

### **Managing Pasture Production Risk**



#### **Jay Parsons, Professor**

Farm and Ranch Management Specialist Department of Agricultural Economics University of Nebraska-Lincoln



United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture





#### **Production Risk**

- Fluctuations in yield (physical quantities of production)
- Contributing factors include
  - Weather
  - Pests
  - Disease
  - Genetics
  - Wildlife
  - Timing





### Strategies for Managing Risk

- 1. Avoid it
- 2. Transfer it outside the business
  - a) Insurance
  - b) Contracting
- 3. Control it
  - a) Control the probability
  - b) Control the impact
    - 1) Increase reserves
    - 2) Maintain flexibility
    - 3) Diversification
- 4. Accept it



#### **Federal Insurance/Program Tools**

Crop insurance (USDA-Risk Management Agency)

rma.usda.gov

- Farm Service Agency (FSA) Programs
  - Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)
  - Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)

fsa.usda.gov



#### 2021 Crop Year

Nebraska Crop Insurance State Profile

Crops	Insured Acres
Annual Forage	10,755
Forage Production	3,666
Forage Seeding	2,806
Pasture, Rangeland, Forage	3,551,541

Program	Availability	Total Liability
Annual Forage	All counties	\$1,666,627
Forage Production	9 counties	\$447,570
Forage Seeding	39 counties	\$409,395
Pasture, Rangeland, Forage	All counties	\$105,813,124



#### Precipitation Risk Management Programs

- Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Insurance Program (PRF)
- Annual Forage Insurance Program





Rainfall Index



#### The Purpose of PRF

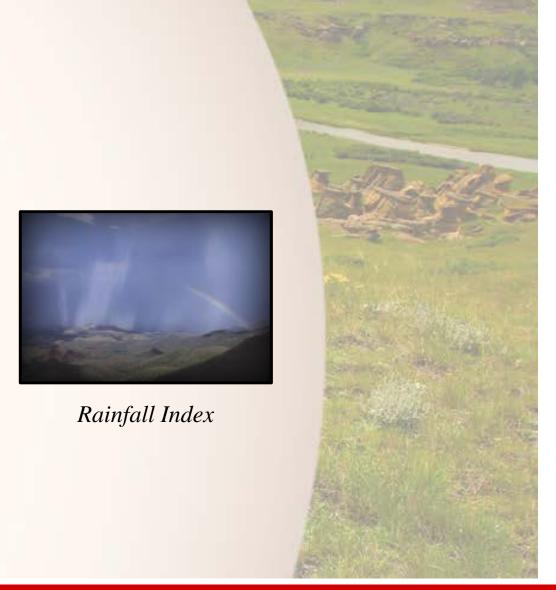
- Agricultural production is financially risky.
   Forage losses from natural hazards, especially drought, are frequent.
- PRF insurance is a group risk plan that can help forage and livestock producers manage for potential production losses.
- These plans are now available to producers in all counties and states.





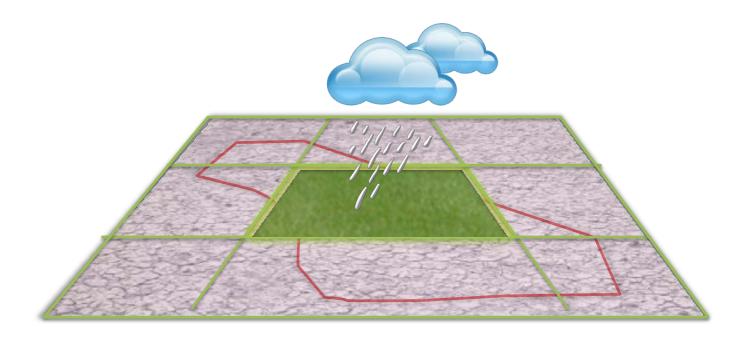
#### Indexing

- What is an *index*?
- An index is a number derived from a series of observations which is used as an indicator or measure.
- PRF insurance uses indexing to measure and compare conditions that affect forage production in specific areas over time.
- Each index uses information gathered from a number of sources and locations.



