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Be a Part of the Plan - Engaging People - Linking the World

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Narjes, Charlotte, "Be a Part of the Plan - Engaging People - Linking the World" (2013). *Cornhusker Economics*. 640.

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CORNHUSKER ECONOMICS

Be a Part of the Plan - Engaging People - Linking the World

Market Report	Yr Ago	4 Wks Ago	5/24/13
<u>Livestock and Products,</u>			
<u>Weekly Average</u>			
Nebraska Slaughter Steers, 35-65% Choice, Live Weight.....	122.76	\$128.98	\$125.32
Nebraska Feeder Steers, Med. & Large Frame, 550-600 lb.	182.65	171.44	162.57
Nebraska Feeder Steers, Med. & Large Frame 750-800 lb.	153.60	137.93	142.00
Choice Boxed Beef, 600-750 lb. Carcass.	194.88	191.63	210.47
Western Corn Belt Base Hog Price Carcass, Negotiated.	82.33	82.10	90.00
Pork Carcass Cutout, 185 lb. Carcass, 51-52% Lean.....	79.22	85.76	93.39
Slaughter Lambs, Ch. & Pr., Heavy, Wooled, South Dakota, Direct.....	151.00	101.00	104.75
National Carcass Lamb Cutout, FOB.	366.74	288.00	285.60
<u>Crops,</u>			
<u>Daily Spot Prices</u>			
Wheat, No. 1, H.W. Imperial, bu.	6.16	7.03	7.03
Corn, No. 2, Yellow Nebraska City, bu.....	5.99	6.58	7.02
Soybeans, No. 1, Yellow Nebraska City, bu.....	13.57	14.51	14.61
Grain Sorghum, No. 2, Yellow Dorchester, cwt.....	9.63	11.07	12.27
Oats, No. 2, Heavy Minneapolis, MN , bu.	3.18	4.23	3.85
<u>Feed</u>			
Alfalfa, Large Square Bales, Good to Premium, RFV 160-185 Northeast Nebraska, ton.	207.50	*	*
Alfalfa, Large Rounds, Good Platte Valley, ton.....	140.00	227.50	225.00
Grass Hay, Large Rounds, Good Nebraska, ton.	97.50	222.50	*
Dried Distillers Grains, 10% Moisture, Nebraska Average.	215.50	238.50	220.50
Wet Distillers Grains, 65-70% Moisture, Nebraska Average.	75.75	91.00	90.50
*No Market			

The Nebraska Broadband Planning Initiative, in its fourth year, is designed to increase adoption and utilization of broadband in communities and regions. Goals of this initiative include:

- Increase adoption and utilization of Broadband in communities and regions with an emphasis on unserved and underserved regions.
- Work as a region in developing regional Broadband plans that increase adoption and utilization of broadband.
- Increase understanding of importance of Broadband as a foundation of economic growth.

The Initiative is focused around the following project areas:

- Mapping.
- Planning (capacity building, technical assistance and regional planning).

Mapping

The statewide mapping effort, led by the Nebraska Public Service Commission, strives to collect accurate data that is critical for Broadband planning. The map displays Broadband availability, speed and location of Broadband Services. You can help us build a true picture of today's service by checking YOUR internet service – and share the results with Nebraska's official report. It's easy. Go to the website <http://broadband.nebraska.gov/> and click on **Mapping and Speed**. You can check your speed and also provide feedback.

Capacity Building

Benchmarking technology use in relevant community sectors and establishing goals are aspects of this project area. An initial household survey conducted in 2010 by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Agricultural Economics

Department revealed that 76 percent of households in Nebraska have broadband service. The survey also reviewed gaps in Internet service among certain demographic groups, including residents:

- with lower incomes (55% under \$20,000).
- over age 65 (56%).
- without a college degree (41%).
- living in Lincoln and Omaha (87% have Broadband access), compared to 56% in North Central Nebraska.
- in two defined Omaha Zip codes (11% of the limited responses have broadband service).

A follow-up survey will be conducted in early 2014 for comparison.

