

8. Bluestem and Pasture Leasing Tentative Survey Results

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Abstract/Summary

We, the Land Use Value Program Survey Division in the Department of Agricultural Economics at KSU, are collecting information on all types of pasture use and practices, including Bluestem pasture through a paper and electronic survey format. This survey replaces the one that was previously known as the "Bluestem Pasture Survey". This survey had been conducted previously by NASS and has never been offered in an electronic format. We asked for information from respondents' describing the grazing outlook, pasture availability, pasture leasing rates, and charges for custom fence building in their areas. Response to this survey is/was voluntary and not required by law. Individual responses are completely confidential. The tentative results that we present will be aggregated to the Crop Reporting District level. The results from the survey will provide timely information about Kansas pasture use and practices to stakeholders, like you.

2015 Kansas Pasture Leasing Survey Results To Date

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A Little History

- Why are KSU/KDA conducting the surveys now?
 - NASS changes: survey price increases, federal responsibilities, budget/personnel, and timeliness
- Developed the KDA/KSU collaboration.
 - Land Use Value Program Survey Division: ease respondent burden, reduce costs, increase research potential, and provide more reliable and timely results

Current and Future Surveys

- Bluestem/Pasture, Non-Irrigated, and Irrigated Leasing, Custom Rates/Input Costs surveys.
- Bluestem and Custom Rates stand-alones will be conducted in alternating years.
- Other surveys will be conducted once every four years.
- Mailing List—DB of land owners and Kansas agribusinesses was developed and is being refined.

KANSAS STATE
Agricultural Economics
2015 PASTURE SURVEY



Dear Reporter,

We are collecting information on all types of pasture use and practices, including Bluestem pasture. This survey replaces the one that was previously known as the "Bluestem Pasture Survey". Please provide information for your locality describing the grazing outlook, pasture availability, pasture leasing rates, and charges for custom fence building. For the purpose of this survey, your "ARER" means the COUNTY (IES) in which your pasture is located. Response to this survey is voluntary and not required by law; however, your response is important in providing reliable, accurate information. Individual responses will be completely confidential. Aggregate data will be used only for statistical purposes to disseminate the survey information. Please complete this report by August 1, 2015, and return it in the enclosed envelope or complete it online at www.ksre.k-state.edu/survey. Any additional comments you may have about pasture rental arrangements or pasture conditions would be appreciated. The results from the survey will provide timely information about Kansas pasture use and practices to stakeholders like you.

Thank you for your assistance.
Please contact Leah Toole at ltoole@ksre.ksu.edu or 785-652-1517 if you have questions about this survey.

SECTION 1 - Identification

1. Do you own, rent, or have knowledge of leasing arrangements for pasture in 2015? Check all that apply.

- A. All-grass prairie/bluestem
- B. Short-grass prairie
- C. Mixed-grass prairie
- D. Three-grass-introduced (non-native) species, such as brome, fescue, bermuda, and eastern gamma grass.
- E. None - Skip to Section 3.

2. If you are involved in a lease, on average, how long has (have your leases) been in place? _____ Years

3. What is the average annual rental/lease rate for these pastures?

Native Pasture	Tame Pasture
\$ _____ /Acre	\$ _____ /Acre

4. How many months would typically be grazed in a year at the rate you listed in the previous question?

Native Pasture	Tame Pasture
Number of months grazed _____	Number of months grazed _____

5. What is the average size of the pastures you lease or own?

Native Pasture	Tame Pasture
_____ Acres	_____ Acres

6. What county(ies) are the pastures you have referenced in this survey located in?

- A. Principal County _____
- B. Other _____
- C. Other _____
- D. Other _____

7. Do you consider your lease rate to be average, above average or below average for your area? (If lease select one)

	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Not Applicable
Native Pasture				
Tame Pasture				

8. Do pasture lease rates in your area vary based on the size of the pasture?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- 8A. If Yes: Do per acre pasture lease rates in your area decrease as pasture size increases? _____

