



# Pottawatomie County

K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION NEWS

## *Agriculture and Natural Resources*

[pottawatomie.k-state.edu](http://pottawatomie.k-state.edu)

February 2025

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K-State Research & Extension

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<https://www.pottawatomie.k-state.edu/news/index.html>

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### Soil Fertility

Did you know that your county agriculture agent has a master's degree in agronomy-soil fertility? This year, K-State Research and Extension Agronomy is focusing on soil fertility programming.

Would you be interested in a soil fertility management club? The group could meet in person or virtually for 30 minutes maximum each time to discuss soil fertility in more detail and develop management plans specific to your own operations. I would like to have 15-20 minute presentations with time for questions and sharing practical experiences within the group.

If this sounds interesting to you, please complete this brief survey at the link below to share your suggestions and ideas.

[Soil Fertility Management Club survey](#)

### Events and Programs

The following pages include information about area events and programs held by K-State Research and Extension. Notice that this is our busy season, so several activities are occurring as early as next week! Take particular notice of the Corn Disease Management workshop being held in Seneca on Thursday, February 6, 2025.

### Infographics

Also included in the following pages are infographics or brief visual informational documents designed especially for social media. I have been posting one each Friday to Facebook for a couple of months and plan to continue through mid-March or so. They can also be seen on our Pottawatomie County K-State Research and Extension webpage under crops & livestock and lawn & garden at [www.pottawatomie.k-state.edu](http://www.pottawatomie.k-state.edu).

Shannon Blocker  
Pottawatomie County Extension Agent  
Agriculture and Natural Resources



## **Corn Disease Management**

**Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

*Woolsoncroft Event Center*

*1615 Branch St., Seneca, KS*

*10:30 – 12:30*

**Tar Spot** arrived in 2022. **Corn Stunt** was confirmed in Kansas this fall. We know a lot more than we used to - but there's still a lot to learn heading into the 2025 growing season.

KSU Extension Row Crops Pathologist, Dr. Rodrigo Onofre will be our guest for a rapid-fire discussion covering what we've learned in three seasons with Tar Spot plus what we're learning about our newest Midwest corn disease: Corn Stunt Disease. We'll wrap up the morning with an update on other diseases of concern, then briefly discuss *soybean fungicide resistance management* and *Soybean Gall Midge*.

### **Registration:**

**RSVP by February 4<sup>th</sup>** using the QR code (below left), calling the Seneca Office at (785-336-2184) or e-mailing [dhallaue@ksu.edu](mailto:dhallaue@ksu.edu)

*In case of inclement weather, please contact the Seneca Office for details.*

**Hope you can attend!**

**Thanks to our lunch sponsor:**



*People...Products...Knowledge®*



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Meadowlark District



K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means for communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, and American Sign Language) may be requested by contacting the event contact (David Hallauer) two weeks prior to the start of the event at (785-364-4125/[dhallaue@ksu.edu](mailto:dhallaue@ksu.edu)). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service  
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**FORGING** the **FUTURE**  
Women Managing the Farm Conference

February 13 & 14, 2025 | Manhattan, KS

<https://womenmanagingthefarm.com/>



**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**CATTLEMEN'S DAY**

**Friday, March 7, 2025**  
National Guard Armory | 721 Levee Dr, Manhattan, KS

A lineup you'll want front-row seats for!  
Register by February 21 - \$25 | After February 22 - \$35



<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/events/cattlemen-day/>

## Swine Profitability Conference



Kansas State University

## 2025 Swine Profitability Conference

February 4, 2025

Stanley Stout Center, 2200 Denison, Manhattan, Kansas

*Online registration has closed. Walk-in registration will be available at the event for \$50.*

## Dairy Days

**Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025 • Amish Community Building, Hutchinson, KS**

Please pre-register by calling: Reno County Extension Office, 620-662-2371 or [pbergkamp@ksu.edu](mailto:pbergkamp@ksu.edu)

**Thursday, Feb. 20, 2025 • Meadowlark Extension District Office Complex, Seneca, KS**

Please pre-register by calling: Meadowlark Extension District Office at 785-336-2184 or  
[rmostell@ksu.edu](mailto:rmostell@ksu.edu)

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# Agriculture Leasing

## Oral Leases

Oral Leases are legal in Kansas, but it is much more desirable to put basic agreed upon details in writing. Poor communication between tenant and landlord is often an issue for agriculture leases. Oral leases are limited to a 1-year term that renews without proper notice. Standard Kansas lease law dates and policies apply.

## Written Leases

Written leases can be simple to very complex. We have sample leases for cropland, pasture, livestock, buildings, etc. available online or in our office. A written lease may cover any period of time and protects both parties. If the landowner wants to retain any rights, such as hunting, a written lease should include those details.

## Average Lease Rates

Our sources are primarily survey results, so they are only as good as those that fill out and return agricultural surveys. Also, not all land is the same and size and location matters. The following averages are reported for Pottawatomie County.

