

### Texas A&M System

# Master Marketer Survey Summary 2017

Designed to assess the educational impact of the Master Marketer program. This is a summary of the data collected by the Master Marketer 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-Year Post Surveys from 1996 through 2017. It encompasses surveys up to the class of Amarillo 2015.

## Section 1. Background of marketing practices

Your responses to the following questions should relate to your activities prior to attending the Master Marketer program and your activities since completing the program.

	Pre-Master	Marketer	Post-Master I	Post-Master Marketer							
	Yes (circ	cle one) No	Yes (circle	e one) No							
1. Do you have a marketing plan?	38.4%	61.6%	88.4%	11.6%							
	N=235	N=377	N=556	N=73							
2. If you have a marketing plan, do you have a	5.4%	94.6%	31.8%	68.2%							
written marketing plan?	N=33	N=578	N=200	N=429							
3. Do you share your marketing plan with	26.3%	73.7%	64.1%	35.9%							
someone else?	N=159	N=445	N=405	N=227							
4. Do you determine costs of production for	51.2%	48.8%	83.7%	16.3%							
different commodities and use those costs to set price targets?	N=313	N=298	N=528	N=103							
5. Do you build profit and/or growth needs into	30.7%	69.3%	68.9%	31.1%							
your price targets?	N=184	N=415	N=430	N=194							
6. Do you use a general marketing advisory	41.2%	58.8%	57.1 %	42.9%							
newsletter (Doane's, ProFarmer, etc.)?	N=253	N=361	N=363	N=273							
7. Do you employ a market advisor (Brock,	10.6%	89.4%	25.2%	74.8%							
Gulke, etc.)?	N=65	N=548	N=160	N=474							
8. Since attending Master Marketer, have you sought further education on marketing tools or strategies or market information (either self-taught or from a professional source)?											
9. What is your overall rating of the education circle one)	nal quality of	f the Master M	larketer progr	am? (please							
Poor 1 2 3 4 5	6 7	Excellent	Average= 6.	45 N= 654							

## Section 2. Development of your personal market outlook.

These questions deal with the types of market analysis a producer might use to develop a personal market outlook. These questions relate to the types of market analysis you used prior to attending the Master Marketer program and the types of market analysis you have used since completing the program.

		•	•	r knowle swer bo	0		ental analy	ysis in developing yo	ur personal		
					Pre-	Master	Marketer				
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent Averag	e= 3.33 N=626		
Did you use market fundamentals in developing your personal market outlook <i>before</i> attending the Master Marketer program?YesNo43.3%56.7% N=247N=324											
					Post-	Master	Marketer				
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent Averag	e= 5.47 N=623		
		e <b>ntly</b> use ket outlo		fundam	entals in	develo	ping your	Yes 87.7% N=529	No 12.3% N=74		

	2. How would you rate your knowledge of seasonal price analysis in developing your personal market outlook? (please circle one)												
	Pre-Master Marketer												
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent Average	ge=3.40 N=630				
Did you use seasonal price information in developing your personal market outlook <i>before</i> attending the Master MarketerYesNo51.6%48.4%N=290N=272													
					Post-	Master	Marketer						
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent Average	ge= 5.59 N=625				
-		e <b>ntly</b> use l market		•	informat	ion in d	eveloping	Yes 93.2% N=565	No 6.8% N=41				

	3. How would you rate your knowledge of technical analysis in developing your personal market outlook? (please circle one)												
	Pre-Master Marketer												
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent Average	ge= 2.55 N=630				
Did you use technical analysis in developing your personal market outlook <i>before</i> attending the Master Marketer program?YesNo20.1% N=11879.9%N=469													
					Post-	Master	Marketer						
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent Average	ge = 4.86 N=634				
-		e <b>ntly</b> use ket outlo		al analy	sis in de	veloping	g your	Yes 71.9% N=440	No 28.1% N=172				

	4. How would you rate your ability to develop your personal market outlook and apply the appropriate marketing tools? (please circle one)											
Pre-Master Marketer												
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent	Average= 3.03 N= 639			
					Post-	Master	Market	er				
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent	Average= 5.36 N= 645			

#### Section 3. Risk management tools and strategies.

These questions relate to your ability to manage different types of agricultural risk and knowledge of risk management tools and strategies. Your responses should relate to how your abilities and knowledge changed from the time before attending the Master Marketer program to the time after you completed the program.

