



AgEcon SEARCH
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library

This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.

Help ensure our sustainability.

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search

<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>

aesearch@umn.edu

*Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.*

Spring 2008: Volume 7, Number 1



Western Economics Forum

A Journal of the
Western Agricultural Economics
Association

Farm & Ranch Management

Marketing & Agribusiness

Natural Resources & the Environment

Policy & Institutions

Regional & Community Development

The Western Economics Forum

A peer-reviewed publication from the Western Agricultural Economics Association

Purpose

One of the consequences of regional associations nationalizing their journals is that professional agricultural economists in each region have lost one of their best forums for exchanging ideas unique to their area of the country. The purpose of this publication is to provide a forum for western issues.

Audience

The target audience is professional agricultural economists with a Masters degree, Ph.D. or equivalent understanding of the field that are working on agricultural and resource economic, business or policy issues in the West.

Subject

This publication is specifically targeted at informing professionals in the West about issues, methods, data, or other content addressing the following objectives:

- Summarize knowledge about issues of interest to western professionals
- To convey ideas and analysis techniques to non-academic, professional economists working on agricultural or resource issues
- To demonstrate methods and applications that can be adapted across fields in economics
- To facilitate open debate on western issues

Structure and Distribution

The *Western Economics Forum* is a peer reviewed publication. It usually contains three to five articles per issue, with approximately 2,500 words each (maximum 3,000), and as much diversity as possible across the following areas:

- Farm/ranch management and production
- Marketing and agribusiness
- Natural resources and the environment
- Institutions and policy
- Regional and community development

There are two issues of the *Western Economics Forum* per year (Spring and Fall).

Editor – Term ending 30 June 2008:

Dr. Rhonda Skaggs
Editor, *Western Economics Forum*
Dept. of Ag Economics & Ag Business
New Mexico State University
MSC 3169 Box 30003
Las Cruces, NM 88003
Phone: 505-646-2401
Fax: 505-646-3808
email: rskaggs@nmsu.edu

Editor – After 1 January 2008 send submissions to:

Dr. Don McLeod
Editor, *Western Economics Forum*
Dept. of Ag & Applied Economics
University of Wyoming
Dept. 3354 1000 E. University Avenue
Laramie, WY 82071
Phone: 307-766-3116
Fax: 307-766-5544
email: dmcleod@uwyo.edu

Western Economics Forum

Volume VII, Number 1

SPRING 2008

Table of Contents

Stan Daberkow, James Payne, and James Schepers Comparing Continuous Corn and Corn-Soybean Cropping Systems	1
Amy M. Nagler, Christopher T. Bastian, Bradley D. Lubben, and Dale J. Menkhaus Out With the Old, In With the New: Are Western Commodity Producers Ready for Buyouts?	14
Jeffrey E. Tranel, Tauhidar Rahman, John P. Hewlett, Randolph R. Weigel, Trent Teegerstrom, and Cole Ehmke Who Are Today's Farmers and What Are Their Educational Needs?	22
Michael R. Dicks What Future for the U.S. Reserve Programs?	32
H. Holly Wang and Yuanlong Ge What Marketing Measures Can Organic Apple and Pear Growers Take to Increase Their Receipts?	42