#### Expected Index Values

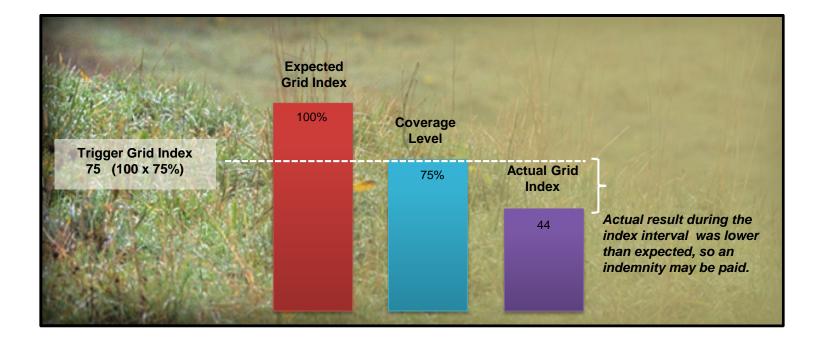
 Historical data for each grid is used to determine the <u>expected index value</u> for precipitation.





# Using Grid Indices

• The expected grid index is compared to the <u>final grid index</u>. Producers may receive an indemnity if the actual final index falls below the <u>trigger grid index</u>, which is adjusted based on the <u>coverage level</u>.

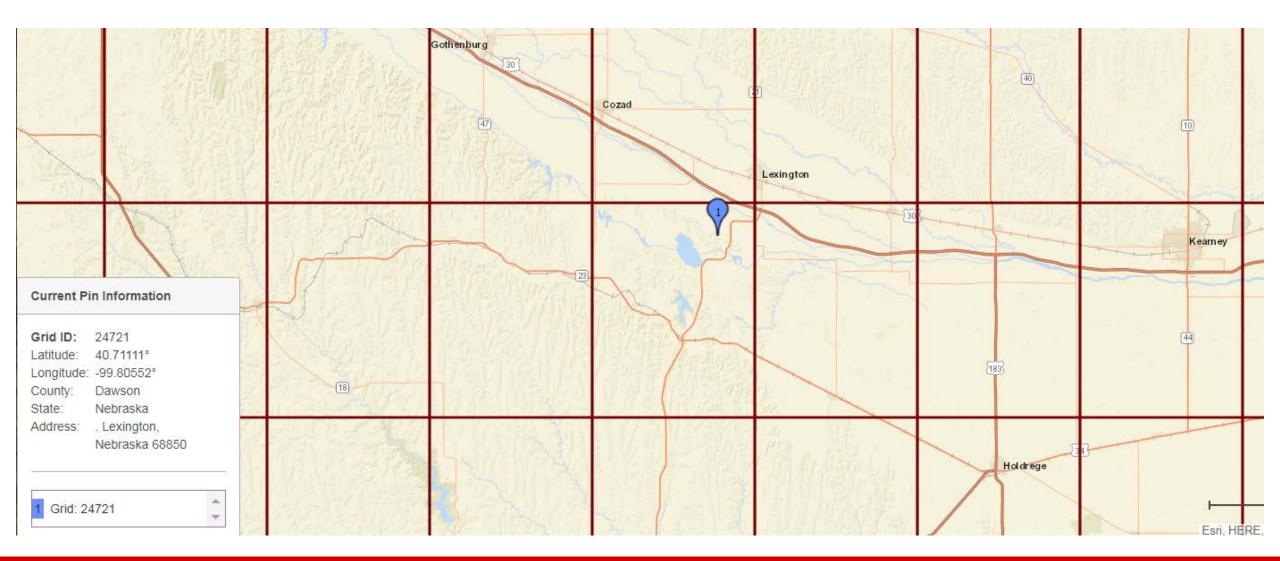


#### Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Insurance

- Calendar year coverage for perennial forage
  - Signup deadline of November 15
  - Precipitation coverage Jan 1 through Dec 31
- Example Grid 24721: (Dawson County, Nebraska)
  - County Base Value: \$45.80/acre
- Primary producer choices
  - Coverage Level: 70%, 75%, 80%, 85%, or 90% of expected grid rainfall index
  - Productivity Factor: 60% 150% of County Base Value
    - Dawson County (\$27.48 \$68.70)
  - Insure 10%-60% of value in two or more two month intervals
    - Insured intervals may not overlap
    - Total must equal 100%



#### Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Support Tool





Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	90%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$41.22	
Subsidy	51%	

**Base Strategy** 

#### **Protection Table (per acre)**

Index Interval	Percent of Value (%)	Policy Protection Per Unit	Premium Rate Per \$100	Total Premium	Producer Premium
Jan-Feb	15%	\$6.18	21.71	\$1.34	\$0.66
Mar-Apr	15%	\$6.18	17.82	\$1.10	\$0.54
May-Jun	20%	\$8.24	13.95	\$1.15	\$0.56
Jul-Aug	20%	\$8.24	13.25	\$1.09	\$0.53
Sep-Oct	15%	\$6.18	21.62	\$1.34	\$0.66
Nov-Dec	15%	\$6.18	28.92	\$1.79	\$0.88
TOTAL	100%	\$41.22	N/A	\$7.81	\$3.83

Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	90%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$41.22	
Subsidy	51%	

**Base Strategy** 

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$9.45
2019	\$2.74
2018	\$1.88
2017	\$3.81
2016	\$3.74
2015	\$2.06
2014	\$0.95
2013	\$7.89
2012	\$16.73
2011	\$1.73

Premium	\$3.83
Average Indemnity	\$5.10
Producer Loss Ratio	1.33

Net Positive
(Indemnity > Premium)
30% (3/10 years)



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	90%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$41.22	
Subsidy	51%	

**Base Strategy** \$3.83 Premium

	10 years	30 years	73 years
Average Indemnity	\$5.10	\$5.27	\$6.73
Producer Loss Ratio	1.33	1.37	1.76
Net Positive (Indemnity > Premium	30%	50%	70%



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	90%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$41.22	
Subsidy	51%	

**Base Strategy** 

#### **Protection Table (per acre)**

Index Interval	Percent of Value (%)	Policy Protection Per Unit	Premium Rate Per \$100	Total Premium	Producer Premium
Jan-Feb	15%	\$6.18	21.71	\$1.34	\$0.66
Mar-Apr	15%	\$6.18	17.82	\$1.10	\$0.54
May-Jun	20%	\$8.24	13.95	\$1.15	\$0.56
Jul-Aug	20%	\$8.24	13.25	\$1.09	\$0.53
Sep-Oct	15%	\$6.18	21.62	\$1.34	\$0.66
Nov-Dec	15%	\$6.18	28.92	\$1.79	\$0.88
TOTAL	100%	\$41.22	N/A	\$7.81	\$3.83

Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	75%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$34.35	
Subsidy	59%	

**Coverage Strategy** 

#### **Protection Table (per acre)**

Index Interval	Percent of Value (%)	Policy Protection Per Unit	Premium Rate Per \$100	Total Premium	Producer Premium
Jan-Feb	15%	\$5.15	15.79	\$0.81	\$0.33
Mar-Apr	15%	\$5.15	11.54	\$0.59	\$0.24
May-Jun	20%	\$6.87	8.46	\$0.58	\$0.24
Jul-Aug	20%	\$6.87	7.56	\$0.52	\$0.21
Sep-Oct	15%	\$5.15	14.94	\$0.77	\$0.32
Nov-Dec	15%	\$5.15	22.89	\$1.18	\$0.48
TOTAL	100%	\$34.35	N/A	\$4.46	\$1.82



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	75%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$34.35	
Subsidy	59%	

**Coverage Strategy** 

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$5.11
2019	\$1.55
2018	\$0.85
2017	\$2.74
2016	\$1.57
2015	\$0.61
2014	\$0.00
2013	\$4.12
2012	\$11.92
2011	\$0.70

Premium	\$1.82
Average Indemnity	\$2.92
Producer Loss Ratio	1.60

Net Positive
(Indemnity > Premium)
40% (4/10 years)



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	75%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$34.35	
Subsidy	59%	

#### Coverage Strategy \$1.82 Premium

	10 years	30 years	73 years
Average Indemnity	\$2.92	\$2.94	\$3.89
Producer Loss Ratio	1.60	1.61	2.14
Net Positive (Indemnity > Premium	40%	50%	66%