1. Hov	1. How would you rate your ability to manage price and production risk? (please circle one)											
Pre-Master Marketer												
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent	Average= 3.46 N=639			
					Post-	Master	Market	ter				
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent	Average= 5.57 N= 645			

	2. How would you rate your knowledge of production risk management tools (crop insurance, enterprise diversification, etc.)? (please circle one)												
	Pre-Master Marketer												
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent	Average= 3.87 N= 63	38			
					Post-	Master	Market	ter					
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent	Average= $5.65$ N= $64$	14			

3. How would you rate your knowledge of marketing tools (futures, options, forward contracting, etc.)? (please circle one)

	Pre-Master Marketer											
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent	Average= 3.27 N= 643			
					Post-	Master	Market	er				
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellent	Average= 5.70 N= 649			

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<b>4. Ho</b>	4. How would you rate your knowledge of forward cash contracting? (please circle one)										
					Pre-I	Master	Markete	er			
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	4.07 N= 642	
Did yo	ou knov	w when t	the use of	of this to	ol was a	ppropri	ate?		Yes	No	
									51.8%	48.2%	
									N=277	N=258	
					Post-	Master	Market	er	-		
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	5.66 N= 643	
Since	attendi	ng Mast	er Mark	eter, do	you knov	w when	the use of	of this tool	Yes	No	
is app	is appropriate? 90.7% 9.3%										
									N=518	N=53	

5. Hov	5. How would you rate your knowledge of basis contracts? (please circle one)										
Pre-Master Marketer											
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	3.17 N= 641	
Did yo	ou kno	w when t	the use of	of this to	ol was a	ppropria	ate?		Yes	No	
									32.4%	67.6%	
	N=176 N=368										

5. Hov	5. How would you rate your knowledge of basis contracts? (please circle one)										
Post-Master Marketer											
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	5.30 N= 646	
		•	er Mark	eter, do j	you kno	w when	the use of	of this tool	Yes	No	
is appi	is appropriate? 83.5% 16.5%										
	N=490 N=97										

6. Hov	6. How would you rate your knowledge of minimum price contracts? (please circle one)									
					Pre-	Master	Market	er		
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	2.72 N= 639
Did yo	ou knov	w when t	he use o	of this to	ol was a	ppropria	ate?		Yes	No
									20.0%	80.0%
									N=115	N=459
					Post-	Master	Market	er	-	
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	4.72 N= 645
		U	er Mark	eter, do	you kno	w when	the use of	of this tool	Yes	No
is appr	opriate	e?							69.9%	30.1%
									N=412	N=177

7. Hov	7. How would you rate your knowledge of hedging with futures? (please circle one)									
					Pre-	Master	Markete	er		
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	3.29 N= 641
Did yo	ou knov	w when t	he use o	of this to	ol was a	ppropria	ate?		Yes	No
									44.5%	55.5%
									N=258	N=322
					Post-	Master	Market	er	-	
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	5.52 N= 648
Since a is appr		U	er Mark	eter, do	you knov	w when	the use of	of this tool	Yes 88.8% N=540	No 11.2% N=68

8. Hov	8. How would you rate your knowledge of hedging with options? (please circle one)									
					Pre-l	Master	Markete	er		
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	3.06 N= 643
Did yo	ou knov	w when t	he use o	of this to	ol was a	ppropria	ate?		Yes	No
									41.1%	58.9%
									N=240	N=344
					Post-	Master	Market	er		
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	5.46 N= 648
Since	attendi	ng Mast	er Mark	eter, do g	you kno	w when	the use of	of this tool	Yes	No
is appr	ropriate	e?							89.0%	11.0%
									N=541	N=67

