# POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT
## Kansas State University

**Position:** Extension Specialist, Agricultural Economics, Assistant Professor or Instructor and Tenure Track or Regular Appointment depending on academic degree and interests.

**Location:** Southwest Research and Extension Center, Garden City, Kansas.

**Date Available:** October 1, 2014

The Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University seeks to fill an extension specialist position based at the Southwest Research and Extension Center. The position is budgeted at 80% extension and 20% research. There is flexibility in the allocation of effort based on University needs and candidate experience.

The Department has a reputation for excellence in all three functions of the University's land grant mission (teaching, research, and extension). The successful candidate is expected to be an active contributor to the Department's extension and research programs. The Department offers B.S. degrees in agricultural economics and agribusiness, M.S. degrees in agricultural economics and agribusiness, a Master of Agribusiness (MAB) degree, and a Ph.D. in economics with a specialization in agricultural economics.

Southwest Kansas is characterized by intense agricultural production and the importance of the management of the finite water from the Ogallala Aquifer which is the economic engine of Kansas. Nine of the 10 top agricultural producing counties in the state are located in southwest Kansas. Irrigated and dryland crops are key to the beef industry and the expanding swine and dairy operations. Thus, this position is important to the producers, citizens, and other stakeholders in the area as well as the researchers at the research and extension center.

Areas of extension and research emphasis may include, but are not limited to farm management, agricultural finance, production economics, or agricultural marketing. Specifically, the areas of emphasis of this position will include the economics of cropping systems including such items as the economics of water, energy from agriculture, the economics of technology including precision agriculture and big-data, the interaction of agricultural and environmental policy with firm decision-making and the profitability and risk associated with crop and tillage selection in western Kansas under both irrigated and dryland production. The education program may also include related crop production topics such as equitable cropland rental agreements, farm program issues and machinery rental economics. Duties could also include some work with the economics of livestock production, pasture leasing, and related issues. The specialist will cooperate with Extension agents and state/area specialists in the Department of Agricultural Economics and various other departments in the college of agriculture and communicate research needs and findings appropriately. The specialist will cooperate with other specialists and research faculty to provide economic analysis of agricultural practices being investigated in various applied research projects being conducted at the Western Kansas Agricultural Research Centers. The specialist will be

expected to provide current, relevant, research-based information to the agricultural clientele of Kansas through journal articles, public meetings, bulletins, field day reports, press releases, newsletters, individual consultations, and electronic media.

The Department is known for research and extension programs that addresses real-world problems in local, state, national, and global agriculture and agribusiness. More information on the Department can be found at www.ageconomics.ksu.edu. More information on the Southwest Area Extension office can be found at www.southwest.ksu.edu. More information on the Western Kansas Agricultural Research Centers can be found at http://www.wkarc.org.

**Responsibilities:**

- Develop and deliver internationally recognized extension and research program
- Develop collaborative programs/project with other faculty, units, and departments at Kansas State University, and with allied industry organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders.
- Attract grant funds to support research/extension programs
- Create an environment that fosters diversity and collegiality while working in a multi-cultural setting
- Contribute towards the Department's extension website (www.agmanager.info).

**Required Qualifications:**

- Earned M.S. degree in agricultural economics, applied economics, economics, or closely related field
- Commitment to excellence in extension programming
- Strong record of academic achievement
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Strong commitment to expanding and fostering diversity
- Knowledge of agricultural production practices and related previous experience

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Earned Ph.D. degree in agricultural economics, applied economics, economics, or closely related field
- Experience in extension programming
- Research publications in peer-reviewed journals
- Experience in writing grant proposals
- Self-starting and independently motivated. Ability to advance project activities with a minimum of supervision

**Salary and Benefits:** This is an unclassified position at Kansas State University. The salary will be commensurate with the qualifications of the applicant. The K-State benefit package includes a retirement plan, group health and life insurance, worker's compensation, vacation, sick leave and other benefits. For additional information on benefits, see http://www.k-state.edu/hr/current-employees/benefits/summary.html.

**How to Apply:** Qualified persons are invited to apply by sending the following materials: (1) a letter of application that includes a statement of professional goals for extension and research; (2) a

complete curriculum vitae; and (3) transcripts of all university-level work. In addition, (4) three letters of reference should be arranged to be sent.

Application materials (pdf files preferred) should be sent electronically to: Judy Maberry, Program Assistant, Department of Agricultural Economics, 342 Waters Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, 66506, Email: judym@ksu.edu, in the subject line please refer to SW AREA EXT. Questions and inquiries of interest may be made to the Search Committee Chair, Dr. Dan O'Brien (Phone 785-462-6281; dobrien@ksu.edu).

Minority and female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

A background check is required prior to hiring.

**Closing Date:** Review of applications will begin on September 15, 2014 and continue until the position is filled. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

**Equal Employment Opportunity:** Kansas State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, or other non-merit reasons (including employment of disabled veterans and veterans of the U.S. Military).