where we discussed the impact of the Emerald Ash Borer. We will discuss and promote tree species diversity in landscapes and properties while enhancing biodiversity to decrease the impact of future tree insect and disease outbreaks.

Workshops

Alternative and Flexible Cash Lease Provisions

Allan Vyhnalek, and Jim Jansen, Extension Educators

With uncertainty in crop prices and yields, landowners and tenants operate in tenuous rent environments. Landowners look for ways to improve rents when performance and prices are better than expected, while growers and tenants look for ways to reduce rents when performance and prices are less than expected. The answer to both is flexible cash lease provisions! Flexible cash lease provisions adapt cash rents for unpredictable changes in prices, yields, farm revenues, or other related variables. This workshop will provide you with the basic understanding and exposure to flexible leasing so you can start using these tools immediately. In addition to discussion, you will see an Excel-based decision aide, and practice drafting basic flex lease provisions.

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

2016 Farm Financial Outlook

Tina Barrett, Nebraska Farm Business, Inc.

Farm finances have you in a quandary? Tina will look at the recent history of farm finances to help combat the tightening margins we've seen in recent years. All designed to help you remain profitable in production agriculture.

Trends in Nebraska Agriculture Real Estate Markets and Rentals for 2016

Tim Lemmons, Jim Jansen, Extension Educators

Leading into 2016, Nebraska producers face challenging financial circumstances given lower grain prices and uncertainty in livestock markets. With these constraints, making informed decisions regarding the purchase or rental of agricultural ground remains more important than ever. This presentation will summarize trends in ag land values and rental rates along with discussing key considerations when negotiating and setting 2016 lease arrangements.

Sell or Store? Grain Marketing

Jessica Groskopf, Extension Educator

Prices go up, and prices go down. 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 develop a grain marketing plan for your operation.

Workshops

Unmanned Aircraft in Agriculture: Unlimited Possibilities!

Wayne Woldt, UNL Extension Biosystems Engineer

The opening of national air space to unmanned aircraft will be a game-changer for agriculture. Unmanned aircraft have the potential to make a significant contribution to closing the yield gap through agricultural intensification, while at the same time improving environmental and ecological sustainability. The fundamental premise is that unmanned aircraft will gather timely crop, soil, livestock, production, and environmental information, while improving the response time for agriculture production and natural resources management. Estimates by the unmanned aircraft industry suggest that agriculture will comprise 70% of the market share. This presentation will highlight research and development underway at the NU-AIRE (Nebraska Unmanned Aircraft Innovation, Research and Education) Laboratory, along with an overview of unmanned aircraft regulations.

Pasture Health: Body Condition Score Your Pastures!

Bethany Johnston, Extension Educator

How easy is it to body condition score your cows? You look at the fat deposits covering the cow's body. A "fleshy" cow is considered good, while a thin cow may need special attention. How do you tell if your pasture is "fleshy"? What do you look at to assess plant health? Determining the health of your pasture is more difficult than looking at the outside fat layer of a cow! A cow's body condition (or energy reserves) is visible on the outside, but plant health is determined by the vigor of the root system. Learn how to determine the health of your pasture, critical grazing times, and management for "fleshy" and "thin" pastures.

Family Farm Transition: The Influence and Power of Women

Iuliia Protopop, PhD Graduate Student, Agricultural Economics

Evidence shows that women play an important role on family farms worldwide. In family businesses, women traditionally wear "multiple hats", the main two of which are *mother/wife* and *business partner*. To a woman, the true success of intergenerational farm transfer is achieving success in both areas: family and business. *Given the unique role and influence that a woman has in the family, how can she help preserve family AND leave a farm legacy?* Based on current research and reflection of professionals in this field, this session will help participants understand how a woman's unique communication skills and decision-making style can help navigate through some of the challenges during the farm transition.

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

Keep Pesticides in the Field (and get certified!)

Bethany Johnston and Jenny Rees, Extension Educators

Certification is coming to you at WIA! Bethany and Jenny will host a Private Pesticide Training for producers who apply **restricted-use pesticide** for agricultural products. Once you complete the training, you can receive your Private Pesticide License from the Nebraska Department of Ag allowing you to buy and apply restricted-use pesticides. Join us to learn how to keep your family safe from pesticides. What type of protective gear do you need? How should you wash clothes with pesticide on them? How can you keep pesticides in the field, and not track them into the house? Total fees for the three-year license is \$55. The cost is \$30 for the training (due at this workshop), and \$25 for a license which you will pay at a later time to Nebraska Department of Ag. No cost if you just want to sit in and learn. **Please note that this session will run until 5:15 and will continue after supper as a Fun-Shop. You must attend both sessions to receive your certification.**

Cover Crop Management

Katja Koehler-Cole, Post-Doc Research Associate, Daren Redfearn, Extension Forage and Crop Residue Specialist and Roger Elmore, Extension Cropping Systems Agronomist

This session will focus on the connection of cover crops to grain production and forage production opportunities, as well as the importance of conservation principles for managing cover crops in cropping systems. Participants will discover the importance of cover crops to crop production systems and identify opportunities where cover crops may be included to enhance components of the production system.

