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VISITING PROFESSORS FROM THE UKRAINE AND RUSSIAN

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Cornhusker Economics

Cooperative Extension

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

VISITING PROFESSORS FROM THE UKRAINE AND RUSSIAN

Market Report	Yr Ago	4 Wks Ago	12/3/99
<u>Livestock and Products,</u>			
<u>Average Prices for Week Ending</u>			
Slaughter Steers, Ch. 204, 1100-1300 lb Omaha, cwt.	\$60.38	\$69.43	\$70.89
Feeder Steers, Med. Frame, 600-650 lb Dodge City, KS, cwt.	72.25	83.49	88.84
Feeder Steers, Med. Frame 600-650 lb, Nebraska Auction Wght. Avg.	*	87.31	92.83
Carcass Price, Ch. 1-3, 550-700 lb Cent. US, Equiv. Index Value, cwt. . . .	93.60	108.04	108.50
Hogs, US 1-2, 220-230 lb Sioux Falls, SD, cwt.	19.43	31.50	35.75
Feeder Pigs, US 1-2, 40-45 lb Sioux Falls, SD, hd.	*	25.46	44.50
Vacuum Packed Pork Loins, Wholesale, 13-19 lb, 1/4" Trim, Cent. US, cwt. . . .	80.10	95.50	92.85
Slaughter Lambs, Ch. & Pr., 115-125 lb Sioux Falls, SD, cwt.	*	70.00	76.70
Carcass Lambs, Ch. & Pr., 1-4, 55-65 lb FOB Midwest, cwt.	135.00	157.00	163.00
<u>Crops,</u>			
<u>Cash Truck Prices for Date Shown</u>			
Wheat, No. 1, H.W. Omaha, bu.	3.31	2.90	2.78
Corn, No. 2, Yellow Omaha, bu.	1.97	1.69	1.77
Soybeans, No. 1, Yellow Omaha, bu.	5.73	4.38	4.52
Grain Sorghum, No. 2, Yellow Kansas City, cwt.	3.41	2.74	2.81
Oats, No. 2, Heavy Sioux City, IA, bu.	*	1.15	1.23
<u>Hay,</u>			
<u>First Day of Week Pile Prices</u>			
Alfalfa, Sm. Square, RFV 150 or better Platte Valley, ton.	100.00	90.00	92.50
Alfalfa, Lg. Round, Good Northeast Nebraska, ton.	45.00	32.50	32.50
Prairie, Sm. Square, Good Northeast Nebraska, ton.	70.00	*	*
* No market.			

The Department became involved in a faculty exchange program this summer. Four visiting professors joined us in August and will leave on December 14 to return to their respective universities. They have taken classes, traveled and developed class outlines and news articles that will be used when they return home. Following are some of their impressions and things they have done during their visit to the United States. I thought the readers might be interested in some of their thoughts.

Lynn Lutgen, (402) 472-3406

The following thoughts are in the visiting professors own words.

We are leaving Lincoln, but the University of Nebraska (Lincoln) will be kept in our hearts. All people whom we met here, were very friendly. We have good feelings about assistance and support. It is very important if you are living in foreign country.

All necessary conditions for good work and good rest were created. I am really enjoying being and studying in Lincoln. We are living in the good apartments, which are situated near the University's campus. We had computers in the apartments and in the offices, also could work in the computer laboratory. I have opened up and tested the great possibilities of Internet here. The equipment of laboratories and classrooms were very good. We had access to all resources of the University libraries. We could improve English taking special English class.

I have been attending all the courses that I wanted and discussed all problems that arose with professors. The professors of the University shared their experi-

ence with pleasure, introduced me to new teaching methods and loaned me studying and scientific materials. So I had all possibilities to prepare new or revise courses for my University, to learn more about the higher educational system in USA, about the modern forms of the activation of studying process, about life of U.S. university. The atmosphere of UNL promoted enthusiasm to gain knowledge and to do research.

I have never forgotten our Wild West Trip (to South Dakota and Western Nebraska), meetings with faculties of Department of Agricultural Economics, visits to farms, ranches, processing plants, offices of Extension service, consulting firms, banks, receptions, Thanksgiving at the Lutgen's house, festivals and fairs.

During local agribusiness trips I became acquainted with activities of agribusiness enterprises, agricultural research centers, Extension services, interaction between farms and processing plants. Our Wild West trip successfully combined useful and pleasant things. I have learned more about operation of farms and ranches, county Extension service, the process of pricing on agricultural commodities and also I saw beautiful and historical places of USA. Visits to banks and consulting firms helped to gain knowledge in financial aspects of activity of agribusiness enterprises. Investment and tax planning, procedure of obtaining loans by farmers, principles of accounting have been considered.