9. If you are involved in a lease, is the pasture leased for anything other than livestock?

- A. Yes
- 9A. If yes, then please specify what the pasture is leased for? (Ex: leased for hunting, hay, etc) _____

9B. What is your per acre rental rate for leasing other than livestock? _____ \$/Acre

B. No

10. If you have tame/improved pasture, do you harvest hay to sell from it?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Not Applicable

2015 Kansas Pasture Leasing Survey

- Replaces the “Bluestem Pasture” survey and the KSU Pasture Leasing survey.
- Sampled 5,000 pasture land owners across Kansas.
- Currently, have about a 10% response rate.
 - Paper/Online survey
 - Postcard follow up
 - Call follow up

2015 Kansas Pasture Leasing Survey

- Collect information on all types of pasture use and practices, including Bluestem pasture.
- Questions on pasture lease terms, fence costs, and pasture availability and conditions.

*Response Distribution**

Districts	2015 Responses	2010 Responses
NW-10	3	22
WC-20	3	25
SW-30	6	33
NC-40	10	74
C-50	14	112
SC-60	10	138
NE-70	18	161
EC-80	33	233
SE-90	21	235
State	118	1033

**Comparability Issues*

Types of Pastures Leased

	Pasture Type	Responses
Native Pasture	Tall- grass Prairie	41
	Short-grass Prairie	28
	Mixed-grass Prairie	52
Tame Pasture	Tame Grass	44
	No Leasing Arrangement	4
	Total Responses	125

Length of Lease

Lease Length	Mean	Min	Max
Number of Years	14.20	0	50

Grazing Months

Pasture Type	Mean	# of Months	
		Min	Max
Native	6.24	3	12
Tame	6.87	3	12

Leased Acreage

Pasture Type	Mean	# of Acres	
		Min	Max
Native	237.71	8	4000
Tame	117.41	5	700

Annual Rent per Acre (\$/Acre)

Pasture Type	Mean	Min	Max
Native	28.09	4	227
Tame	24.44	8	60

Percent Available Under Contract

Pasture Type	Under Contract (%)	
	2015	2013
Native	97	97
Tame	99	N/A

Condition of the Pasture

Pasture Condition	% of Acres	
	2015	2013
Very Poor	1	16
Poor	5	41
Adequate	29	34
Good	46	8
Excellent	20	1
Total %	100	100

Range Burning in 2015

Range burning done in 2015	Responses
Yes	26
No	86
Among those who burned:	
Earliest Date	1/20/2015
Latest Date	6/2/2015
Burned in April	20
Burned on 04/10/2015	5

Water Sources

Water Source	Responses
Pond	74
Stream or Spring Fed Well	32
Electric Powered Well	19
Windmill	10
Hauling	5
Rural Water	11
Other_Solar	5
Total responses	125

Full Summer Season Contracts

	Average Price per Head with Care (\$)		Average Price per Head without Care (\$)	
	Native	Tame	Native	Tame
	Steers & Heifers under 500 lbs.	140.00	No Responses	70.00
Steers & Heifers 500 - 699 lbs.	65.67	No Responses	84.00	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 700 lbs. and more	180.00	No Responses	133.00	No Responses
Cows, with Last Fall's Calves	128.67	No Responses	No Responses	55.00
Cows, with Last Spring Calves	163.90	No Responses	111.25	81.25
Price for Pastures Rented on Per Acre Basis	20.50	19.02	25.47	25.00

Full Summer Season Contracts— Native Pasture

	Average Price per Head w/ Care (\$)			Average Price per Head w/o Care (\$)		
	14 County Bluestem Pasture Area		Other Area	14 County Bluestem Pasture Area		Other Area
	2015	2013	2015	2015	2013	2015
	Steers & Heifers under 500 lbs.	140.00	96.60	No Responses	No Responses	74.20
Steers & Heifers 500 - 699 lbs.	88.50	101.10	20.00	No Responses	79.80	84.00
Steers & Heifers 700 lbs. and more	180.00	95.50	No Responses	No Responses	87.60	133.00
Cows, with Last Fall's Calves	250.00	176.20	68.00	No Responses	141.60	No Responses
Cows, with Last Spring Calves	137.00	178.20	177.35	101.00	145.70	114.18
Price per Acre	24.44	23.70	19.80	34.47	20.40	21.69