2025 Non-irrigated cropland (KSU) \$87/ac  
 2024 Non-irrigated cropland (USDA) \$94/ac  
 2024 Pasture (USDA) \$27.50/ac  
 2023 Bluestem Pasture (KDA) \$232.29/cow-calf pair  
 2023 Bluestem Pasture (KDA) \$121.88/steer-heifer

## Notice to Terminate a Lease

For all leases, except signed written leases that state otherwise, Kansas law requires that notice to terminate farm and pastureland leases must be given as follows:

1. in writing (yes, even oral leases)
2. at least 30 days prior to March 1, and
3. must set March 1 as the termination date of the tenancy.

Agricultural leases do not terminate with change of land ownership and will continue unless proper, timely notice is given.

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# LIVESTOCK CARE IN COLD

<https://mesonet.k-state.edu/agriculture/animal/>

## FORECAST - ANIMAL COMFORT INDEX

**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Animal Comfort Forecast**

**ACI Forecast**

**Mon Night 01/20**

**Kansas Mesonet**

**Animal Comfort Index, °F**

The Kansas State University Mesonet has a current and forecast section sharing animal comfort index information for both cold and hot weather. As you can see, Monday night 1/20/25, is predicted to be the coldest in the 7-day forecast. See the Mesonet website address shared above.

## THINGS TO DO:

### PROVIDE PROTECTION AND BEDDING

Windbreaks, either permanent or temporary, are important to help livestock cope with cold weather. Temporary windbreaks can be constructed from big round bales or other materials. Straw or unrolled hay make good bedding, and hay can be dual purpose for feed and bedding.

### FEED AND WATER

In cold weather, provide extra feed. The energy maintenance requirement can increase from 20-40%, so it is important to increase the caloric intake, even ahead of cold weather. Make sure you routinely check water sources to make sure they aren't frozen over so livestock can drink.

### PLANNING AND MONITORING PARTURITION

Be sure to get newborns to a warm and dry place when the temperature drops and moisture sets in. When temperatures are in the teens, risk of frostbite increases. Negative health outcomes are more common for cold and wet versus cold and dry. Sanitation and fresh bedding are important to reduce the spread of disease.

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# 25/26 Farm Bill Election ARC-CO or PLC?

- ARC-CO is more likely to have higher payments for the 25/26 marketing year. Payments are likely at average yields unless actual price is higher than predicted prices. Prices are always volatile.
- If you are 100% irrigated soybeans on your base acres, you might lean toward PLC. For PLC to pay, actual price would need to be down \$0.29, but yield would need to be down 11 bushel (nearly 20%) on an average county irrigated soybean yield.
- Contact me with questions or the Farm Service Agency to make an election change.

Farm Bill Elections 2025/2026 Marketing Year							
	Election Recommendation	KSU Projected MYA Price	PLC Reference Price	Price drop for PLC to pay	County yield at projected price for ARC to pay	County Olympic average yield	County yield loss from average for ARC to pay at projected price
Corn	ARC-CO				161	160.49	none
Corn, irrigated 100%	ARC-CO	\$ 4.29	\$ 4.26	\$ 0.03	205	204.21	none
Soybeans	ARC-CO				46	43.94	none
Soybeans, irrigated 100%	PLC / ARC-CO	\$ 9.95	\$ 9.66	\$ 0.29	47	58.44	19.58%
Wheat	ARC-CO	\$ 5.83	\$ 5.56	\$ 0.27	58	59.39	2.34%
Grain Sorghum	ARC-CO	\$ 4.31	\$ 4.51	none	94	89.02	none



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## JOIN THE CONVERSATION ON COVER CROPS!

Let us know your opinion and experience, whether you are growing them or not!

Your insights will help researchers develop new projects and publications that further investigate how cover crops affect soil health and crop productivity.

Scan the QR Code  
to take the  
Survey Today!





**LET'S COME AND  
SPREAD THE LOVE  
OF GARDENING**



**March 1st , 2025  
9:00am - 12:00 pm**

First Presbyterian Church  
601 Elm St  
Wamego, Kansas

**About Our Event**

Pottawatomie County Master Gardeners invites everyone to come and learn more about gardening. We'll discuss subjects on how to protect your garden from pests, how gardening can help your mental health, plants that thrive in Kansas, how to arrange your spring containers, and making a kitchen compost collector. You will not want to miss this information filled morning.

**Event Highlights**

**Plant Protection in Home Gardens**  
Speaker Raymond Cloyd

**Mental Health & Gardening**  
Speaker Cynthia Domenghini

**Making Compost**  
Speaker Shannon Blocker

This event is Free will donations  
Please help us in future events

**CONTACT US**  
1-785-457-3319

**EVERYONE IS  
WELCOME**

**WEBSITE**  
[pottawatomie.k-state.edu](http://pottawatomie.k-state.edu)

