From the Dean and Director

Kansas State University just celebrated its 150th anniversary and reflected on its many accomplishments. As our nation’s first land-grant university, K-State has vastly improved the lives of Kansans. It is important to recognize that the university reaches into every Kansas county, bringing research from the lab to the community.

This country’s land-grant universities merge teaching, research, and extension into one system. K-State is a leader in the world as a producer of research. This integration has propelled our country into a worldwide leader in particular, in food and agricultural production.

As we celebrated our success, we were also busy developing our vision 2025 Strategic Plan for the College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension. We can’t rest on our successes; we must look forward and move ahead.

Our interviews have told us there are five grand challenges facing Kansas — global food systems, water, health, developing tomorrow’s leaders, and community vitality. We built our 2025 Strategic Plan around finding solutions to these challenges.

We aren’t going to solve these challenges alone. We are educating and working with the next generation of students, scientists, and extension educators. We train and work with several thousand volunteers in 4-H, Master Gardeners, Master Food Volunteers, law and crop consultants, and others who work with Kansas citizens in many walk of life, sharing the newest research-based knowledge for life.

In addition to this brochure, we have developed a companion website (www.ksutoday/solutions) with links to videos, articles, annual reports, and more information about our programs. As you read our 2014 report, reflect on our 150 years of success and join us as we look toward building a successful future for Kansans. I am sure it will be a challenging but productive journey.

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

Visit www.ksu.edu/solutions

Budget Data for Fiscal Year 2014

K-State Research and Extension Budget Fund Source

Grants and Services $42,335,576
Federal Appropriation $9,108,000
State Appropriation $45,777,434

K-State Research and Extension Budget Responsibilities

Cooperative Extension Service $66,575,089

Agricultural Experiment Station $87,726,040

2014 Budget Total $148,301,109

Research and Extension Facilities Across the State

Headquartered in Manhattan, K-State Research and Extension includes statewide county and district offices, research centers, and experiment fields supported by county, state, federal, and private funds. K-State Research and Extension supports research facilities in more than 20 academic departments across five K-State colleges in Manhattan plus the K-State Olathe campus.

Research and Extension Facilities

Districting Offers Kansas Counties New Partnership Opportunities

Since 1991, Kansas counties have had the opportunity to create extension district partnerships that provide better public access to agents with specialized expertise, better support for local offices, and often better use of human and financial resources. At this time, 42 counties have formed 15 districts.

Did you know...

• K-State created the first-ever roadside that would grow in Kansas and produce heart-healthy cooking oil?
• Senior citizens saved more than $1.7 million in prescription drug costs using K-State Research and Extension educational programs and consultations in 2012?
• Kansas State University created “Farmers’ Institutes,” which later became the nationwide Cooperative Extension Service?
• Local civic, county, and faith-based boards operate more efficiently as a result of K-State Research and Extension board training in 15 Kansas communities?
• Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

Visit www.ksu.edu/solutions

January 2014

Generating Sales and Profits
Global Food Systems

One in five Kansans, rural and urban, work in jobs related to agriculture and food production. Agriculture drives the Kansas economy. In 2013, the cattle industry alone generated $7.88 billion in cash receipts, and 237,170 Kansans earned $11.3 billion in agricultural products.

Our food and agricultural systems are productive but need to improve to feed the world’s growing population. Kansas stands to gain a great deal economically. K-State Research and Extension is Kansas’ partner in the success of the state’s agriculture.

What we are doing

- Developing new crop varieties that suit the Kansas climate and meet domestic and international consumer demand.
- Reducing food loss caused by pests, poor storage, and processing techniques.
- Identifying ways to maintain cattle rangeland threatened by climate variations.
- Identifying ways to maintain cattle rangeland threatened by climate variations.
- Improving livestock genetics to help make production more efficient, reducing water needed to feed livestock.
- Developing more efficient irrigation and water-monitoring systems for farm and home use.
- Decreasing municipal water costs by working with landowners to reduce sedimentation into reservoirs and improve surface water quality.
- Improving livestock genetics to help make production more efficient, reducing water needed to feed livestock.
- Partnering with multiple stakeholders to develop a 10-year water policy.

