How can you get more profit from your farm/ranch operation?

Q: How can you get more profit from your farm/ranch operation?

Answer inside

Who Will Be the Instructors?

Master Marketer Program instructors come from the faculty of the Texas Cooperative Extension, numerous other universities and private industry. Their outstanding expertise and communication skills rank them among the best in the county.

What is the Master Marketer Program?

This program is designed for agricultural producers and agribusiness leaders experienced in marketing commodities and having some knowledge of futures and options markets. The course contains 64 hours of intensive marketing training, focusing on wheat, cotton, feedgrains, and livestock.


Where: Vernon, Texas

Why Should I Be Interested?

Profit and Risk. The political movement towards free trade throughout the world, coupled with changing farm program supports, will lead to greater price volatility. These changes will necessitate a renewed emphasis on marketing skills. Producers who understand market forces and alternative marketing techniques will have a clear advantage in the future.

A little improvement in marketing skills can mean a lot to a producer’s bottom line. A commercial producer who increases his net price just 2.5 percent to 5 percent will increase net returns before taxes by $10,000 to $50,000 a year, depending on size of operation.

What Will Be Taught?

The course, offering a range of topics aimed at enhancing marketing skills, will be approached from a real-world standpoint using numerous case-study examples and simulated problems. Subjects will include:

• Basic and advanced marketing strategies
• Development and implementation of a marketing plan
• Fundamental and technical analysis
• Value added and alternative marketing mechanisms
• Marketing discipline
• Weather impact on market prices

Anyone who doesn’t feel they are already at the intermediate to advanced level should attend the free futures and options leveling workshop being held on January 19, 2004, before the beginning of the Master Marketer Program.

How Is This Program Funded?

The Master Marketer Program is self-supporting. Since the Master Marketer Program involves intensive marketing training, focusing on wheat, cotton, feedgrains, and livestock.

SESSION I: Review of Basics

The first two-day session will concentrate on basic and intermediate marketing to set the stage for the remaining sessions. Major topic areas covered will include:

• Budgets/breakeven, financial analysis
• Basis
• Basic and advanced marketing strategies
• Development and implementation of a marketing plan

Dr. Stephen H. Amosson is a Professor and Extension Economist-Management based in Amarillo. Dr. Amosson’s program covers a wide area of emphasis, ranging from marketing and alternative irrigation systems to waste management/water quality.

Stan J. Bevers is an Associate Professor and Extension Economist based in Vernon. His areas of specialization include farm and ranch management, marketing/risk management, and marketing club development. Stan was also the lead author in the development of the Bud-Pro budgeting program.

Dr. Mark L. Waller is a Professor and Extension Economist-Grain Marketing and Policy based in College Station. Dr. Waller’s program emphasis includes price risk management and market analysis, price outlook, market information collection and dissemination, evaluation of marketing alternatives and farm policy.

Dr. Danny A. Klinefelter is a Professor of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University and Director of The Executive Program for Agricultural Producers. He serves as Executive Secretary for the Association of Agricultural Production Executives and is Executive Vice President of Klinefelter Farms, Inc., an Illinois family farm corporation. He is author of seven books on agricultural finance and farm business management.
SESSION II: Fundamental Analysis in Crop Markets and Production Risk Management Tools

This session will discuss the fundamental factors that influence market prices and production risk management for feedgrains and cotton. Instructors will use case studies to cover topics such as Balance Sheet Analysis, cycles, seasonality, short crop vs. normal crop price patterns, market information, and market psychology.

Dr. G.A. (Art) Barnaby, Jr. is a Professor of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas. His program emphasis includes financial planning, government commodity programs, risk, and crop insurance. Dr. Barnaby has worked extensively with the private crop insurance industry, FCIC, and farm commodity groups on crop insurance issues.

Dr. William I. Tierney, Jr. is a Professor and Extension Economist-Crops Marketing in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas. His program emphasis includes financial planning, government commodity programs, risk, and crop insurance.

SESSION III: Incorporating Technical Analysis in the Marketing Plan and Fundamental Analysis of Livestock Markets

The first day of this session will explore the uses of technical analysis, especially in relation to the marketing plan. The instructor will use case studies to explain such techniques as chart formation, support/resistance, trends, moving averages oscillators, and other tools to improve marketing timing. The second day of this session will discuss the fundamental factors that influence livestock prices.

Dr. Wayne D. Purcell is a Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Director of the Research Institute on Livestock Pricing, and Coordinator of the Virginia's Rural Economic Analysis Program at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Dr. Purcell is widely recognized as a leading authority on technical analysis.

Dr. Darrell Peel is a Professor and Extension Economist-Livestock Marketing at Oklahoma State University. Dr. Peel's program emphasis includes livestock market outlook, risk management, and international trade. Dr. Peel is one of the co-developers of the OSU Packer Feeder Simulation Program which has received national recognition.

SESSION IV: Marketing Plans, Integration, and Diversification

In the first half of this session, integration and diversification issues will be addressed as means to deal with the increased levels of price and production risk producers will face in the future. During the final day and a half, participants will learn more about how to incorporate what they learned in the first three sessions into their marketing plan. They will also learn how important a disciplined approach is in achieving their marketing goals.

Dr. Wayne A. Hayenga is Professor and Extension Specialist at Texas A&M University. Dr. Hayenga's program emphasis is in teaching and coordinating educational programs in estate and income tax management. In the past several years he has discussed estate planning and other legal topics with many professional organizations and business owner groups. He has also been involved in agricultural finance and other agribusiness educational programs. He was awarded the Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award from the Former Students Association of Texas A&M University.

Dr. Darrell D. Holaday is a private marketing/management consultant. Prior to his current position, he served as Manager of the Kansas Agricultural Marketing Association for Kansas Farm Bureau. He also directed the association's FB TAX and Accounting Service. While at Kansas Farm Bureau, Mr. Holaday developed educational programs on marketing and management; published Market Sense, a weekly market information newsletter; and advised producers within Kansas Farm Bureau's individualized consulting service, Market Sentry.

Dr. Carl G. Anderson is a Professor and Extension Economist-Cotton Marketing for Texas Cooperative Extension based in College Station, Texas. His primary emphasis is in developing educational programs and materials on cotton marketing and policy. From 1986 to 1993, Anderson served on the Board of Managers of the New York Cotton Exchange. He was awarded the Texas A&M University Regents Fellowship Award.

How to apply for the Master Marketer Program:

- **Deadline for sending application is January 7, 2004**
- **Fee(s) may be paid by check or money order to Texas Extension Education Foundation.**
- **Send payment with completed registration form to:**
  - Stan Bevers, Agricultural Economist-Management Texas A&M Research & Extension Ctr, Box 2159
  - Vernon, Texas 76385-2159

Please specify information about your operation:
- Location (county):
- Occupation: 
  - Producer 
  - Other
- Commodities produced:
  - Crops (acres): 
    - Corn
    - Wheat
    - Sorghum
    - Cotton
  - Livestock (head): 
    - Cow/Calf
    - Stocker
    - Sheep
    - Goats
- Other
- Describe any previous marketing courses taken or training received:

What marketing tools do you currently use?

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