

# AgReport

Fall 2013

College of Agriculture  
and  
Kansas State University  
Agricultural Experiment Station  
and Cooperative Extension Service

## John Floros

Dean of the College of Agriculture  
and Director of  
K-State Research and Extension  
785-532-7137; floros@ksu.edu

## Don Boggs

Associate Dean of Agriculture  
Academic Programs

## Daryl Buchholz

Associate Director for Extension  
and Applied Research

## J. Ernest "Ernie" Minton

Associate Director for Research  
and Technology Transfer

## Sharon Thielen

Assistant Dean of Agriculture  
Academic Programs

## Christine Wilson

Assistant Dean of Agriculture  
Academic Programs

## Zelia Wiley

Assistant Dean for Diversity Programs

## Steven Graham

Assistant to the Dean and Director

## Nina Lilja

Director International Agriculture Programs

The AgReport is published in spring and fall  
by the Department of Communications and  
Agricultural Education.

Editor: Gloria Holcombe

Writers: Gloria Holcombe, Mary Lou Peter,  
Pat Melgares, Elaine Edwards, Division of  
Communications and Marketing staff, Kristi  
Northcutt, and Amanda Erichsen

Photographers: Dan Donnert and contributors

Designer: Bob Holcombe

[www.ag.ksu.edu](http://www.ag.ksu.edu)  
[www.ksre.ksu.edu](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu)



**KANSAS STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

Kansas State University is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic or national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, ancestry, disability, military status, veteran status, or other non-merit reasons, in admissions, educational programs or activities and employment, including employment of disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam Era, as required by applicable laws and regulations. Responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, has been delegated to the Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University, 214 Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506-0124, (Phone) 785-532-6220; (TTY) 785-532-4807. Revised April 22, 2008.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Department of Communications and Agricultural Education, 309 Umberger Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506-3402.

## From the Dean and Director



Dean and Director John Floros shares highlights of the College of Agriculture/K-State Research and Extension strategic plan before presenting it to President Kirk Schulz and Provost April Mason.

My first year here in Kansas has been a busy one. I've traveled around the state, the country, and overseas to visit with alumni, friends, and stakeholders. K-State purple seems to be well received wherever I go.

Working on the strategic plan provided a comprehensive overview of the College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension. I appreciate the hard work of the various committees and those who offered suggestions in person and on the website. Focusing on well-defined objectives will help direct us to our goals to be one of the top 5 colleges of agriculture and one of the best extension systems in the country.

We have experienced some funding cuts, both on the state and federal level, but I remain positive. I consider the budget cuts as bumps on the way to excellence. We are conducting world-class research to resolve major issues affecting Kansas, and we will continue to do so. Our faculty members are consistently recognized by the university and by state, national, and international organizations for their leadership and excellence in the classroom. We are providing quality, hands-on education for our students, and our graduates are heavily recruited.

The U.S. National Research Council ranked K-State's plant pathology doctoral program as No. 1 in the nation. Other rankings in the study include:

agricultural economics No. 4, animal science No. 5, entomology No. 8, and food science No. 9. See page 15 for more details. Congratulations to our talented faculty and staff.

This year marked the 150th anniversary of Kansas State University. Historical events during the nine-month celebration reinforced the importance of the College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension to the university's land-grant mission of teaching, research, and extension.

The Kansas Board of Regents established Farmers' Institutes on campus in 1874 to put research-based information in the hands of the people. Today, K-State Research and Extension faculty such as swine nutritionist Mike Tokach, the college's newest university distinguished professor, are still finding innovative ways to work with clients.

I hope to see many of you at the September 13 Wildcat March reception, where our Aggie Cat statue will be auctioned to benefit scholarships, and at the alumni tailgate party on November 2. Go Cats!

John D. Floros  
Dean and Director