	9. How would you rate your knowledge of production contracts and/or marketing alliances? (please circle one)									
					Pre-	Master	Market	er		
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	2.87 N= 640
Did yo	ou knov	w when t	he use o	of this to	ool was a	ppropria	ate?		Yes 28.9% N=167	No 71.1% N=411
					Post-	Master	Market	er		
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	4.72 N= 643
	attendi ropriate	U	er Mark	eter, do	you kno	w when	the use of	of this tool	Yes 68.7% N=412	No 31.3% N=188

	10. How would you rate your knowledge of post-harvest marketing strategies (sell crop, buy calls; sell crop, buy futures; store crop, buy puts; etc.)? (please circle one)									
					Pre-	Master	Market	er		
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	2.95 N= 640
Did yo	ou knov	w when	the use of	of this to	ol was a	ppropria	ate?		Yes	No
									34.7%	65.3%
									N=204	N=384

**10.** How would you rate your knowledge of post-harvest marketing strategies (sell crop, buy calls; sell crop, buy futures; store crop, buy puts; etc.)? (please circle one)

	Post-Master Marketer									
Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Excellen	t Average=	5.27 N= 643
	Since attending Master Marketer, do you know when the use of this tool Yes No									
is app	ropriat	e?							86.2%	13.8%
									N=532	N=85

11. Do you participate in a marketing pool or cooperative marketing association?	Yes 30.4% N=195	No 69.6% N=447
If yes, what percent of your crop is marketed annually by the cooperative $(25\%)$ 25 to 40 % 50 to 74 % 75 to 100 %	or pool?	
	verage= 55.819 Yes 16.5% N=71	N=201 No 83.5% N=359

12. Do you have on-farm grain storage?	Yes	No
	34.4%	65.6%
	N=218	N=415
If yes, what percent of your crop production <b>can</b> be stored on the farm?		
<25%25 to 49 %50 to 74 %75 to 100 % A	Average= 45.129	% N=221
Have you increased your on-farm storage capacity since attending the	Yes	No
Master Marketer program?	10.3%	89.7%
	N=46	N=402

Section 4. Marketing club experience. Please read these questions carefully and relate your experiences in working with marketing clubs, if applicable.

Following your completion of the Mas program, did you attempt to get a mai			48.	es 3% 223	No 51.7 N=2	7%
If no, why not? (please check all that apply)	) I	Lack of time			50.8%	N=156
	I	Lack of producer	interest		30.9%	N=95
	I	Lack of agent sup	oport		5.2%	N=16
	I	Lack of TAMU S	Specialist s	upport	1.0%	N=3
	0	Other (specify)			12.1%	N=37
If you did attempt to get a club started actually get established?	l, did th	ne club	56.	es 4% 137	No 43.6 N=1	5%
If no, why not? (please check all that apply)	)	Lack of tim	ne		26.9 %	N=36
		Lack of pro	oducer inte	rest	55.2%	N=74
		Lack of age	ent support	-	12.7%	N=17
		Lack of TA	MU Speci	alist suppo	rt 0.7%	o N=1
		Other (spec	cify)		4.5%	N=6
If yes, how many members were in your	market	ing club		13 1	members	N=149
Of total membership, how many regular	ly attend	led meetings?		8	members	N=151
How long was your club operational?				1 Year	8 months,	N=143
Did your club trade in the futures/option	s marke	t?	34.	es 8% =54	No 65.2 N=1	2%
If your marketing club did trade in the fur value of trading? (please circle one)	itures/oj	ptions markets, h	low would	you rate th	e education	nal
Poor 1 2 3 4	5	6 7	Excellent	Averag	ge= 5.51 N	N= 57
If your marketing club was operational a club's effectiveness in meeting its object				how would	l you rate t	he
Poor 1 2 3 4	5	6 7	Excellent	Averag	ge= 3.99 1	N= 102
How would you rate the value of your ex	kperienc	e in working wit	th a market	ting club? (	please circ	le one)
Poor 1 2 3 4	5	6 7	Excellent	Averag	ge= 5.15 I	N= 151

## Section 5. Price impacts from Master Marketer education.

Please detail the impact your marketing education has had on prices received for the various commodities you produce. In this comparison, consider what you could have done with the marketing tools/strategies you employed **before** attending Master Marketer versus what you have done **since** your Master Marketer training.