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	90%	
Productivity Factor	83%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$34.21	
Subsidy	51%	

# **\$ Production**Strategy

#### **Protection Table (per acre)**

Index Interval	Percent of Value (%)	Policy Protection Per Unit	Premium Rate Per \$100	Total Premium	Producer Premium
Jan-Feb	15%	\$5.13	21.71	\$1.11	\$0.54
Mar-Apr	15%	\$5.13	17.82	\$0.91	\$0.44
May-Jun	20%	\$6.84	13.95	\$0.95	\$0.46
Jul-Aug	20%	\$6.84	13.25	\$0.91	\$0.45
Sep-Oct	15%	\$5.13	21.62	\$1.11	\$0.54
Nov-Dec	15%	\$5.13	28.92	\$1.48	\$0.72
TOTAL	100%	\$34.21	N/A	\$6.48	\$3.15



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	90%	
Productivity Factor	83%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$34.21	
Subsidy	51%	

# **\$ Production**Strategy

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$7.86
2019	\$2.28
2018	\$1.56
2017	\$3.16
2016	\$3.10
2015	\$1.71
2014	\$0.79
2013	\$6.56
2012	\$13.88
2011	\$1.44

Premium	\$3.15
Average Indemnity	\$4.23
Producer Loss Ratio	1.34

Net Positive (Indemnity > Premium)
40% (4/10 years)



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	75%	
Productivity Factor	120%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$41.22	
Subsidy	59%	

**Combo Strategy** 

#### **Protection Table (per acre)**

Index Interval	Percent of Value (%)	Policy Protection Per Unit	Premium Rate Per \$100	Total Premium	Producer Premium
Jan-Feb	15%	\$6.18	15.79	\$0.98	\$0.40
Mar-Apr	15%	\$6.18	11.54	\$0.71	\$0.29
May-Jun	20%	\$8.24	8.46	\$0.70	\$0.29
Jul-Aug	20%	\$8.24	7.56	\$0.62	\$0.25
Sep-Oct	15%	\$6.18	14.94	\$0.92	\$0.37
Nov-Dec	15%	\$6.18	22.89	\$1.42	\$0.58
TOTAL	100%	\$41.22	N/A	\$5.35	\$2.18



Production Information				
Intended Use	Grazing			
Coverage Level	75%			
Productivity Factor	120%			
Base Value	\$45.80			
Amount of Protection	\$41.22			
Subsidy	59%			

**Combo Strategy** 

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$6.13
2019	\$1.86
2018	\$1.01
2017	\$3.29
2016	\$1.88
2015	\$0.73
2014	\$0.00
2013	\$4.94
2012	\$14.30
2011	\$0.84

Premium	\$2.18
Average Indemnity	\$3.50
Producer Loss Ratio	1.60

Net Positive
(Indemnity > Premium)
40% (4/10 years)



Production Information			
Intended Use	Grazing		
Coverage Level	75%		
Productivity Factor	150%		
Base Value	\$45.80		
Amount of Protection	\$51.53		
Subsidy	59%		

Combo + Strategy

#### **Protection Table (per acre)**

Index Interval	Percent of Value (%)	Policy Protection Per Unit	Premium Rate Per \$100	Total Premium	Producer Premium
Jan-Feb	15%	\$7.73	15.79	\$1.22	\$0.50
Mar-Apr	15%	\$7.73	11.54	\$0.89	\$0.36
May-Jun	20%	\$10.31	8.46	\$0.87	\$0.36
Jul-Aug	20%	\$10.31	7.56	\$0.78	\$0.32
Sep-Oct	15%	\$7.73	14.94	\$1.15	\$0.47
Nov-Dec	15%	\$7.73	22.89	\$1.77	\$0.73
TOTAL	100%	\$51.53	N/A	\$6.69	\$2.74



Production Information				
Intended Use	Grazing			
Coverage Level	75%			
Productivity Factor	150%			
Base Value	\$45.80			
Amount of Protection	\$51.53			
Subsidy	59%			

