2012

Know how. Know **now.**

CROPPING SYSTEMS PRODUCTIVITY

Meeting the Challenge

- The world population is expected to increase to 9 billion people by 2050. One challenge is to feed this growing population while reducing environmental risk and encouraging resource stewardship.
- UNL Extension strives to deliver unbiased, research based information to a diversified agricultural audience- from conventional, to sustainable ag, to organic growers.
- **In 2012, UNL Extension programs in the area of Cropping Systems Productivity reached over 2837growers and individuals in the ag industry representing 26.9 million acres of cropland.**

Extension's Impact

- **Nebraska On-Farm Research:** 27 growers completed 33 conventional studies and 7 growers completed 7organic studies in the first year of this combined statewide effort. (http://cropwatch.unl.edu/web/farmresearch).
- **Sustainable Ag:** 72% of program participants significantly increased knowledge in alternative ag production practices and 72% significantly increased knowledge in crop and livestock diversity to improve soil health.
- **No-Till:** Participants in Nebraska's No-Till Conferences who adopted no-till practices maintained current profit or increased profit $13/acre equating to about $3.3 million.
- **Crop Production Clinics:** 54% of attendees reported moderate or greater knowledge of crop management practices that will reduce input costs and/or increase yields.
- **Visits to UNL CropWatch website:** Up 20% from 2011 with 563,256 pageviews from 197 countries. (http://cropwatch.unl.edu)

Public Value

Programming in Cropping Systems Productivity leads to greater production efficiencies, increased profitability, and enhanced soil and water resources.

Nebraska benefits as a whole by securing more farmers in rural communities with disposable income, enhancing the quality of Nebraska natural resources, and multiplying the value of agricultural research investments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
CONTACT YOUR LOCAL UNL EXTENSION OFFICE, HTTP://EXTENSION.UNL.EDU, JENNY REES (JREES2@UNL.EDU), GARY LESOING (GARY.LESOING@UNL.EDU), OR KAREN DEBOER (KDEBOER1@UNL.EDU), UNL EXTENSION EDUCATORS FOR THIS INITIATIVE.

Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.