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2002 Women in Agriculture Conference

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Cornhusker Economics

Cooperative Extension

Institute of Agriculture & Natural Resources
Department of Agricultural Economics
University of Nebraska – Lincoln

2002 Women in Agriculture Conference

Market Report	Yr Ago	4 Wks Ago	11/8/02
<u>Livestock and Products,</u>			
<u>Average Prices for Week Ending</u>			
Slaughter Steers, Ch. 204, 1100-1300 lb Omaha, cwt	\$64.39	\$63.58	68.18
Feeder Steers, Med. Frame, 600-650 lb Dodge City, KS, cwt	86.21	*	84.09
Feeder Steers, Med. Frame 600-650 lb, Nebraska Auction Wght. Avg	89.90	85.50	85.64
Carcass Price, Ch. 1-3, 550-700 lb Cent. US, Equiv. Index Value, cwt	100.22	97.95	102.92
Hogs, US 1-2, 220-230 lb Sioux Falls, SD, cwt	32.00	32.75	29.00
Feeder Pigs, US 1-2, 40-45 lb Sioux Falls, SD, hd	43.50	*	29.50
Vacuum Packed Pork Loins, Wholesale, 13-19 lb, 1/4" Trim, Cent. US, cwt	*	99.45	81.21
Slaughter Lambs, Ch. & Pr., 115-125 lb Sioux Falls, SD, cwt	45.75	75.75	*
Carcass Lambs, Ch. & Pr., 1-4, 55-65 lb FOB Midwest, cwt	*	154.68	158.81
<u>Crops,</u>			
<u>Cash Truck Prices for Date Shown</u>			
Wheat, No. 1, H.W. Omaha, bu	2.95	4.79	4.39
Corn, No. 2, Yellow Omaha, bu	1.85	2.34	2.26
Soybeans, No. 1, Yellow Omaha, bu	4.20	5.08	5.45
Grain Sorghum, No. 2, Yellow Kansas City, cwt	3.41	4.57	4.47
Oats, No. 2, Heavy Minneapolis, MN, bu	2.25	2.10	2.11
<u>Hay,</u>			
<u>First Day of Week Pile Prices</u>			
Alfalfa, Sm. Square, RFV 150 or better Platte Valley, ton	115.00	130.00	150.00
Alfalfa, Lg. Round, Good Northeast Nebraska, ton	77.50	77.50	80.00
Prairie, Sm. Square, Good Northeast Nebraska, ton	105.00	115.00	115.00
* No market.			

The eighteenth annual *Women in Agriculture: The Critical Difference* conference, held September 12-13, 2002, in Kearney, Nebraska was a good ending to a very dry spring and summer. The conference, held each year in Kearney, has become a place for women to meet and talk about their business, agriculture.

The conference hosted 366 women at the Kearney Ramada Inn. The number of attendees had declined from past years, which could be due to the severe drought in the state. A number of counties were already harvesting when the conference was held. Women from seventy-two of Nebraska's ninety counties were in attendance, as well as women from seven other states including California, Virginia and Minnesota. Again this year, local bank sponsorship played a large role in women attending. Two hundred and thirty-one women were sponsored by their local lender.

The 2002 farm bill dominated the conference. Of the 17 workshops, four of them focused on the farm bill. Information on 2002 farm bill topics included livestock, grain, conservation and world policy. Other topics included leadership, family relations, estate planning, income tax management, record keeping, cutting expenses, menopause and stress.

Two new programs were kicked off this year at Women in Ag. Women in Ag Risk Management groups and the return trip to Australia. Both programs were met with enthusiasm and excitement.

The *Women in Ag Risk Management* groups will be a blend of the financial and personal side of the ag business. The clubs will provide a place for women to improve their management skills and receive the



benefits from socializing with women who are of like mind. The program is based on the Home Extension Club model of bringing women together for a lesson and fellowship. We designed this project to assist women in expanding their role in the management of their farm or ranch; enhance their skills as a business manager and partner; help them identify risks in agriculture and develop plans to manage those risks; and encourage women to view risk management in a broader sense, including family and community. We are hoping to do a training for facilitators the end of November and early December, and kick off the clubs in January and February.

The return trip to Australia is planned for March of 2003. The adventure begins when we step foot on Tasmanian soil at Hobart Airport on Friday, March 28, 2003. At that point in time we become the guests of Tasmanian Women in Agriculture. For twelve days Nebraska ag women will live with 3 different farm families who will show them what it's like in their special part of Tasmania. It's autumn in Tasmania – their favorite time of year. Days are calm and sunny, apple pickers are busy, and in the vineyards, grape picking can be a social event. The combine harvesting should just about be over, but picking and packing of fresh vegetables raised for markets all over the world will be in full swing. There will be a lot for women to see and experience.

Both programs will bring new experiences and learning to Nebraska's ag women. I am so thrilled that we have the opportunity to provide women with an international experience as well as a place to do some in-depth study of ag management.

The conference is filled with information, caring, fellowship, conversation, learning, exchanging of ideas, camaraderie and the recognition of the importance that women play in Nebraska's agriculture. Of course, the best evaluation of the conference comes from the ladies themselves. Here are some of the comments from this year's evaluations:

" It was my first year - I will definitely be back."
Richardson County Participant

" Just keep it going! It makes a difference in so many lives." *Furnas County Participant*

" I enjoy this more than anything - farming women are inventive, friendly and polite." *York County Participant*

" I am new to agriculture and farming; the conference was all very helpful to me." *Perkins County Participant*

The Women in Ag program continues to bring farm and ranch management skills to Nebraska's families.

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