Full Summer Season Contracts— Tame Pasture

	Average Price per Head with Care (\$)		Average Price per Head without Care (\$)	
	14 County Bluestem Pasture Area	Other Area	14 County Bluestem Pasture Area	Other Area
	Steers & Heifers under 500 lbs.	No Responses	No Responses	119.00
Steers & Heifers 500 - 699 lbs.	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 700 lbs. and more	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses
Cows, with Last Fall's Calves	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses	55.00
Cows, with Last Spring Calves	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses	81.25
Price per Acre	23.33	17.58	25.00	25.00

Partial Summer Season Contracts

	Average Price per Head with Care (\$)		Average Price per Head without Care (\$)	
	Native	Tame	Native	Tame
	Steers & Heifers under 500 lbs.	20.00	No Responses	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 500 - 699 lbs.	73.00	No Responses	70.00	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 700 lbs. and more	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses
Cows, with Last Fall's Calves	135.00	135.00	No Responses	No Response
Cows, with Last Spring Calves	150.00	No Responses	110.00	No Responses
Price for Pastures Rented on Per Acre Basis	22.57	30.00	22.59	28.40

Partial Summer Season Contracts—Native Pasture

	Average Price per Head w/ Care (\$)			Average Price per Head w/o Care (\$)		
	14 County Bluestem Pasture Area		Other Area	14 County Bluestem Pasture Area		Other Area
	2015	2013	2015	2015	2013	2015
Steers & Heifers under 500 lbs.	No Responses	70.70	20	No Responses	63.10	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 500 - 699 lbs.	102	80.30	15	70.00	67.30	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 700 lbs. and more	No Responses	103.10	No Responses	No Responses	78.10	No Responses
Cows, with Last Fall's Calves	No Responses	N/A	135	No Responses	N/A	No Responses
Cows, with Last Spring Calves	150	N/A	No Responses	120.00	N/A	100.00
Price per Acre	20.94	26.30	25.00	24.60	22.00	20.92

Partial Summer Season Contracts—Tame Pasture

	Average Price per Head with Care (\$)		Average Price per Head without Care (\$)	
	14 County Bluestem Pasture Area	Other Area	14 County Bluestem Pasture Area	Other Area
Steers & Heifers under 500 lbs.	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 500 - 699 lbs.	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 700 lbs. and more	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses	No Responses
Cows, with Last Fall's Calves	No Responses	135	No Responses	No Responses
Cows, with Last Spring Calves	No Responses	No Responses	101.00	No Responses
Price per Acre	No Responses	30.00	32.50	25.67

Full Summer Season Contracts— Acres Guaranteed per Head (Ac/Head)

	Native Pasture		Tame Pasture
	2015	2013	2015
Steers & Heifers under 500 lbs.	4.3	3.8	4.0
Steers & Heifers 500 - 699 lbs.	4.6	3.9	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 700 lbs. and more	5.0	5.2	No Responses
Cows, with Last Fall's Calves	7.0	7.9	No Responses
Cows, with Last Spring Calves	7.0	7.7	4.3

