



Robert (Bob) Gillen

Southwest Research-Extension Center Head

B.S., Colorado State University
Ph.D., Oregon State University

Bob was appointed head of the Western Kansas Agricultural Research Centers in 2006. His research interests include grazing management systems, grassland ecology, and forage establishment.



Mary Sullivan

Southwest Regional Director

B.S., University of Northern Iowa
M.S., Kansas State University

Mary provides administrative leadership to the Southwest Extension Units, working primarily with agents and Extension Council members.



Jonathan Aguilar

Extension Specialist, Water Resources Engineer

B.S. and M.S., University of the Philippines
Los Baños
Ph.D., Kansas State University

Jonathan's extension and research programs focus on irrigation systems, water conservation practices, irrigation scheduling, water quality, new and emerging relevant technologies (such as soil, water, and plant sensors; remote sensing; and GIS), and crop water management.



Debra Bolton

Extension Specialist, Family and Consumer Sciences

B.S., St. Mary of the Plains College
M.S., Fort Hays State University
Ph.D., Kansas State University

Debra works with local agents on projects, program development, and training. Her research focuses on families, rural social systems, and community developmental processes.



Randall Currie

Weed Scientist

B.S., Kansas State University
M.S., Oklahoma State University
Ph.D., Texas A&M University

Randall joined the staff in 1991. His research focus is on weed control in corn.



Jeff Elliott

Research Farm Manager

B.S., University of Nebraska

Jeff joined the staff as an animal caretaker in 1984 and was promoted to Research Farm Manager in 1989.



Anserd (AJ) Foster

Extension Specialist, Crops and Soils

B.S., M.S., Louisiana State University
M.S., Mississippi State University
Ph.D., Oklahoma State University

AJ joined the staff in July 2015. His extension duties are to provide leadership for extension educational programs in crops, soils, weeds, forages, and rangelands. His main area of expertise is soil fertility. He also has interests in cropping systems management in different environments.



John Holman

Cropping Systems Agronomist

B.S., M.S., Montana State University
Ph.D., University of Idaho

John joined the staff in 2006. His research involves crop rotations, forages, and integrated weed management.



Isaya (Isaiab) Kisekka

Irrigation Engineer

B.S., Makerere University
M.S. and Ph.D., University of Florida

Isaya's research interests include deficit irrigation management, remote sensing for crop and water management, and cropping systems modeling.



Bertha Mendoza

EFNEP/FNP Area Agent

B.S., Kansas State University
M.S., Fort Hays State University

Bertha joined the staff in October 2009. She delivers nutrition education programs and emphasizes the importance of physical activity for a healthy lifestyle to low-income families from several cultural backgrounds in southwest Kansas.



Alan Schlegel

Agronomist-in-Charge, Tribune

B.S., Kansas State University
M.S., Ph.D., Purdue University

Alan joined the staff in 1986. His research involves fertilizer and water management in reduced-tillage systems.



Amy M. Sollock

Southwest Area 4-H Specialist

B.S., University of Illinois at Urbana
Champaign
M.S., Oklahoma State University

Amy began her role as Area 4-H Specialist in early 2016. She provides leadership and resources to 24 counties in the area of 4-H youth development, including community clubs, school enrichment, camping and afterschool programs. She is passionate about teaching young people of all backgrounds valuable life skills so that they can reach their fullest potential in adulthood.



Monte Vandever

Extension Agricultural Economist

B.S., M.S., Kansas State University
Ph.D., Purdue University

Monte joined the staff in February of 2016. His extension duties are to provide educational programs on farm management topics across southwest Kansas and the rest of the state. He has particular interest in crop insurance and risk management in general.



Justin Waggoner

Extension Specialist, Beef Systems

B.S., M.S., Kansas State University
Ph.D., New Mexico State University

Justin joined the staff in 2007. His extension program focuses primarily on beef cattle and livestock production.



Sarah Zukoff

Extension Specialist, Entomologist

B.S. and M.S., Georgia Southern University
Ph.D., University of Missouri

Sarah has a joint research and extension appointment. Her work focuses on arthropods in field and forage crops as well as rangeland systems.

2017 Southwest Research-Extension Center Staff*

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Araya Berhe | Research Associate |
| Dewayne Bond | Assistant Scientist, Tribune |
| David Bowen | Agricultural Technician Senior |
| Norma Cantu | Office Specialist II |
| Pat Geier | Assistant Scientist |
| Lynn Harshbarger | Office Specialist III |
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| Scott Maxwell | Agricultural Technician Senior |
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| Bruce Niere | General Maintenance and Repair Technician |
| Mike Pointer | General Maintenance and Repair Technician II |
| Tom Roberts | Assistant Scientist |
| David Romero, Jr. | Equipment Mechanic |
| Jeff Slattery | Agricultural Technician Senior, Tribune |
| Monty Spangler | Agricultural Technician Senior |
| Nick Sower | Research Aide |
| Dennis Tomsicek | Agricultural Technician Senior |
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Acknowledgments

The staffs of the Southwest Research-Extension Center and Kansas State University appreciate and acknowledge the following companies, foundations, and individuals for their support of the research that has been conducted in the past year.

Donations

Alta Seed
American Implement
BASF Corp.
Bayer Crop Science
Chromatin
Crop Quest
CPS – Crop Production Services
Dow AgroSciences
DuPont
DuPont Pioneer
FMC Corporation
Gowen
Great Plains Canola Association
GrowMate Plant
Helena Chemical
Hydro Resources
Kansas Corn Commission
Kansas Forage and Grassland Council
Kansas Wheat Alliance
Lang Diesel Inc.
Joel McClure
Monsanto Company
Pioneer Hi-Bred
Poole Chemical
Servi-Tech
Sharp Brothers Seed
Teeter Irrigation
Tessenderlo Kerley Inc
United Phosphorus, Inc
United Sorghum Checkoff Program
United Suppliers, Inc
Western State Bank

Grant Support

AgXplore Inc.
BASF Corp.
Bayer CropScience
Dow AgroSciences
DuPont Ag Products
FMC Corporation
Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research
Groundwater Management District #1
Great Plains Canola Association
International Plant Nutrition Institute
Kansas Corn Commission
Kansas Fertilizer Fund
Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission
Kansas Water Office
Minerals Technology INC
Monsanto Company
Ogallala CAP
Syngenta
Tessenderlo Kerley Inc
United Phosphorus, Inc.
U.S. Canola Association
USDA Agricultural Research Service
USDA Canola Project
USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
USDA National Resources Conservation Service CIG
USDA Ogallala Aquifer Project
USDA Risk Management Agency
Valent BioSciences
Winfield Solutions

Cooperators/Collaborators

Colorado State University

Dodge City Community College

Boyd Funk

Kansas State University Research Foundation

Joel McClure

Oklahoma State University

Phytech Ltd.

Servi-Tech

Texas A&M University

Theron Walker

USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bushland, TX

Performance Tests

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