HR 4 Ag: Managing & Mitigating Human Risk on the Farm or Ranch

Marilyn Schlake and Jessica Jones, Extension Educators

How do you recruit and retain the best employees? How do you motivate and engage workers? How do you best communicate with others on the farm/ranch? How do you lead and build a team? Learn the answers to these questions and other proven human resource management strategies to mitigate human risk on your operation.

Workshops

Tax Planning in Uncertain Times

Tina Barrett, Nebraska Farm Business, Inc.

In this important workshop, Tina will review some tax-saving tips, review recent tax law changes and explain the impact of the current financial position on income taxes. Great information from Tina!

Diggin' Those Plants!!

Brandy VanDeWalle, Extension Educator

Do you like to play in the soil and learn more about plants? If so, check out this hands-on workshop which will investigate the exciting world under our feet. Learn about ways you can engage youth in our communities with soil and plant science! This also helps set the groundwork for the opportunity to teach youth about agriculture in your community.



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 90 minutes and begins at 6:30 PM.

Pesticide Training: continued With Bethany and Jenny.

This is probably not the best example of fun, but it is certainly worthwhile, very important and worth attending if your pesticide certification needs renewing!

WHERE You Live Shouldn't Determine IF you Live! Rural Women's Heart Health

Julie Smith, American Heart Association

Learn about the American Heart Association's (AHA) many programs focused on women's health, and heart attack care in rural America. In the US, 1 in 4 women dies from heart disease. In fact, coronary heart disease (CHD) is the #1 killer of both men and women in the US and Nebraska. How healthy are you? What are your risk factors for heart disease? Do you know your numbers? What can we as women do to improve our health? Learn what your role is in saving rural lives, maybe your own life or that of a loved one!

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!

Workshops

Session 4: Friday, 9:00 AM — 10:15 AM

Farm Service Agency Updates

Jessi Remmers, CED and Ryan Strobe, Farm Loan Officer

The USDA Farm Service Agency will provide program updates on the 2014 Farm Bill Program and current farm loan programs. Stay tuned for more information on this valuable workshop!

Water Conserving Landscapes

Elizabeth Killinger, Extension Educator

So, 2015 was an above average precipitation year for most of Nebraska, but we all know how quickly that can change. When landscaping why not think ahead and landscape for those years where conserving water is a must? Elizabeth will discuss landscaping which includes drought tolerant/water conserving plant materials. This workshop is one not to miss!

The Importance of Record-Keeping for Profitability of and Sustainability for Cow-Calf Producers

Meredith Bremer, Extension Educator

Keeping good and accurate records of the beef condition score at calving, breeding, and weaning is crucial to remain profitable in the industry as cow-calf producers. We will discuss record-keeping related to this as well as veterinary feed directives. This is vitally important for producers, back-grounding operations, and feedlots now and in the coming years. Stop in and welcome Meredith to WIA!



Workshops

Welcome to the Bank....What Did You Bring With You Today?

Paul Burgener, Assistant Vice President, Ag Credit, Platte Valley Bank

Paul will delve into the lender/customer relationship from the lender perspective. Learn how to cultivate that relationship and learn what the farm/ranch family can do to make it a positive and productive relationship for both parties. Discussion will include the types of documents that the bank would like to see and how the information in those documents is used to help the borrower. This is your opportunity to ask a banker those questions you always wanted to ask, but were afraid to ask!!



Unlock the Secrets in the Soil!

Teri Edeal and Beth Hiatt, NRCS



At this NRCS led workshop you can see and hear from some of America's top soil health experts and innovative soil health farmers. We will have demonstrations on soil health complete with videos featuring the men and women who are farming with Soil Health Management Systems. This will be followed by discussion and questions. See for yourself why there's a growing movement to "Unlock the Secrets in the Soil."

Take Charge of Your Health: Women Working in Agriculture

Sharry Nielsen, Extension Educator and Ellen Duysen, Specialist CS-CASH

The number of women working as principle farm operators has tripled over the past 30 years. Millions of women live, work, and raise families on farms and ranches. Agricultural women face unique safety and health challenges that require attention. Learn how to talk to your health care provider about your risks. Although health and safety initiatives traditionally target male ag producers, women are frequently multi-tasking with family activities and off-farm work, making stress management a significant problem. Build your tool box of resources and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) so you are ready to protect yourself. PPE for women will be demonstrated with samples provided to session participants.

Session 5: Friday, 10:45 AM — Noon

Understanding the Farm Program and the Farm Income Safety Net

Bradley Lubben, Extension Ag Policy Specialist

Happenings in Washington DC are always changing the landscape of ag policy. Brad will update us on what is impacting Nebraska's ag producers in 2016 and provide a more focused discussion of managing with the farm program and farm income safety net. Do you suppose the upcoming election could have an effect on ag policy?

