National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) vs. Land Grant University Cash Rent Surveys – Why the Differences?

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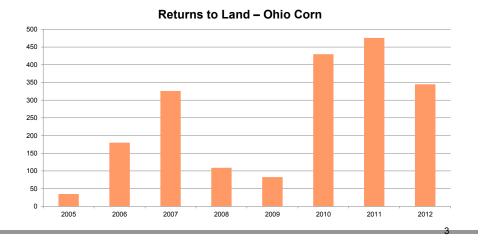
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What is Driving Rents?

- Crop Net Income has been/projected to be good
- Farmers balance sheets continue to strengthen U.S. Farm Sector Debt to Asset Ratio – 10.6%
 - (D/A Ratio in 2002 was 14.1%)
 - \$'s to invest => machinery or land
- Low interest rates 10 Year T-Bill 2.0%
 - (As of Feb. 14, 2013)
 - (Low of 1.43% on 7-25, High of 2.39 on 3-19)
- Local land supply low
- Solid Safety Net
 - Crop Insurance
 - Farm Policy
 - Energy Policy
 - Little risk of agriculture being used as a foreign policy weapon

Profits in Grain Production Lead to Land Value and Rent Bull Market



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Cash Rental Rates – Little Public Information

- There is no Futures exchange....
- There is the local coffee shop exchange.
- · Public land rentals results
- NASS Survey Effort
- Land Grant University Survey Effort
- · Rent auctions
- Extension Educators, Professional Farm Managers, CEDs, Agronomists, and other professionals.
- Extension Educator county or region based survey

Existing Survey Efforts

- NASS
- http://www.nass.usda.gov/Quick Stats/Lite/
- University Surveys
- http://aede.osu.edu/about-us/publications/western-ohio-cropland-values-and-cash-rents-2012-2013
- http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/extension/pubs/paer/pdf/PAER8_2012.pdf
- http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/FM1851.pdf

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NASS - Methodology

- · Mailed survey with follow up
- Population is U.S. farmers
- Asked to state:
 - Acres rented
 - Rent per acre (average on all rented acres) or Total rent paid

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NASS – Survey Instrument

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	lease per acre or total dollars paid on the ing or grassland?	3428 \$•	3528 \$	
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			3600	
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		-	Acres	

University Surveys - Methodology

- Mailed surveys
- Population is often a combination of ag bankers, professional farm managers, rural appraisers, farmers and other ag professionals
- Surveys typically ask participants to report their estimate of what land rent is per acre for 3 quality tiers of land (i.e. "top", "average", and "bottom" or "poor") in their area (county, region)
- Participants are also asked to report "typical" corn and soybean yields for each of the 3 tiers of land.

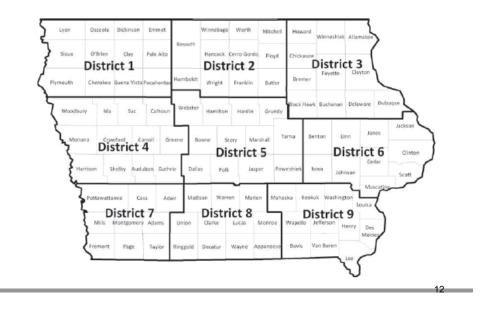
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Comparing the Two Surveys

- · Recognize all counties in a University Survey Region
- From NASS survey data, use corresponding counties to calculate averages for that district/region
- Compare the University Survey district "average tier" to the corresponding counties average from the NASS survey.



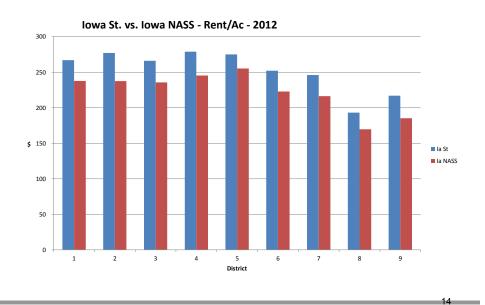
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Iowa Data

		Iowa State 2012	Iowa NASS 2012	
		"Average Tier"	Average	Difference
District	1	267	238	\$29
District	2	277	237	\$40
District	3	266	236	\$30
District	4	279	245	\$34
District	5	275	255	\$20
District	6	252	223	\$29
District	7	246	216	\$30
District	8	193	170	\$23
District	9	217	185	\$32

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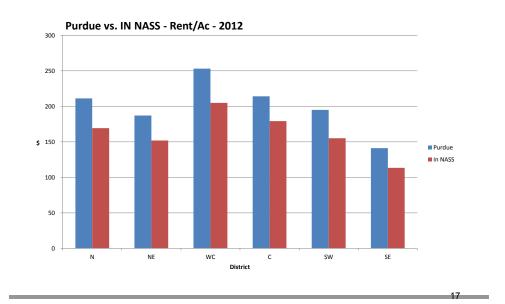
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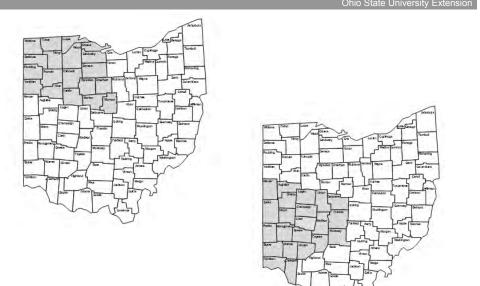
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Indiana Data