Combo + Strategy

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$7.66
2019	\$2.33
2018	\$1.27
2017	\$4.11
2016	\$2.35
2015	\$0.92
2014	\$0.00
2013	\$6.18
2012	\$17.88
2011	\$1.05

Premium \$2.74 Average Indemnity \$4.38 Producer Loss Ratio 1.60

Net Positive (Indemnity > Premium) 40% (4/10 years)



Production Information			
Intended Use	Grazing		
Coverage Level	75%		
Productivity Factor	150%		
Base Value	\$45.80		
Amount of Protection	\$51.53		
Subsidy	59%		

**Protection Table (per acre)** 

Index Interval	Percent of Value (%)	Policy Protection Per Unit	Premium Rate Per \$100	Total Premium	Producer Premium
Apr-May	50%	\$25.76	9.83	\$2.53	\$1.04
Jun-Jul	50%	\$25.76	8.17	\$2.10	\$0.86
TOTAL	100%	\$51.53	N/A	\$4.64	\$1.90

**Spring Strategy** 



Production Information				
Intended Use	Grazing			
Coverage Level	75%			
Productivity Factor	150%			
Base Value	\$45.80			
Amount of Protection	\$51.53			
Subsidy	59%			

**Spring Strategy** 

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$0.00
2019	\$0.00
2018	\$0.00
2017	\$0.96
2016	\$0.00
2015	\$0.00
2014	\$6.73
2013	\$8.93
2012	\$13.53
2011	\$0.00

Premium	\$1.90
Average Indemnity	\$3.02
Producer Loss Ratio	1.59

Net Positive (Indemnity > Premium) 30% (3/10 years)



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	75%	
Productivity Factor	150%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$51.53	
Subsidy	59%	

**Protection Table (per acre)** 

Index Interval	Percent of Value (%)	Policy Protection Per Unit	Premium Rate Per \$100	Total Premium	Producer Premium
Feb-Mar	50%	\$25.76	17.42	\$4.49	\$1.84
Nov-Dec	50%	\$25.76	22.89	\$5.90	\$2.42
TOTAL	100%	\$51.53	N/A	\$10.38	\$4.26

Winter Strategy

Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	75%	
Productivity Factor	150%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$51.53	
Subsidy	59%	

Winter Strategy

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$0.00
2019	\$0.00
2018	\$0.34
2017	\$13.95
2016	\$0.00
2015	\$15.08
2014	\$0.00
2013	\$3.74
2012	\$7.69
2011	\$9.13

Premium	\$4.26
Average Indemnity	\$4.99
Producer Loss Ratio	1.17

Net Positive
(Indemnity > Premium)
40% (4/10 years)



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	90%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$41.22	
Subsidy	51%	

#### **Protection Table (per acre)**

Index Interval	Percent of Value (%)	Policy Protection Per Unit	Premium Rate Per \$100	Total Premium	Producer Premium
Feb-Mar	50%	\$20.61	22.99	\$4.74	\$2.32
Nov-Dec	50%	\$20.61	28.92	\$5.96	\$2.92
TOTAL	100%	\$41.22	N/A	\$10.70	\$5.24

#### Winter 2 Strategy

Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	90%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$41.22	
Subsidy	51%	

Winter 2 Strategy

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$1.72
2019	\$0.00
2018	\$3.66
2017	\$16.17
2016	\$1.10
2015	\$13.49
2014	\$3.23
2013	\$5.93
2012	\$8.56
2011	\$12.96

Premium	\$5.24
Average Indemnity	\$6.68
Producer Loss Ratio	1.28

Net Positive
(Indemnity > Premium)
50% (5/10 years)



Production Information		
Intended Use	Grazing	
Coverage Level	90%	
Productivity Factor	100%	
Base Value	\$45.80	
Amount of Protection	\$41.22	
Subsidy	51%	

**Base Strategy** 

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$9.45
2019	\$2.74
2018	\$1.88
2017	\$3.81
2016	\$3.74
2015	\$2.06
2014	\$0.95
2013	\$7.89
2012	\$16.73
2011	\$1.73