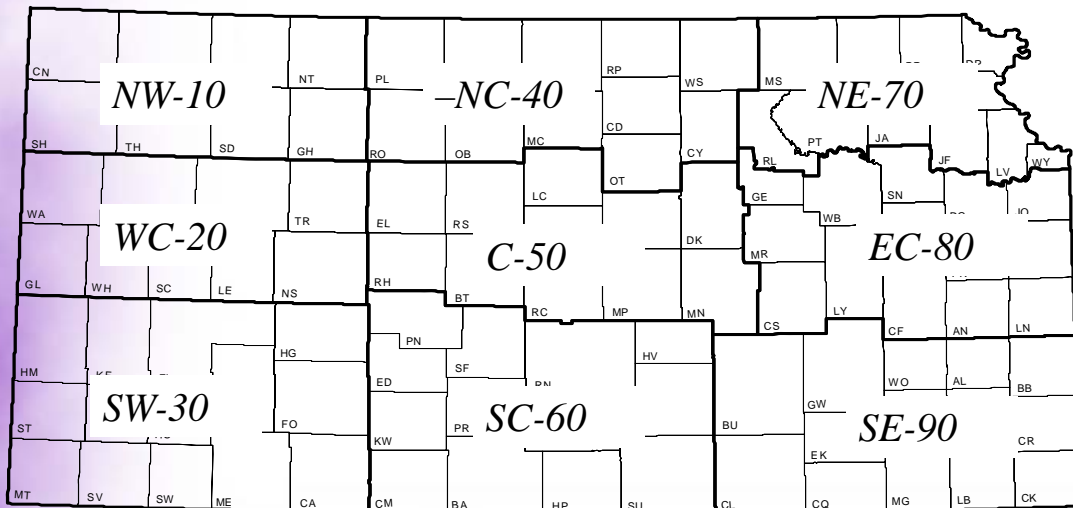
Partial Summer Season Contracts—Acres Guaranteed per Head (Ac/Head)

	Native Pasture		Tame Pasture
	2015	2013	2015
Steers & Heifers under 500 lbs.	No Responses	3.1	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 500 - 699 lbs.	2.6	3.1	No Responses
Steers & Heifers 700 lbs. and more	No Responses	3.9	No Responses
Cows, with Last Fall's Calves	7	N/A	7
Cows, with Last Spring Calves	8.2	N/A	No Responses

Full Year Pasture Leasing

	Cows with Fall Calves			Cows with Spring Calves		
	Native Pasture		Tame pasture	Native Pasture		Tame Pasture
	2015	2013	2015	2015	2013	2015
Avg. per Pair (\$/Pair)	188.0	179.2	No Responses	171.8	166.5	152.5
Avg. per Acre (\$/Acre)	20.3	19.3	21.7	No Responses	19.3	No Responses
Guaranteed Acres/Head	6.0	9.7	No Responses	8.0	9.3	5.5

Kansas Agricultural Statistics' Crop Reporting Districts



Mode Pasture Size by CRD

Districts	Native Pasture (Acre)		Tame Pasture (Acre)	
	2015	2010	2015	2010
NW-10	160	80	No Responses	80
WC-20	80	160	No Responses	No responses
SW-30	100	80	160	80
NC-40	80	80	160	40
C-50	60	80	40	40
SC-60	240	80	180	40
NE-70	80	80	80	40
EC-80	160	40	80	40
SE-90	80	80	80	80

Annual Rent per Acre by CRD

Districts	Native Pasture (\$/Acre)		Tame Pasture (\$/Acre)	
	2015	2010	2015	2010
NW-10	15.08	14.04	No Responses	13.17
WC-20	13.00	14.00	No Responses	15.00
SW-30	24.92	12.36	16.00	No responses
NC-40	20.96	21.31	8.00	21.55
C-50	49.91	17.46	37.50	20.08
SC-60	16.21	14.91	23.00	17.82
NE-70	54.71	25.46	24.56	25.07
EC-80	23.94	21.59	25.64	24.09
SE-90	21.67	20.90	22.50	24.28

Feet of Fence per Acre by CRD

Districts	Native Pasture		Tame Pasture	
	2015	2010	2015	2010
NW-10	30.25	37.40	No Responses	52.10
WC-20	26.95	33.30	No Responses	0.00
SW-30	33.45	62.00	33	66.00
NC-40	35.99	49.80	No Responses	87.30
C-50	43.56	47.70	No Responses	75.40
SC-60	17.47	44.00	16.74	85.60
NE-70	40.64	47.80	56.58	56.10
EC-80	42.49	57.60	85.64	54.30
SE-90	41.59	41.10	48.22	48.60
State	38.28		62.91	

