

Profitable and Sustainable Agricultural Opportunities for Nebraska

The Rural Advantage/Healthy Farms Conference

February 13 & 14, 2009
Midtown Holiday Inn
Grand Island, NE



A Joint Conference of UNL Extension & the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln | EXTENSION



Sustaining Your Agricultural Future

Are you looking for new, innovative ways to utilize your agricultural products? Do you want to benefit from the many advantages of living, working, and raising a family in the country? Do you need help developing innovative ideas that can impact the world around you? **Then don't waste another minute!** The Rural Advantage/Healthy Farms Conference provides the perfect opportunity for you to acquire useful information on numerous alternatives to expand your vision and ideas into reality. A variety of interactive educational opportunities are available for adults and youth. You will have the chance to network with experts, university faculty, and fellow agricultural colleagues. Besides providing informative, educational sessions the conference has commercial and educational exhibits, silent support auction, live auction and an "All Nebraska Dinner." The "All Nebraska Dinner" is an exclusive dinner opportunity. The dinner is predominately made with Nebraska grown products and it presents you with a unique occasion to taste the elements of Nebraska. Please join us for this exciting opportunity!!

Friday, February 13, 2009

8:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION**

8:00 a.m. **COMMERCIAL & EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS OPEN**

9:30 a.m. **KEY NOTE SPEAKER**
Feast or Famine: A Fork in the Road and the Crucial Farmer-Consumer Connection
Melinda Hemmelgarn, M.S., R.D.
Nutrition and Health Communication Consultant

9:30 a.m. **YOUTH PROGRAM**

10:30 a.m. **BREAK**

11:00 a.m. **CONCURRENT SESSION 1**

- A. **Beekeeping**
Marion Ellis
UNL Extension Entomologist

- B. **Organic Food Nutrition**
Georgia Jones
UNL Extension Food Specialist
- C. **Mechanical Weed Control and Field Preparation**
Larry Stanislav
Producer

12:00 p.m. **LUNCH**

1:00 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSION 2**

- A. **Pollination**
Marion Ellis
UNL Extension Entomologist
- B. **Food Sleuth: Using Media Literacy to Find Food Truth**
Melinda Hemmelgarn
Nutrition and Healthy Communications Consultant
- C. **Returning to the Farm and Beginning Farmer Programs**
Gary Lesoing and Dave Goeller
UNL Extension

2:00 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSION 3**

- A. **Nut Production in Nebraska**
Larry Martin
Chairman Nebraska Nut Growers Association
- B. **Wildlife Damage Control for High Value Products**
Stephen Vantassel
UNL Extension Wildlife Damage Project Coordinator
- C. **Low Input Sheep, Beef, and Meat Goat Production**
Mike Wallace
Producer

3:00 p.m. **BREAK**

3:30 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSION 4**

- A. **Diversified Agriculture and the 2008 Farm Bill**
Gary Lesoing
UNL Extension Educator
- B. **Food Entrepreneurship**
Jill Gifford
UNL Food Processing Center Manager

Don't miss it. Register TODAY!

Rural Advantage/Healthy Farms Conference

February 13-14, 2009
Midtown Holiday Inn
Grand Island, NE

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln | EXTENSION

Nemaha County
Courthouse, 1824 N Street
Auburn, NE 68305

C. **Dwarf Fruit Tree Trellising**
 Jim Hruskoci
 UNL Extension Educator

4:30 p.m. **ADULT & YOUTH PROGRAMS END**

4:30 p.m. **COMMERCIAL & EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS CLOSE**

5:00 p.m. **LIVE AUCTION**

6:30 p.m. **ALL NEBRASKA DINNER***
 *Cost for the dinner is not included in the general registration. There is an additional \$25 fee per adult and \$12 fee per youth (12 and under) for the All Nebraska Dinner. If you plan to attend the dinner, please note this on the registration form and add the additional fee to your payment.

