

News Release for Immediate Use or Next Issue  
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River Valley Extension District  
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## **WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE SERIES HELD IN WASHINGTON**

Women from across the area took part in a seven-week Women in Agriculture series that concluded on March 25<sup>th</sup> at the KSDS meeting room in Washington. Attendees ranged from those just getting into the industry by inheriting farmland, to those marrying into a farm family, to women who have been active farm operators for many years. A committee of five women from the River Valley Extension District, Kansas Farm Bureau, and local seed dealerships planned and implemented the series.

During the seven, four-hour sessions, women listened to speakers and completed hands-on activities to learn about a variety of farm management topics. At the first session, Meagan Cramer, with Kansas Farm Bureau presented information on Ag Advocacy and how to tell your ag story. The committee members led the group through different personality profile activities. At the second session, Tatum Couture from AgMark LLC spoke on grain marketing/risk management. Chad Hiltgen shared knowledge on precision ag. Katelyn Durst with Polansky Seed discussed cover crops and soil health. Kelsey Hatesohl, River Valley Horticulture Agent, talked about vegetable gardens, lawn care, and tree pruning. At the third session, Justin Wagoner with K-State Research and Extension spoke on beef cattle nutrition and beef handling techniques. Dr. Alison Crane with K-State Research and Extension spoke about sheep and goat basics. For the fourth session, participants engaged in hands-on training with laptops to learn how to keep farm records with QuickBooks led by Kara Mayer. Tim Matlack, with FNB Washington, talked about how to work with your lenders. At the fifth session, Dustin Pendell with K-State Research and Extension shared knowledge on livestock risk management. Robert Weaber also with K-State Research and Extension spoke about EPD basics. We finished up the session hearing about ag photography tips from Jake Pannbacker. During the sixth session, participants heard from Brett Melton and Rebecca Zach about the River Valley Lease Survey. Brice Leonard from Farm Bureau Financial Services talked about different crop insurance options. Emily Allen and Kristie Nutsch-Fulton of the Farm Service Agency discussed their program opportunities.

For the seventh and final session of our series, the women had the opportunity to hear from Carrie Williams from AgMark, LLC. She shared about the Global Ag Economy. They also heard from Wendee Grady from Kansas Farm Bureau who shared about farm succession. To cap off the event the participants were awarded certificates of completion following a social hour and a meal prepared by Vathauer Catering.

Participants not only learned a lot during the sessions but also developed relationships with others in the ag industry throughout the area. Members of the planning committee for this event were Kannette Stewart, Katelyn Durst, Rebecca Frerking, Rebecca Zach, and Kelsey Hatesohl. The event would not have been successful without the generous assistance from these local sponsors: AgMark LLC, Animal Health Center, Bruna Accounting Services LLC, Bruna Implement Company LLC, Citizens National Bank, Farm Bureau Financial Services, Farmer Cooperative, FNB Washington, Kansas Crossroads RC&D, KSDS, Ohlde Seed Farms, Polansky Seed, R Boutique, Stewart Seed, United Bank & Trust, Washington County Farm Bureau, Washington Veterinary Clinic, and K-State Research and Extension.

This farm management series rotates throughout the River Valley Extension District on an annual basis. This area includes Clay, Cloud, Republic, and Washington Counties. Next year this series will be held in Cloud County. For more information, contact a River Valley Extension District office.



*Participants in the Women in Agriculture series received certificates of completion at the final session. Pictured from left to right: Emma Portenier, Tushaun Portenier, Margaret Lutjemeier, Terri Gauby, Ramona Tiemeyer, Caroline Tipton, Jenny Pachta, Anna Pachta, Annette Bredthauer, Kathryn Benson, Callie Ohlde, Anita Ohlde, Kaitlin Ohlde.*

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