Additional surveys have been conducted with the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO), League of Nebraska Municipalities and the Nebraska Economic Development Association (NEDA). Limited human and financial resources are a barrier to further broadband adoption. Best practices identified include collaboration and setting priorities. The results from these surveys are available at: <http://broadband.nebraska.gov/>

Technical Assistance

Technical assistance efforts have been focused around a statewide conference, regional workshops, webinars, best practice videos, developing a broadband portal and technical assistance expertise. To follow the progress of this initiative, a broadband portal was launched. Other technical assistance area highlights include:

Statewide Conference: Nearly 300 people attended the 2nd Annual Broadband Connecting Nebraska Conference, coordinated by the AIM Institute and held October 2, 2012. Keynote speaker Vint Cerf shared a thought-provoking speech to attendees, which included over 100 high schools that traced the history, assessed the present and looked to the future of the internet.

The 2013 Conference will be held October 16-17 in Kearney, Nebraska. The Keynote speaker, Jack Uldrich, is a futurist who will explore how exponential trends in all types of technology are converging at this unique moment in history. He lays out specific strategies to navigate and survive in this era of unparalleled change.

fast-growing technology company provides custom programming and payment processing services to a global market, which is possible only because of reliable access to broadband technologies. *The company identified the following benefits: the ability to offer services developed for customers; providing long distant operations, and; continuous access to service without personal intervention.* Videos are hosted at <http://broadband.nebraska.gov/>.

Webinars: Webinars were used to increase awareness of broadband. Fourteen (14) webinars have been held since the fourth quarter of 2011. Participation in webinars have averaged 50 participants, and follow-up viewings have ranged from 21-317 participants. In the first quarter of 2013, a series entitled “Don’t Know What I Don’t Know” focused on three areas – cloud computing, security and mobile. The interactive webinars have created an interest and are archived at <http://broadband.nebraska.gov/events>.

Regional Planning

Regional planning teams, led by UNL Extension, were established across the eight regions of the state. Numerous efforts have occurred over the last three years through public forums, focus groups and surveys to gather input from the regions to identify goals. The household survey, mapping initiative and focus groups continue to show that there are gaps in high speed internet access among certain demographic groups and regions of the state. The availability and access of high speed internet has increased in the last three years, and a summary highlighting the increases will be shared later in July 2013. However, there



Country Drawers

Tara Gross is the owner of Country Drawers, an eco-friendly family boutique, featuring natural and organic products in Cambridge, Nebraska.

She began her business with online operations, using social media to connect with customers while keeping inventory in-home. Based on success in social media channels, she has recently opened a retail location and is attracting local customers.

continues to be gaps. In communities where there is limited access and availability, the topic in focus groups has focused on the need for better service, compared to communities that have sufficient broadband, where there is excitement about what they have achieved. Comments have included those frustrated that they are unable to download newsletters that are no longer mailed to businesses, and purchasing internet service from three providers since they cannot depend on the service.



Broadband Connecting Nebraska Conference

October 16 & 17, 2013

Younes Convention Center, Kearney, NE

Broadband Videos: Thirty-five best practice videos identifying the benefits and results of using broadband technology have been developed. As an example, Agilx, a

The focus groups have also revealed that there is an opportunity for basic technology education. Regional planning teams are finalizing their plans and are in the process of getting feedback from planning team members and the regions. The regional plans will be available at <http://broadband.nebraska.gov/> after the reports are presented to the Nebraska Public Service Commission in July. A statewide plan will be developed by the October **Broadband Connecting Nebraska Conference**, and the public will be invited to provide feedback.

New Effort

Beginning in July, the broadband planning initiative will be increasing efforts to connect with businesses, build capacity within the state to work with businesses and to measure change and impact. Each of the regional groups identified the importance of understanding opportunities for businesses. Announcements on this effort will be posted on the broadband website.

The University of Nebraska Agricultural Economics Department and the Panhandle Research and Extension Center are cooperatively working with the Nebraska Information Technology Commission Community Council (NITC) and the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) to create a statewide broadband plan. This project, funded through the Nebraska Public Service Commission, is part of a larger Department of Commerce's National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA) grant to increase broadband access and adoption through better data collection and broadband planning.

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For more information, contact one of the team members listed below or visit the broadband site at: <http://broadband.nebraska.gov/>

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This Broadband Mapping and Planning Initiative is funded through a grant to the Nebraska Public Service Commission by the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration and aims to increase broadband adoption and utilization.