	CORN \$0.147 N=266						
Relative	e change in price received						
please c	heck one						
49	increased more than 30 ¢/bu						
45	increased 21 to 30 ¢/bu						
73	increased 11 to 20 ¢/bu						
57	increased 1 to 10 ¢/bu						
35	no change in price received						
2	decreased 1 to 10 ¢/bu						
1	decreased 11 to 20 ¢/bu						
1	decreased 21 to 30 ¢/bu						
3	decreased more than 30 ¢/bu						

GRAIN SO	ORGHUM
\$0.175	N=292

Relative change in price received

please check one

46	increased more than 45 ¢/cwt
27	increased 31 to 45 ¢/cwt
72	increased 16 to 30 ¢/cwt
72	increased 1 to 15 ¢/cwt
68	no change in price received
3	decreased 1 to 15 ¢/cwt
0	decreased 16 to 30 ¢/cwt
0	decreased 31 to 45 ¢/cwt
4	decreased more than 45 ¢/cwt

	WHEAT \$0.113 N=380						
Relative	Relative change in price received						
please c	heck one						
65	<b>65</b> increased more than 30 ¢/bu						
51	increased 21 to 30 ¢/bu						
72	increased 11 to 20 ¢						
79	increased 1 to 10 ¢/bu						
86	no change in price received						
8	decreased 1 to 10 ¢/bu						
3	3 decreased 11 to 20 ¢/bu						
3	3 decreased 21 to 30 ¢/bu						
12	decreased more than 30 ¢/bu						

COTTON \$0.023 N=268			
Relative	Relative change in price received		
please c	heck one		
20	increased more than 7.6 ¢/lb		
29	increased 5.1 to 7.5 ¢/lb		
70	increased 2.6 to 5.0 ¢/lb		
53	increased .1 to 2.5 ¢/lb		
84	no change in price received		
6	decreased .1 to 2.5 ¢/lb		
1	decreased 2.6 to 5.0 ¢/lb		
0	decreased 5.1 to 7.5 ¢/lb		
5	decreased more than 7.6 ¢/lb		

SOYBEANS \$0.137 N=58			
Relative	Relative change in price received		
please c	heck one		
9	increased more than 30 ¢/bu		
9	increased 21 to 30 ¢/bu		
16	increased 11 to 20 ¢/bu		
9	increased 1 to 10 ¢/bu		
15	no change in price received		
0	decreased 1 to 10 ¢/bu		
0	decreased 11 to 20 ¢/bu		
0	decreased 21 to 30 ¢/bu		
0	decreased more than 30 ¢/bu		

SUNFLOWER \$0.150 N=2			
Relative	Relative change in price received		
please c	heck one		
1	increased more than 30 ¢/cwt		
0	increased 21 to 30 ¢/cwt		
0	increased 11 to 20 ¢/cwt		
0	increased 1 to 10 ¢/cwt		
1	no change in price received		
0	decreased 1 to 10 ¢/cwt		
0	decreased 11 to 20 ¢/cwt		
0	decreased 21 to 30 ¢/cwt		
0	decreased more than 30 ¢/cwt		

CATTLE \$4.57 N=299			
Relativ	e change in price received		
please o	please check one		
30	increased more than 15 \$/cwt		
31	increased 11 to 15 \$/cwt		
47	increased 6 to 10 \$/cwt		
88	increased 1 to 5 \$/cwt		
88	no change in price received		
5	decreased 1 to 5 \$/cwt		
5	decreased 6 to 10 \$/cwt		
1	decreased 11 to 15 \$/cwt		
4	decreased more than 15 \$/cwt		

	RICE \$0.203 N=3		
Relative	change in price received		
please c	please check one		
0	increased more than 90 ¢/cwt		
0	increased 60 to 90 ¢/cwt		
1	increased 31 to 60 ¢/cwt		
1	increased 1 to 30 ¢/cwt		
1	no change in price received		
0	decreased 1 to 30 ¢/cwt		
0	decreased 30 to 60 ¢/cwt		
0	decreased 60 to 90 ¢/cwt		
0	decreased more than 90 ¢/cwt		

