

KANSAS FARM RESEARCH NETWORK



Producer Information Guide

Every farmer has those burning questions about what decisions will make their farms more productive and profitable, but finding reliable, consistent answers for the scales and circumstances of our farms is a big undertaking. Most simply don't have the time and resources to add a layer of scientific experimentation to the demanding occupation of farming. **That's where the Kansas Farm Research Network (KFRN) comes in.**

What is KFRN?

KFRN is a pilot collaboration program between the Kansas Agricultural Research & Technology Association (**KARTA**) and K-State Extension (**KSE**) personnel. KFRN is a group of agricultural producers from across Kansas who conduct on-farm research projects at farm-level scale with the technical support of agricultural research professionals.

By bringing together the research expertise and human networks of each organization, KFRN simplifies the intellectual and labor demands of performing on-farm research. Plus, participants are encouraged to be involved in developing the research questions they tackle on their farms, guaranteeing an emphasis on the subjects that are top of mind for Kansas farmers.



Our Program Partnership



K-State Extension is a statewide system of researchers and field agents that address public needs by providing higher education and learning activities to farmers, ranchers, communities, youth, and families throughout Kansas.

The Kansas Agricultural Research & Technology Association is a non-profit organization of innovative farmers,, researchers and industry persons who share a common desire to continually learn more about production agriculture.

The KFRN Process

In the first year of KFRN, technical support will focus on farm experiments designed by our collaborating K-State agricultural researchers. This will allow the KFRN team to optimize their time serving participating growers while adding depth to on-farm research throughout the state. Success in the first year will mean opportunity to expand KFRN project offerings to new research ideas initiated by participating farmers.

Here's what it looks like to participate in KFRN:



- Interested farms **sign up** to participate in available research projects
- K-State Extension personnel **connect** farms with research leads to form on-farm research plans
- Research teams provide technical support for registered farms to **execute** research plans
- K-State Extension personnel help farms **transform** raw data into actionable results through presentations, publications, & public relations

Key Research Features

- **Replicated:** Successful research requires applying different field treatments within the same field *replicated* multiple times
- **Significant:** Scientific conclusions are only drawn if the difference in outcomes between treatments are *statistically significant*
- **Reliable:** When data and results reach scientific standards, they move beyond opinion and become *knowledge*
- **Shareable:** Reliable results can be compiled and presented with audiences everywhere to improve Kansas agriculture

KFRN is built to support each feature of on-farm research at every stage of the process.

Three potential randomizations for an on-farm trial with two treatments and three replications.*

	Plot 1	Plot 2
Replication 1	Treatment A	Treatment B
Replication 2	Treatment B	Treatment A
Replication 3	Treatment A	Treatment B

	Plot 1	Plot 2
Replication 1	Treatment A	Treatment B
Replication 2	Treatment A	Treatment B
Replication 3	Treatment B	Treatment A

	Plot 1	Plot 2
Replication 1	Treatment A	Treatment B
Replication 2	Treatment A	Treatment B
Replication 3	Treatment A	Treatment B

*Adapted from MF966: "Establishing On-Farm Demonstration & Research Plots" publication from K-State Extension

Extension Coordination

A central component of KFRN's success is the coordination between K-State agricultural research leads and Kansas farms & ranches through the Cooperative Extension Service. This way, researchers can seamlessly connect with on-farm research opportunities while maintaining their focus on strong experimental design, and participants can receive technical support while maintaining their focus on the demanding occupation of farming.

Byers has been a part of K-State Extension since 2022. He spent four years in the field as an Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent in the River Valley Extension District (Clay, Cloud, Republic, & Washington Co.) before entering his current role in January 2026. His research centers on the intersection between farm financial management and crop production decision-making and leads several extension programs in the K-State Department of Agricultural Economics, including its official extension website & repository, agmanager.info.

Luke Byers, M.S.
Extension Assistant
& KFRN Coordinator
K-State Agricultural
Economics



For more information, visit: karta-online.org/research

Research Project Options

Wheat-Soybean Relay Project

Wheat-soybean relay cropping involves planting soybeans into standing wheat, so both crops share part of the growing season. This project will test if relay cropping can protect yield by following wheat with full-season soybeans.

Meet the Project Lead



Dr. Rachel Cott
Assistant Professor
of Crop Science
K-State Agronomy



Dr. Cott has been a K-State Assistant Professor of Agronomy since 2022. In addition to teaching, coaching collegiate crops and NACTA judging teams, and advising the Wheat State Agronomy Club, Dr. Cott leads a field-based crop ecology research program.

For detailed information about this project, visit:
karta-online.org/wheat-soy-relay, or contact
Luke Byers, KFRN Extension Coordinator

Project funded by:

Profitable Yield Frontiers Network

This is a collective of simple wheat treatments for on-farm replicated strip trials. A specialist works with you to assess your current wheat production system and identifies practices or products to test for high-yielding, profitable wheat production. These treatments can include alternative fertilizer rates, herbicides & adjuvants, variety trials, or whatever comparisons you would like to try in a scientific, on-farm setting.

Meet the Project Lead

Dr. Lollato has been a K-State Professor & Extension Specialist in Agronomy since 2015, where he has provided leadership for an interdisciplinary team developing strong Extension and applied research programs.

Dr. Romulo Lollato
Professor & Extension
Specialist of Wheat &
Forage Production
K-State Agronomy



For more information, visit: karta-online.org/pyfn, or contact Luke Byers

Project funded by:



Kansas Agricultural Research & Technology Association Board Leadership

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GET INVOLVED

Three Ways to Get Involved Today!

Scan QR Code and
Complete Interest Form



Complete Attached
Interest Form and Mail to:

K-State Extension
c/o Luke Byers
324 Waters Hall
1603 Old Claflin Place
Manhattan, KS 66506

Call or Email KFRN
Extension Coordinator

Luke Byers
Extension Assistant
K-State Department of
Agricultural Economics
Office: (785) 532-1504
Cell: (717) 491-5259
Email: lsbyers@ksu.edu



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Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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KANSAS FARM RESEARCH NETWORK

GENERAL INTEREST FORM



NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ TEXT? ☐ YES ☐ NO

EMAIL: _____

RESEARCH PROJECT INTEREST

Wheat-Soybean
Relay Project

☐

Profitable Yield
Frontiers Network

☐

Other*

☐

***SHARE YOUR OWN RESEARCH PROJECT IDEAS HERE!**

☐

I WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER FOR KATCON 2027

(Enclose check made out to: **KARTA**)

Mail to:

K-State Extension
c/o Luke Byers
324 Waters Hall
1603 Old Claflin Place
Manhattan, KS 66506

GOT QUESTIONS?
CONTACT:



Luke Byers

Extension Assistant
K-State Department of
Agricultural Economics

Office: (785) 532-1504

Cell: (717) 491-5259

Email: lsbyers@ksu.edu

28TH KANSAS AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES CONFERENCE

FRIDAY,
MARCH 12TH,
2027

213 S 12TH ST,
CLAY
CENTER, KS

9AM -
5PM



\$75
LUNCH PROVIDED
VATHAUER'S CATERING



KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension
River Valley District

VISIT:
karta-online.org

REGISTER TODAY!