Premium	\$3.83
Average Indemnity	\$5.10
Producer Loss Ratio	1.33

Net Positive
(Indemnity > Premium)
30% (3/10 years)



#### PRF Sample Coverage (Grid 26809) – Box Butte

Production Information			
Intended Use	Grazing		
Coverage Level	90%		
Productivity Factor	100%		
Base Value	\$15.20		
Amount of Protection	\$13.68		
Subsidy	51%		

**Base Strategy** 

Year	Indemnity
2020	\$5.54
2019	\$1.71
2018	\$1.63
2017	\$1.94
2016	\$2.70
2015	\$1.38
2014	\$0.56
2013	\$1.40
2012	\$5.96
2011	\$1.16

Premium \$1.13 Average Indemnity \$2.40 Producer Loss Ratio 2.12

Net Positive (Indemnity > Premium) 90% (9/10 years)



#### PRF Insurance NEBRASKA Summary

	Policies						
	Earning	Policies				Total	Producer
Crop Year	Premium	Indemnified	Acres	Total Premiums	Total Subsidies	Indemnities	Loss Ratio
2013	2,362	1,840	3,490,985	\$ 11,388,137	\$ 6,001,684	\$ 6,890,629	1.28
2014	1,243	779	1,873,472	\$ 5,962,614	\$ 3,125,538	\$ 4,356,850	1.54
2015	1,101	679	1,801,916	\$ 6,884,276	\$ 3,631,584	\$ 3,531,928	1.09
2016	1,001	711	1,598,168	\$ 10,393,580	\$ 5,500,791	\$ 5,149,449	1.05
2017	1,134	922	2,178,807	\$ 10,385,486	\$ 5,468,531	\$ 5,668,632	1.15
2018	1,066	532	2,164,797	\$ 10,773,373	\$ 5,668,502	\$ 2,229,136	0.44
2019	1,084	512	2,216,647	\$ 8,778,012	\$ 4,624,189	\$ 2,493,274	0.60
2020	1,000	927	1,919,917	\$ 9,221,219	\$ 4,868,848	\$ 12,533,558	2.88
2021	1,739	439	3,551,541	\$ 17,789,814	\$ 9,354,074	\$ 3,401,014	0.40
Average	1,303	816	2,310,694	\$ 10,175,168	\$ 5,360,416	\$ 5,139,386	1.07

NOTE: 2021 Crop Year still in progress.



#### PRF 2020 County Coverage Data

#### **Buffalo County**

	Policies			Producer
Coverage	Earning	Policies		Loss
Level	Prem	Indemnified	Acres	Ratio
70%	3	3	962	9.80
75%	2	1	36	6.16
90%	15	13	4728	1.98

#### **Dawson County**

	Policies			Producer
Coverage	Earning	Policies		Loss
Level	Prem	Indemnified	Acres	Ratio
90%	7	7	2065	3.51

# PRF 2020 County Coverage Data

#### **Box Butte County**

	Policies			Producer
Coverage	Earning	Policies		Loss
Level	Prem	Indemnified	Acres	Ratio
75%	2	2	3948	6.39
80%	1	1	1300	5.79
85%	3	3	4284	5.71
90%	1	1	381	1.99

#### **Cherry County**

	Policies			Producer
Coverage	Earning	Policies		Loss
Level	Prem	Indemnified	Acres	Ratio
75%	4	4	114374	3.91
80%	3	1	29126	0.49
85%	9	9	21441	1.09
90%	7	7	8065	1.35



#### Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Insurance

- Lower Coverage Levels
  - Lower premium rates + higher premium subsidies = lower premiums
  - Higher chance of no indemnities
- Lower Productivity Values or Fewer Acres
  - Lower dollar value of coverage = lower premiums
  - Return percentage unchanged
- Fewer covered two-month intervals
  - Higher chance of no indemnities
  - Winter months more expensive/volatile than spring/summer



#### Strategies for Managing Risk

- 1. Avoid it
- 2. Transfer it outside the business
  - a) Insurance
  - b) Contracting
- 3. Control it
  - a) Control the probability
  - b) Control the impact
    - 1) Increase reserves
    - 2) Maintain flexibility
    - 3) Diversification
- 4. Accept it