Saturday, February 14, 2009

8:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION**

8:00 a.m. **COMMERCIAL & EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS OPEN**

8:00 a.m. **NSAS GENERAL MEETING**

8:00 a.m. **SILENT ACUTION BEGINS**

9:00 a.m. **YOUTH PROGRAM**

9:00 a.m. **CONCURRENT SESSION 5**
 A. **Agriculture Enterprises Outside of Nebraska such as Europe and Agricultural Enterprises in New Zealand**
 Dr. Chuck Francis and Jessica Jones
 UNL Professor and UNL Extension Educator

B. **Organic Vegetable Gardening**
 Dr. Tom Tomas

C. **Introduction to Holistic Management**
 Mae Petrehn and Ralph Tate

10:00 a.m. **BREAK**

10:30 a.m. **CONCURRENT SESSION 6**
 A. **Aronia Berry Production Processing and Marketing**
 Vaughn and Cindy Pittz
 Sawmill Hollow Farms, Producers

B. **The Healthy Farms Index**
 John Quinn
 UNL Graduate Research Assistant

C. **Monitoring the Ecosystem**
 Torray Wilson and Katie Rosing

11:30 a.m. **LUNCH, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, & NSAS PROJECT SPEAKERS**

1:00 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSION 7**
 A. **UNL Classes on Sustainable Agriculture**
 Dr. Chuck Francis
 UNL Professor

B. **Agri-tourism Panel**

C. **Planning for Profits (Financial Planning)**
 Erin Beard

2:00 p.m. **BREAK**

2:30 p.m. **SILENT AUCTION ENDS**

2:30 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSION 8**
 A. **Research Update on Weed Control with Flaming**
 Steve Knezevic and George Gogos
 UNL Researchers

B. **Agri-tourism Panel**

C. **Grazing Principles**
 Chad Peterson, Mae Petrehn, Torray Wilson, and Katie Rosing

3:30 p.m. **ADULT & YOUTH PROGRAMS END**

4:00 p.m. **COMMERCIAL & EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS CLOSE**

4:00 p.m. **SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!**

Youth Session Topics

Make Some Green Growing Orange: How to Raise and Sell Pumpkins, Holistic Management, Wildcrafting for Profit, The Magic of Beekeeping, Organic Gardening, and Much More!

Lodging Information

A block of rooms are reserved under Rural Advantage at the following hotel until one (1) week prior to the conference.

Midtown Holiday Inn
2503 South Locust
Grand Island, NE 68801
1-308-384-1330
1-888-465-4329
Rate: \$70.00+tax/night

Registration Information

Your registration fee includes two lunches, breaks, and an information packet. To attend the two day conference the fee is \$70 if registered before February 7, 2009. If you register after February 7, 2009 the fee is \$80. Additional adult family members can attend for \$60 per person and additional youth family member (youth in grades kindergarten thru 12th) for \$35 per person. However, the family will only receive one information packet. One-day attendance is \$45 per person and includes one lunch, breaks, and an information packet. The All Nebraska Dinner is an additional fee (see registration form).

You may register online at <http://www.richardson.unl.edu> or by sending in the attached registration form to CARI Registration (address on the bottom of registration form).

A Joint Conference of UNL Extension & the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society

Conference Location:
 Midtown Holiday Inn
 2503 South Locust
 Grand Island, NE 68801

Questions:
 Gary Lesoing, UNL Extension
 Phone: 402-274-4755

University of Nebraska Extension educational programs abide with the non-discrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Registration

The Rural Advantage/ Healthy Farms Conference

February 13-14, 2009
 Midtown Holiday Inn
 Grand Island, NE

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Employer/Business: _____

Two Day Workshop

Registration by 2-7-2009 (\$70) _____

Registration after 2-7-2009 (\$80) _____

Additional family members:

Number of Adult (\$60/person) _____

Number of Youth**(\$35/person) _____

Attending Friday Only (\$45/person) _____

Attending Saturday Only (\$45/person) _____

Student/Youth Rate** (\$35) _____
 (one or both days)

All Nebraska Dinner (Friday Night)

Adults (\$25/person) _____

Youth (\$12/youth, 12 and under) _____

Single Session(\$15/person/session) _____

NSAS Annual Membership (\$35) _____
 (discount from \$45)

TOTAL \$ _____

**Youth that are in kindergarten thru 12th grade

Dietary Needs: _____

Send Registration to:
 CARI Registration
 c/o Audrey George
 103H Miller Hall
 Lincoln, NE 68583
 Payable to: University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Online Registration:
<http://www.richardson.unl.edu>