	Non-Irrigated Cropland			Non-Irrigated Cropland Irrigated Cropland		
Crop Enterprise	Acres	Yield/acre	Average Production	Acres	Yield/acre	Average Production
Corn	768	93 bu	81,603 bu	821	191 bu	169,811 bu
Grain sorghum	952	34 cwt	27,049 cwt	384	57 cwt	22,830 cwt
Wheat	1,242	29 bu	38,592 bu	561	57 bu	32,366 bu
Cotton	878	459 lbs	429,476 lbs	762	1003 lbs	760,673 lbs
Sunflower	640	11 cwt	7,040 cwt	199	18 cwt	4,232 cwt
Soybeans	393	31 bu	13,254 bu	330	54 bu	17,094 bu
Sugar	XXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	319	51 cwt	14,273 cwt
Rice	XXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	691	82 cwt	63,557 cwt
Hay, forages, silage	236	4 tons	931 Tons	232	24 tons	4,333 tons
Improved pasture	659			249		
Native pasture	7,660			1,634		
Other	786			649		

## Section 6. Profile Information

Livestock Enterprise	Head	
Cow-calf production	283	# beef cows
Stocker cattle production	1,083	# calves/year
Fed cattle production	1,562	# cattle fed/year
Other (specify)	3,237	#/year

Is your business vertically integrated (have you expanded into input supply such as seed production or custom work, do you participate in any value-added processing of farm production such as direct produce sales to consumers, or have you become involved with related businesses such as trucking, feedyards, or gins)?	Yes 48.2% N=277	No 51.8% N=298	48.2% 51.8%
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check one for crop sales and one for livestock sales)   Crop sales Livestock sales					
\$ 633,840 N= 526		\$417,273	N= 385		
\$0 - \$49,999	46	\$0 - \$49,999		133	
\$50,000 - \$99,999	46	\$50,000 - \$99,999		57	
\$100,000 - \$174,999	58	\$100,000 - \$174,999		54	
\$175,000 - \$249,999	63	\$175,000 - \$249,999		20	
\$250,000 - \$374,999	55	\$250,000 - \$374,999		30	
\$375,000 - \$499,999	72	\$375,000 - \$499,999		18	
\$500,000 - \$749,999	65	\$500,000 - \$749,999		17	
\$750,000 - \$999,999	35	\$750,000 - \$999,999		22	
\$1,000,000 - \$1,749,999	45	\$1,000,000 - \$1,749,999		15	
\$1,750,000 - \$2,499,999	20	\$1,750,000 - \$2,499,999		2	
\$2,500,000 - \$3,749,999	11	\$2,500,000 - \$3,749,999		8	
\$3,750,000 - \$4,999,999	2	\$3,750,000 - \$4,999,999		1	
\$5,000,000 and up	5	\$5,000,000 and up		8	

What range would typify your average annual gross receipts for crop and livestock sales? (please check one for crop sales and one for livestock sales)

What is your age?	46 yrs	N= 624
How long have you been a principal farm operator?	20 yrs	N= 589

What is your highest education level completed? (please check one)				
Some high school	1.1%	N=7		
High school graduate	8.7%	N=55		
Vocational/technical school	3.0%	N=19		
Some college	21.6%	N=136		
Bachelor's degree	48.6%	N=306		
Some graduate school	5.9%	N=37		
Advanced or professional degree	11.1%	N=70		

What is the structure of your farm business? (please check all that apply)					
Sole proprietorship 51.7% N=384					
Partnership 27.8% N=207					
Corporation 15.9% N=118					
Estate 1.5% N=11					
Trust	3.1%	N=23			

On average, what percent of your work time did you spend on the following activities <b>before</b> attending the Master Marketer program and <b>after</b> : ( <i>percentages should add to 100%</i> ) Before After					
Production	53.8%	N=515	46.1%	N=549	
Farm/ranch management	22.4%	N=515	24.1%	N=549	
Marketing	7.5%	N=515	14.1%	N=549	
Off-farm employment	12.5%	N=515	11.6%	N=549	
Other	3.8%	N=515	4.1%	N=549	
Total	100 %		100 %		

If you have further comments on the Master Marketer program or any suggestions on how the program could be improved in the future, please use the space below to share any of your thoughts with us.

COMMENTS:	