Find those stories and more at www.ksusolutions.org
• Drone research to monitor crops efficiently
• Alternative Crops annual report
• 50-year water policy.
• Partnering with multiple stakeholders to develop a 10-year water policy.
• Developing more efficient irrigation and water-monitoring systems for farm and home use.
• Decreasing municipal water costs by working with landowners to reduce sedimentation into reservoirs and improve surface water quality.
• Improving livestock genetics to help make production more efficient, reducing water needed to feed livestock.
• Partnering with multiple stakeholders to develop a 10-year water policy.

Water

Current irrigation trends could deplete 80 percent of the groundwater in the Ogallala Aquifer within 50 years. The economic impact of this is significant. The top eight Kansas counties for agricultural production are located in western Kansas, overlaying the Ogallala Aquifer. Those counties contribute about one-third of total agricultural revenue for the entire state of Kansas.

What we are doing

- Building new-drought tolerant varieties of wheat, grain sorghum ( Milo), and other crops that can be used for human and pet food, livestock feed, and fuel.
- Developing more efficient irrigation and water-monitoring systems for farm and home use.
- Decreasing municipal water costs by working with landowners to reduce sedimentation into reservoirs and improve surface water quality.
- Improving livestock genetics to help make production more efficient, reducing water needed to feed livestock.
- Partnering with multiple stakeholders to develop a 10-year water policy.

Find those stories and more at www.ksusolutions.org
• Saving water in urban areas
• Safely using poultry waste in southeast Kansas
• Preserving the Ogallala Aquifer while maintaining productivity

Health

Kansas has one of the highest obesity rates in the nation, and more than 20 percent of Kansas children live in poverty. With a shortage of primary care physicians, especially in rural areas, education and prevention are vital. K-State Research and Extension programs address quality of life, healthy development, and health behaviors across all life stages for all socioeconomic groups, and target the diversity of Kansas.

What we are doing

- Attracting more than 15,000 Kansans annually to participate in Walk Kansas, the eight-week program to increase exercise and improve nutrition.
- Identifying best practices to help prevent childhood obesity.
- Saving more than 6,000 Medicare participants an average of $862 per person with Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas.
- Conducting workshops to help families and practitioners understand care options for elderly Kansans.
- Sharing unbiased information about the Affordable Care Act. Most Americans don’t have adequate information to make the best decisions for their situations.

Find those stories and more at www.ksusolutions.org
• Developing adult leaders through the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program
• Why families choose 4-H
• Promoting efficient burning practices
• Reducing foodborne illness
• Developing adult leaders through the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program

Developing Tomorrow’s Leaders

The complex global society of the future will require leaders with effective teamwork and communication skills. We need to prepare leaders of all ages so they contribute to a vibrant Kansas economy for years to come.

What we are doing

- Guiding nearly 72,000 youth who participate in Kansas 4-H programs each year.
- Meeting needs of military youth and their families at Fort Riley, Fort Leavenworth, and McConnell Air Force Base through the Kansas Operation Military Kids (OMK) program.
- OMK helps develop community support for families when a military member is deployed or reintegrating into the community.
- Guiding nearly 72,000 youth who participate in Kansas 4-H programs each year.
- Meeting needs of military youth and their families at Fort Riley, Fort Leavenworth, and McConnell Air Force Base through the Kansas Operation Military Kids (OMK) program.
- OMK helps develop community support for families when a military member is deployed or reintegrating into the community.

Community Vitality

Rural, suburban, and urban communities throughout Kansas face many challenges with a variety of available resources. When citizens are encouraged to combine their organizations and skills to work together, everyone in the community benefits.

What we are doing

- Improving communication through the Kansas PRIDE program, which reported 17% collaboration partnerships and 16% 13% adult and youth volunteer hours worth more than $5.3 billion in agricultural products.
- Providing education on health-related issues
- Promoting efficient burning practices
- Reducing foodborne illness
- Working directly with farmers, ranchers, and families to improve to feed the world’s growing population. Kansas stands to gain a great deal economically. K-State Research and Extension is Kansas’ partner in the success of the state’s agriculture.
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