

Farm Management Course For Women Set

MT. VERNON, MO.

University of Missouri Extension is offering a series of evening farm management courses for women - known as Annie's Project - starting Oct. 6.

The classes will be held at the Southwest Research Center in Mt. Vernon and run from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Oct. 6 to Nov. 17.

The class is being partially funded by a grant from the North Central Risk Management Center so the cost for the seven-night course is only \$50. Class size will be limited to 20 women to ensure group interaction and one-on-one assistance.

Pre-registration is required and can be made by stopping by the Lawrence County Extension Center in Mt. Vernon or contacting them at 417-466-3102 or lawrenceco@missouri.edu.

"The goal of the class is to empower farm women and help them make better management decisions through learning experiences, networking, and by using critical financial resources," said Wesley Tucker, an agriculture business specialist with MU Extension.

Annie's Project began with a farm wife who grew up in northern Illinois. She spent her life learning how to be an involved business partner with her husband. This course takes Annie's experience and shares it with farm

women so they can be better business partners.

According to Tucker, the course provides mentoring for farm women with varying levels of business skills.

"Women who are new to a farm business may be afraid to ask questions. Women who are accustomed to the farm business may feel helpless with new technologies. A program like this gets those two groups together and collectively finds solutions," said Tucker.

The course is designed to provide mentoring for farm women with varying levels of business skills.

"Participants typically come from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences which gives them the opportunity to learn as much from one another as they do from instructors," said Tucker.

Program topics include human resources and time management, farm record keeping and taxes, business plans, how property is titled, pasture leases and legal issues, financial statements, retirement and estate planning, using spreadsheets, risk management, using financial records, insurance, how to use spreadsheets for farm records, computer software tools and more.

The course will be taught by MU Extension specialists and special guest speakers. Δ



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