



Kansas
AGSUMMIT
GROW SMARTER. GROW STRONGER. GROW KANSAS.

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Agricultural Technology & Entrepreneurship

Priorities for Ag Technology:

- Exposure to hands-on experiences for youth
- Connect educators, higher education, industry

Priorities for Entrepreneurship:

- Create business incubators and offer incentives for investments

Priorities for UAS:

- Determine applications for continued support of connectivity



Agriculture Equipment Manufacturing and Sales

Priorities:

- Expand efforts for creating more collaboration space for small manufactures and innovative farmer solutions
- Continue emphasis on technology ag education at all education levels
- Continue to explore, expand, and advocate workforce solutions from federal, state, and local entities.



Animal Health

Challenges:

- Workforce: need more veterinarians
- Rural challenges: housing, rural communities to attract vets
- How can regulatory end adapt to better incorporate tech advancements?

Opportunities:

- Possibilities for technical careers to support veterinary industry

NBAF Update:

- How can NBAF support/benefit Kansas agriculture: collaborative partnership



Beef

Challenges:

- Immigration, industry capacity/competition, workforce

Opportunities

- Support of regional and smaller beef processors
- Traceability

Priorities:

- Implementation of Water Vision re: beef industry
- Recruitment, expansion and development
- Competitive and competent workforce



Corn

Priorities:

- Outreach and advocacy on atrazine usage and EPA new rules
- Advocacy for year-round E15 usage and promotion of high ethanol blends across the state



Cotton

Challenges:

- Cotton leaving Kansas to be ginned and warehoused in Texas
- Need rain!

Opportunities:

- Education about marketing to producers
- Potential for growth in acres grown in Kansas
- General education and promotion about cotton

Success in the last year:

- Kansas Cotton Boll Weevil program



Dairy

Challenges:

- Climate/sustainability, water conservation, workforce

Opportunities:

- Economic development support for producers
- Value added on farm processing

Priorities:

- Research extension training to include a new facility at KSU
- Federal immigration reform
- Comprehensive employee training programs



Equine

Success: Completion of the Equine Economic Impact Survey.

Challenges:

- Capital: funding for infrastructure improvements, new builds, other
- Differing definitions of equids as livestock

Top Opportunities:

- Consumer demand for more entry level engagement opportunities
- Continued need for arena & stall barn facility improvements or additional venues
- Establish an extension equine specialist.



Feed and Forage

Challenges:

- Drought, high cost of inputs, supply chain logistics

Opportunities:

- Technology and innovation, carbon sequestration, water conservation

Top priorities for Feed and Forage sector

- Enhanced risk management options for forages
- Additional K-State Research and Extension forage personnel
- Increased funding for feed and forage research



Food (Meat) Processing

Challenges:

- Management of offal: Disposal? Compost? Can we market it?
- New plants pits categorized as “industrial”

Opportunities:

- Good recent cooperation from USDA inspectors
- Grant opportunities exist (assistance with grant writing?)
- Continue attention to biosecurity



Pet Food

Challenges:

- Regulations varying from state to state
- Lack of “maker space”

Opportunities:

- K-State Pet Food Program for training workforce
- K-State Innovation Partners
- Diversify/expand value-added opportunities
- Industry network for pet food



Pork

Challenges:

- Talent/workforce development
- Tools to manage a disease outbreak

Opportunities:

- Innovative and scalable research for industry adoption
- Producer engagement in the National Pork Board sustainability plan

Successes: composting courses and depopulation exercise, immersion activity



Poultry

Challenges:

- Livestock distance rules
- Labor shortages: need immigration reform

Opportunities:

- State tax/bond incentives to encourage building new facilities
- Stronger advocacy to students pursuing higher education

Major issues:

Concern about resurgence of HPAI as temperatures cool down this fall.



Sorghum

Challenges:

- Controlling weeds
- Implementation of action items for water scarcity in Kansas
- Integrated crop system

Opportunities:

- Funding for value-added education marketing & research; market diversification
- Research can improve the crop with trait technology
- Livestock feed research partnerships with K-State



Soybeans and Other Oilseeds

Priorities:

- Expand processing facilities and value-added opportunities
- Define sustainability
- Continue support of K-State research funding
- Showcase diversity of ag careers



Specialty Crops

Challenges:

- Increased costs, weather, labor shortages, supply chain disruptions

Opportunities:

- How to scale your operation, market your specialty crops.
- Info and assistance re: grant opportunities
- Increased specialty crop/horticulture research
- More outlets to sell products other than farmers' markets

Other key takeaway:

- Lots of interest in vertical farming



Specialty Livestock

Challenges:

- Market barriers, H2C guest worker program support

Opportunities:

- FSMIP grant
- New market opportunities

Priorities:

- Form a specialty livestock association
- Add'l K-State research and extension personnel
- State-sponsored economic development incentives



Wheat

Challenges:

- Global competition, input pricing

Opportunities:

- Added value creation through protein markets
- Producers being rewarded for producing higher protein wheat

Priorities:

- Improve grain science facilities at K-State:
- Increase state and federal funding for infrastructure improvement
- Public/private partnerships



Doug Keesling

Chase, Kansas

A passionate advocate for farmers, Doug has been very active promoting trade and good will internationally representing Kansas agriculture in 2022. He has traveled to Cuba, Africa, and the Middle East. Doug is also an active member on the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition and serves on the Kansas Wheat Commission and National Sorghum Producers board of directors. His passion for Kansas agriculture and commitment to promote it in the U.S. and overseas is admirable and an inspiration.





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