I am very thankful to all people who are working at the University and created so good conditions for our work. And especially I would like to say words of gratitude to Susan Miller and Lynn Lutgen.

Victoriya Onegina.

The program of my work during my visit to the University of Nebraska, Lincoln was planned very good. I was given a wide variety of courses that corresponded with most of my interests. Attendance of classes helped me more fully understand methodologies of teaching of agricultural economics courses. Meetings with professors and discussions of courses' peculiarities helped me better understand structures of given courses and different aspects of each course. An access to libraries' materials gave a possibility to get necessary information on both courses that I attended and subjects of my research work. Professors gave me additional materials on topics that I am interested in. Because of unlimited access to Internet I could gain

all web information that I needed. Professor Mike Turner gave for us special classes on Agribusiness Management Simulation explaining all aspects of this course that we asked about. He also provided us with copies of the agribusiness simulation model. All professors were very helpful.

Besides gaining theoretical knowledge I had a significant possibility to see practical aspects of subjects that are interesting to me due to very well planned and organized field trips on Nebraska's agriculture. With the help of these trips I could better familiarize with different types of structural units of agribusiness system, including farms, ranches, feed-lots, processing plants, cooperatives and also banks, accounting services and farm management organizations. Also, I acquainted with the work of extension service and research center. These trips also helped to see different Nebraska conditions of agricultural production. I appreciate very much the welcome and hospitality of all people which I visited during my living in Lincoln. Also, I want to emphasize that all questions that I had according to my living and work during the visit to the UNL were solved in the best way. Thank you very much.

Pavlo Poplavsky

During my stay in Lincoln and the studying in the University of Nebraska I had all necessary conditions for my work here. I attended courses that interested me, had consultations with different professors and other specialists from Extension service, Teaching and Learning center, etc. We had opportunity to study English with our personal teacher. In University I learned about specifics of the educational system, the use of modern methods of teaching and possibilities of the Internet in educational process. Our knowledge about the agriculture in the U.S.A. continued to improve with local agribusiness trips:

(Aug.11 – Aug.20) - During the first business trip I learned more about the activity of the different big agribusiness enterprises, small family enterprises, research center and I saw a good example of cooperation between farmers and processing plant.

(Oct.1 – Oct.5) - It was our wild west trip by Nebraska and South Dakota. I learned the difference between farm and ranch, the use of the futures and options contracts and of work of the banking system with farmers in the U.S.A. County Extension Educator said more about activity county extension service, 4-H Pick-a-Project and educational programs

for farmers. In addition, we had opportunities to see a lot of beautiful places and to attend different museums.

(Nov.16 – Nov.18) - During this trip we acquainted with the finance activity of the farmers, tax preparation and investment planning in agriculture.

In University we had a special office for our work and for preparing our teaching materials, writing articles and special documents to USDA, everybody got a personal computer. As to conditions of living, we had a comfortable apartment not far from east campus. It's really beautiful place in Lincoln. All organization of different meetings and consultations, agribusiness trips, the process of the studying and comfortable conditions of living, was a good work of our advisers Sue Miller and Lynn Lutgen. Every time, when I needed assistance, I had been know that I can count on the help. I thank Sue Miller and Lynn Lutgen for hospitality, trouble and hard work! I saw on shield of the state of Nebraska the following words "Nebraska ... the good life." I know now, it's really true!

Best wishes, Oksana Kozlova.

During our stay at the UNL I had an opportunity to receive undoubtedly a valuable experience from both theoretical and practical viewpoints. I was able to pursue my own professional interests in the academic work. I acquired a systematic understanding of the way the U.S. agribusiness sector operates. It became possible because of a number of well-planned events. At first, I received general knowledge about Nebraska's agriculture, which were extracted from the field trips. (Mead Research Center, "pioneer plant" and ethanol plant).

Also, I acquired some knowledge which is new and unknown for me. In addition, I found professors to be most helpful. They tried to understand the situation and give valuable advise and provided us some additional materials.

Also I want to admit our trip through Nebraska and South Dakota. During this trip I had an opportunity to find out more about agriculture in the other parts of the state and gain knowledge about U.S. history and nature. Most useful events from business viewpoint, were visiting McGinley Ranch, a livestock feeding complex, a pig farm and Kelley Bean Company. Very interesting events from cultural viewpoints were visiting Black Hills, Pioneer Village and Rushmore Memorial.

To combine all our knowledge about U.S. agriculture and present as a whole system helped us in the three weeks business trip. I have found my stay in the United States to be useful and exciting.

Mykola Polyevyk

Then, during visiting lectures and seminars I studied teaching techniques and methods of teaching.