Typical Fence Data by CRD

Districts	Fence type		Post Type	
	2015	2010	2015	2010
NW-10	5-Wire Barb	4-Wire Barb	Combination Steel & Wood	Combination Steel & Wood
WC-20	4-Wire Barb	4-Wire Barb	Combination Steel & Wood	Combination Steel & Wood
SW-30	3-Wire Barb	5-Wire Barb	Combination Steel & Wood	All Steel
NC-40	4-Wire Barb	5-Wire Barb	Combination Steel & Wood	Combination Steel & Wood
C-50	5-Wire Barb	5-Wire Barb	Combination Steel & Wood	Combination Steel & Wood
SC-60	5-Wire Barb	5-Wire Barb	Combination Steel & Wood	All Steel
NE-70	5-Wire Barb	5-Wire Barb	All Steel	Combination Steel & Wood
EC-80	5-Wire Barb	5-Wire Barb	All Steel	All Steel
SE-90	5-Wire Barb	5-Wire Barb	All Steel	All Steel
State	5-Wire Barb		All Steel	

Typical Fence Data by CRD (continued)

Districts	Post Spacing (Feet)		Pasture Size Cross Fenced		Fence Life (Years)	
	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010
NW-10	16	16	No Pastures	No pasture	40	20
WC-20	16.5	15	No Pastures	No pasture	30	30
SW-30	12	10	No Pastures	All	30	20
NC-40	15	15	No Pastures	No pasture	30	30
C-50	12	15	No Pastures	All	50	40
SC-60	16.5	12	No Pastures	No pasture	20	20
NE-70	10	12	No Pastures	No pasture	50	20
EC-80	15	12	No Pastures	No pasture	30	20
SE-90	12	12	No Pastures	No pasture	30	20
State	12			No pasture	30	

Landlord Share of Costs (%) by CRD

Districts	Fence Material Costs		Fence Labor Costs		All Fence Maintenance		Fertilizer		All Water Supply Costs	
	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010
NW-10	50.0	37.4	0.0	9.1	50.0	19.7	50.0	4.5	25.0	N/A
WC-20	100.0	13.4	0.0	7.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	N/A
SW-30	25.0	33.3	0.0	18.2	0.0	17.2	0.0	12.1	12.5	N/A
NC-40	85.7	31.5	50.0	17.3	50.0	20.0	33.3	7.2	26.7	N/A
C-50	75.7	29.4	33.3	12.5	33.3	6.3	0.0	7.9	66.7	N/A
SC-60	77.8	25.0	11.1	9.1	0.0	12.1	14.3	5.8	75.0	N/A
NE-70	58.3	21.3	41.7	14.9	41.7	15.6	29.2	11.2	36.4	N/A
EC-80	74.0	14.2	50.0	7.0	52.2	8.1	7.2	6.6	41.2	N/A
SE-90	59.1	15.2	55.0	7.7	31.8	7.3	43.8	5.7	27.8	N/A
State	68.7		37.7		39.1		21.8		40.5	

Landlord Share of Costs (%) by CRD (continued)

Districts	Chemicals for Brush		Application		Burning		Other		Total Pasture	
	Weed Control		Costs		Costs				Maintenance Costs	
	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010
NW-10	0.0	20.1	0.0	17.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	No Responses	14.3
WC-20	25.0	5.2	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	No Responses	2.0
SW-30	0.0	23.7	0.0	23.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	16.2
NC-40	58.3	31.3	80.0	20.5	43.8	0.0	No Responses	3.4	27.5	18.9
C-50	52.0	20.3	50.0	14.0	50.0	0.0	No Responses	1.8	0.0	10.6
SC-60	77.8	18.4	28.6	15.1	33.3	0.0	0.0	1.3	125.0	13.3
NE-70	50.0	17.8	27.8	14.5	0.0	0.0	16.7	3.1	31.7	12.3
EC-80	65.3	14.2	31.9	10.0	32.2	0.0	0.0	2.6	62.5	8.6
SE-90	55.0	11.5	38.9	8.3	16.7	0.0	50.0	0.8	91.7	5.5
State	55.6		34.3		23.2		8.3		60.1	

We welcome more input for our survey!

Questions?