Bio-security: Preventing Disease Outbreak and the Ramifications of When it Fails

Benny Mote, Extension Swine Specialist

Recently, we have all seen that disease outbreaks appear suddenly and can have disastrous implications. Having a well thought out plan to prevent an outbreak is important and producers need to be aware of the economic costs when an outbreak happens. We are happy to have a swine specialist on-board and welcome Benny to WIA!

Decide NOW Grain Marketing

Decide NOW Extension Team: Jessica Groskopf, Robert Tigner, Extension Educators and Cory Walters, Extension Marketing Specialist

So, you've got a grain marketing plan. Now, it's time to take action with the help of the new Decide NOW app. After inputting your grain marketing plan, Decide NOW will notify you when it's time to make a grain marketing decision. It can't get better than that. Be sure to bring your iPhone or iPad with you and the team will get you started!

Are You Risk Averse or Just Treated That Way?

Jay Parsons, Extension Farm Management Specialist

Women are often "protected: from risk and left out of the decision making that involves risk. We will discuss the importance of risk management in agriculture, understanding your risk preferences and those around you, and what a good risk management culture looks like on a farm or ranch. Jay is a first-timer at Women in Ag. Welcome Jay!

Workshops

Beef Cattle Marketing

Kate Brooks, Extension Livestock Marketing Specialist

Year 2014 set records in the beef cattle industry, however at the end of 2015 we were sitting at prices closer to December 2013. The beef cattle industry has begun to expand and prices have begun to fall even though we are sitting at high costs of production. This session will look at basic marketing concepts and how to implement them as we move through a new cattle cycle. This workshop will also discuss creating a marketing plan.

Agricultural Data: Applications for Data Analysis or Big Data

Joe Luck, Extension Bio-Systems Specialist

There are many aspects of agricultural crop production that may lend themselves to the recent trend in Big Data, or essentially, data analytics. We will look at some different datasets that require large storage and processing needs and potential applications for farm decision makers. We will also look at how some data analysis approaches, which may not reach the “big data” level, can also provide benefits at the farm level.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO.....Our 2016 Planning Committee!

Where would we be without the input from this year’s planning committee? They took many of your suggestions from previous years and combined them with some ideas of their own to come up with this year’s program.

Jenny Nixon

Hilary Maricle

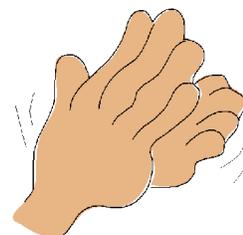
Sandy Sterkel

Jenny Rees

Marilyn Schlake

Bethany Johnston

Lindsay Chichester



Bring this page to the conference with you!!!



I have signed up for:

Session 1: _____

Session 2: _____

Session 3: _____

Session 4: _____

Session 5: _____

FUNShop: _____

Notes:

Remember for more information check out our web page: <http://wia.unl.edu>.

Also visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/NebraskaWIA 

And, Twitter: [@newwomeninag](https://twitter.com/newwomeninag) 

How to Register

Registration Fee

The on-line registration site will open on Wednesday, January 6. The early-bird registration fee of **\$125 per person is due by February 12**. Beginning February 13, 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 19**, a \$62.50 refund until February 23 and no refund after February 23. 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: 402-472-9053
3. Register by mail: Mail a completed registration form with a check made out University of Nebraska to: 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 ssterkell@unl.edu.

New this year! 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 \$94.95 per room. The hotel is holding a block of rooms until January 27 for the Women in Agriculture Conference.

Phone 308-237-5971

Address 110 Second Ave., Kearney, NE 68848. Located north of I-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:

Farmer Brown _____
Crop Insurance _____
Sheep and Goats _____
Diversifying Tree Species _____
Flexible Cash Leases _____

Session 2:

2016 Financial Outlook _____
Trends in Ag Real Estate Markets _____
Farm Transition & Women _____
Sell or Store? _____
Unmanned Aircraft _____
Pasture Health Score _____

Session 3:

Cover Crop Management _____
Pesticide Certification _____
HR 4 Ag _____
Diggin' Those Plants!! _____
Tax Planning _____

Session 4:

FSA Updates _____
Water Conserving Landscapes _____
Record-Keeping for Cow/Calf _____
Women Working in Ag _____
Welcome to the Bank _____
Unlock the Secret in the Soil _____

Session 5:

Farm Program & Ag Update _____
Bio-Security _____
Decide NOW _____
Risk Averse? _____
Beef Cattle Marketing _____
Big Data _____

Fun Shops

Exercise!!!! _____
Pesticide Certification (cont'd) _____
Women's Heart Health _____

If registering by mail, send this completed form and a check made out to University of Nebraska to:

Women in Ag Conference
Sandy Sterkel
303 Filley Hall
Lincoln, NE 68583-0922