

About the Study's Authors

Bridget L. Guerrero, Ph. D., received her Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness in 2002 and a Master of Business Administration in 2003 from West Texas A&M University. Bridget completed her doctoral degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics at Texas Tech University in May 2010. Her dissertation was entitled "Renewable Energy and Agriculture." She has worked with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service for ten years. Her areas of research have included socioeconomic analyses, water conservation, air quality, bioenergy, and wind energy.

Darren Hudson, Ph.D., is a Professor and Larry Combest Endowed Chair of Agricultural Competitiveness in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at Texas Tech University. He earned a PhD at Texas Tech University and then worked as a Professor at Mississippi State University for 11 years prior to returning to Texas Tech. He specializes in agricultural policy, trade, and marketing and has published over 65 refereed journal articles and 300 other publications and presentations. He is also an author of a textbook on agricultural price analysis. He is married and has two children.

Steve Amosson, Ph. D., is a Regents Fellow, professor and economist with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Steve is a native of Eagle Grove, Iowa, receiving his bachelor's and master's degrees from Iowa State University and his doctorate in agricultural economics from Texas A&M University. He has been with Texas A&M since 1977, joining Extension in 1985. Steve has primary responsibility for the Education/Applied research program in Agricultural Economics by Extension in the top 22 counties of Texas. He has served as co-director of the national award winning Master Marketer Program and project leader of Texas A&M's High Plains Water Planning Team. Steve has served as project director, principle investigator or co-principle investigator on more than 120 grants that have supported his educational and/or applied research program. He maintains an active applied research program in Water, Air Quality, Biofuels and Wind Energy. He has been recognized 25 times for his contributions in the areas of marketing, farm management and policy from professional and clientele groups.

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Rebekka Dudensing, Ph. D., is an Assistant Professor and Extension Economist in Community Economic Development. She is located in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University. Rebekka's responsibilities include the analysis of economic and fiscal impacts and public/private goods issues. She also studies the roles of entrepreneurship, human resources, and business and social structures in community development. She is particularly interested in the sustainability of agriculture- and natural resource-dependent rural communities.

Dean McCorkle, Ph.D., is an Extension Program Specialist - Economic Accountability and is located in the Department of Agricultural Economics in College Station, Texas. Dean's responsibilities include providing leadership and coordination for determining the economic impacts of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service educational and outreach programs. These analyses, which are used to demonstrate the economic value of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service programs, focus on all programmatic areas of Extension - Agricultural and Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H and Youth Development, and Community and Economic Development. He received his B.S. and M.A. degrees in Agricultural Economics from Texas A&M University, and his doctorate in Agricultural Education from Texas A&M University.

Daniel D. Hanselka received his Bachelor of Science in Animal Science in 1992 and a Master of Science in Agriculture Economics in 2004 from Texas A&M University. His thesis was entitled "The Economic Impact of Country-of-Origin Labeling in the U.S. Beef Industry. He has worked with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service for eight years. His area of work includes economic impacts of Extension programs and other applied research.