		Purdue 2012	Indiana NASS 2012	
		"Average Tier"	Average	Difference
District	Ν	211	169	\$42
District	NE	187	152	\$35
District	WC	253	205	\$48
District	С	214	179	\$35
District	SW	195	155	\$40
District	SE	141	113	\$28

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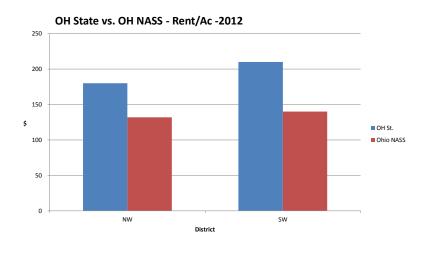
Ohio Data

		Ohio State 2012	OH NASS 2012	
		"Average Tier"	Average	Difference
District	NW	180	132	\$48
District	SW	210	140	\$70

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Ohio Data – Differences by Year

		Ohio State	Ohio State vs. Ohio NASS		
		Differences	Differences by Year		
		2009	2010	2011	2012
District	NW	\$18.83	\$31.50	\$43.36	\$48.06
District	SW	\$41.53	\$50.82	\$70.10	\$69.63

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Why the Differences?

- · Is the comparison valid?
- Survey Question Differences
- Population Differences
- Timing Differences
- · NASS includes "friendly" lease rates?
- University Surveys are opinion surveys. Respondents may be biased by headline grabbers.
- · What motivates farmers to complete questionnaire?



I live in on River Road in Mad River Township in Champaign County – What should my cash rent be? Ways to Use The Survey Data in Education

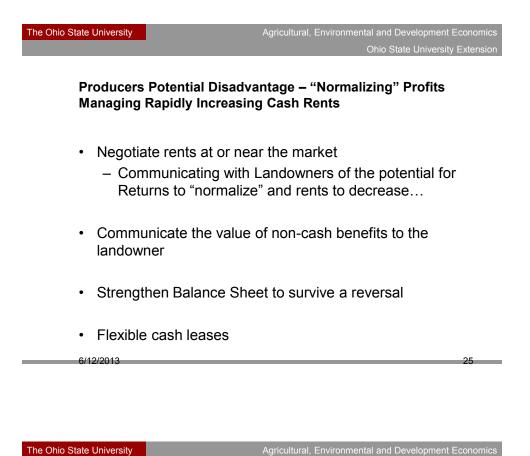
- · Inform clients of both sets of survey data
- Inform clients of methodology differences
- Use this to inform clients about:
 - The Need for Written leases
 - Flexible cash lease options
 - A Landowner's need to educate themselves
 - A Farmer's need to communicate, share

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Producers Advantage - Information

- Farmers have detailed production knowledge, yield and profit data
- Non-farming landowners often have little production knowledge and little to no yield and profit data so...
- Even armed with a set of cash rent survey data, little to no knowledge of the farm's production capabilities leaves a landowner relatively unarmed.
- Some landowners are including data sharing to be included in the written lease agreement
 - Yield data, fertility data, cost data, profit data





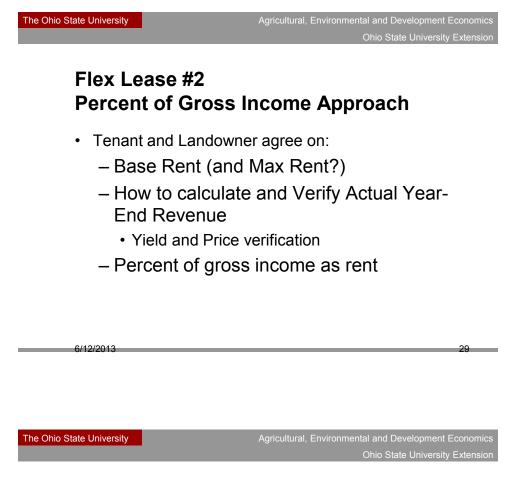
- ward.8@osu.edu
- http://aede.osu.edu/our-people/barry-ward
- http://aede.osu.edu/research/osu-farm-management



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Flex Lease #1 Cash Lease with a Bonus Approach

- Example:
- Base Rent: \$179 (Max: \$250)
- Base Revenue: \$825 (150bpa*\$5.50/bu.)
- Excess revenue shared: 33% to landowner
- Actual Revenue: \$975 (150bpa*\$6.50)
- Bonus: (\$975-\$825)*33% = \$50
- Total Cash Lease Amount: \$179 + \$50 = \$229/acre



Flex Lease #2 Percent of Gross Income Approach

- Example:
- Base Rent: \$195
- Percent of Gross Income as Rent:
 - Corn 27%
 - Soybeans 35%
- Actual Revenue:
 - Corn \$825 (<u>150</u>bpa*<u>\$5.50</u>)
 - Soybeans \$625 (50bpa*\$12.50)
- Rent: Corn \$975*27% = \$223/a
 - Soybeans \$625*35% = <mark>\$219/a</mark>