## **UNL Extension**

# **Public Value Statements and Impact Statements**



#### January 5, 201

## Crops of the Future Spire

#### Crop Management & Diagnostic Clinics

#### Public Value Statement:

Public funding supports the Crop Management & Diagnostic Clinics which targets crop consultants with in-field research based training to enhance crop management skills. This program 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.

#### Additional Information:

This educational program reached 527 crop production industry professionals and growers representing 24% of Nebraska's row crop production or 3.7 million acres with educational programs at Agricultural Research & Development Center near Mead over the past year. We are especially proud of the program's ability to deliver a training curriculum which provides industry professionals from 63 Nebraska counties and 11 states an educational experience relevant to production agriculture's needs. The economic impact in 2008 alone was 30.9 million dollars.

#### Organic Systems Research and Extension

#### Public Value Statement:

Public funding supports the Organic Research which helps participants make the transition from conventional to organic production and implement science based organic production practices. This research leads to science based practices on organic farms and benefits Nebraska as a whole by strengthening organic farms, new opportunities for entrepreneurial rural business, and greater diversity in Nebraska agriculture.

#### Additional Information:

In 2009, four university research fields located across Nebraska were formally certified as organic providing the opportunity for university research and demonstrations on organic production issues. The educational program reached 700 farmers, consumers, consultants, or other constituents representing 48,259 acres and 1000 livestock (130 certified organic farmers), with educational programs at Agricultural Research and Development Center, Haskell Agricultural Laboratory, High Plains Agricultural Laboratory and Western Community College, and South Central Agricultural Laboratory over the past year. We are especially proud that the organic program provides much needed science-based support and contact to an underserved, but growing segment of the Nebraska population.

### **Crop Production Clinics**

### **Public Value Statement:**

Public funding supports the Crop Production Clinics helping participants implement integrated pest management principles, best management practices for irrigation and fertilizer management and pesticide application, and research based crop production methods. This leads to safe and sustainable use of pesticides and fertilizers, more profitable agricultural enterprises, and less use of water for irrigation, which benefits Nebraska as a whole by improving the competitiveness of Nebraska agriculture and contributing to the quality and quantity of our water resources for all water users.

#### Additional Information:

This 2009 educational program reached 1,169 agricultural professionals and farmers through programs at Norfolk, Fremont, Beatrice, York, Hastings, Kearney, North Platte, and Gering. Program participants manage or influence the management on a large percentage of Nebraska's 16 million row crop acres. Program participants reported that the clinics would contribute on average \$4 per acre on the land they influence or manage.

## **UNL Extension**





January 5, 201

### **Public Value Statement:**

Public funding supports the Annie's Project program that helps spouses be better business partners which leads to women better responding to challenges of farming and ranching and benefits Nebraskans as a whole by keeping more farmers and ranchers in rural communities.

#### Additional Information:

This educational program reached 93 women representing 92,200 acres with educational programs at Crawford, Hay Springs, Sidney, Chadron/Gordon, and Burt and Antelope Counties over the past year. We are especially proud of the program's educational curriculum which is designed to help women find answers, strength and friendship while dealing with the challenges of being involved in farming and ranching.