



My Background

- Former Ag Lender Farm Credit System
- Partner/CEO in diversified family farm business
 - Transitioned from CEO in 2017 to Board Chair/Transition Coach
- Farm management consultant initiated in 1980
 - Farm Family Transitions, Financial Planning
 - Building professional governance; consultants training workshops
- Industry boards/affiliations
 - Farm Financial Standards Council Past President
 - PNW Direct Seed Assn Director, Past President
 - Farm Journal Legacy Project Board of Advisors
 - Commodity group and bank boards Past Director

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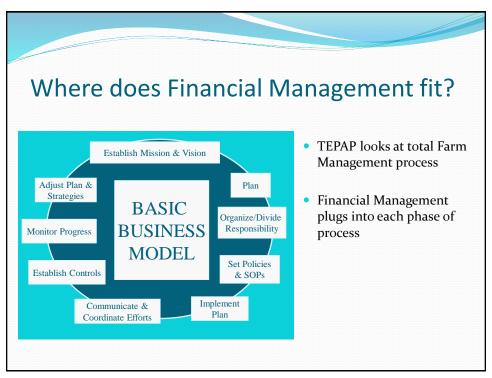
My Business Philosophy



- Committed to <u>Family</u> + <u>Farm</u> + <u>Business</u>
- Need balance between "process" & "results"
- Education only valuable if theory is put into practice

My Goal: Change Management Behavior

Manage	ement Behaviors I will implement OR change
Pi	rierity
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	□ Pull up favorite Reminder or
8.	Task Management Application
9.	Remember the Milk
10.	• iPhone – Reminders
11.	Label New List - TEPAP
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	
16.	
17.	
18.	
19.	
20.	



AGENDA

4 Core Elements in Financial Management

- 1. Understanding relationships in basic financial reports
 - How statements flow from transactional process
 - Proper report structures for evaluation
- 2. Analyzing Performance
 - Ratio analysis, trend analysis whole farm
 - Performance @ manageable segment level (profit & cost centers, cost of production) – focus on FFSC standards for Managerial Accounting in Agriculture

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AGENDA Core Elements – cont'd

- 3. Using financial principles to optimize performance
 - · Operating and strategic planning & decisions
 - Capital investment planning & decisions
- 4. Building proficiency in the farm management team to understand and adapt financial management concepts

Selected resources & Guidebook Order Form available at www.wittmanconsulting.com

... After 40+ years of Transition

- 16 different crops
- Quadrupled size of farm
- Three partners (was 6)
- Calves fed retained ownership
- Managing timber harvesting, replanting
- Equipment and House Rentals, Land Development

- Numerous strategic alliances, joint ventures
- Self-service fertilizing and direct (no-till) seeding
- Expanded home storage
- · Long haul trucking
- Bio-farming; RO Water Systems
- Numerous "value added" crops

Created huge Financial Management challenge. WHY? Everyone trying to remain competitive & viable.

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Our Competitive Environment

- Global competition pressuring margins
- Consumer focus on sustainability influencing how we farm
- Policymakers and consumers increasingly misinformed about farming industry—can't count on sound policy
- "Way of life" nepotism-oriented farmers succumbing to <u>professionally managed</u> farms
- Not everybody will survive



Stage III Mix - Principals in OperationCousins, nephews, father/daughter, son-in-laws



Empower a skilled team of *responsibility center managers* to make <u>quality decisions.</u>

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Questions We Ask Constantly...

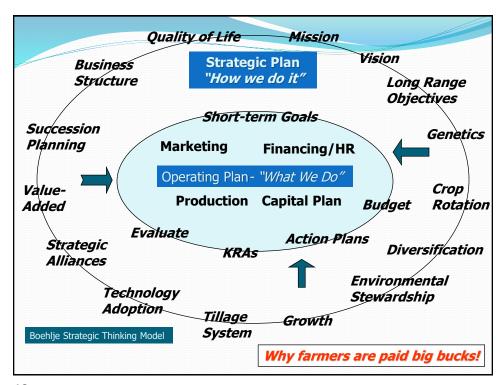


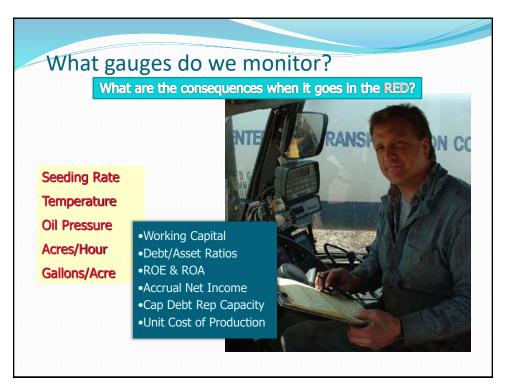
- What strategies are keeping us successful?
- What strategies should change?
- How will change impact performance?
- What information is needed to make good decisions?

Metric of a Good Decision

- Optimizes financial results least cost, most profitable
- Improves or sustains profitability
- Financially feasible Cashflows, services debt, and supports family living
- Contributes to long-term financial soundness proactive...not reactive
- Promotes quality of life and teamwork

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What are the Key Farm
Management Proficiencies we should master to manage a farm in today's environment?

Survey Results*

Percent Adoption of Key Farm Management Proficiencies

Management System/Personnel Management Proficiencies	2001 - '24 Range	AVE	2025
Mission, Vision, Values defined	22 – 56	37	
History documented	17 – 59	44	
Goals and Objectives documented	13 – 44	29	
Operating Plan and Cashflow Budget compiled annually	38 - 63	46	
Strategic Plan in place that periodically addresses strategic issues	15 – 41	28	
Written Job Descriptions/Division of Responsibility in place	18 – 44	34	
Personnel & Operating Policies written & distributed	18 – 49	33	
Standard Operating Procedures documented-repetitive duties	11 – 41	24	
Compensation program matched to market rates	25 – 51	38	
Performance Appraisals done regularly	12 – 37	24	
Hold quality meetings for investors, owners, spouses	26 - 63	43	
Owner Board is transparent and functioning part of governance	24 – 38	31	
Advisory board or peer groups used to bring outside influence	22 – 37	30	
Culture or Management Audits used to assess farm buy-in	16 – 17	17	

29% set goals, 14-41% have strategic plans

<1/3 write job descriptions, 1/4 have performance appraisals & SOPs

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Survey Results

Percent Adoption of Key Farm Management Proficiencies

Financial Management Proficiencies	TEPAP '2001-'24	AVE	2025
Financial records updated and circulated monthly	44 – 68	52	
Balance sheets & income statements prepared annually (12/31 basis)	87 – 100	95	
Balance sheets reflect cost and market values & deferred tax liability	32 – 75	50	
Income statements calculate cash (tax) and accrual net income	47 – 80	63	
Audit systems in place to assure financial statement integrity	36 - 73	57	
Profit and Cost Center performance is tracked on at least annual basis	30 – 60	48	
Budget Projections and Performance reports are used regularly	38 – 58	49	
Field or livestock records complete and accessible to unit managers	49 – 70	60	
Key performance measures (ratios) reviewed at least annually	13 – 43	28	
Policies for owner investments and withdrawals defined and followed	7 – 32	20	
Policies for dividing earnings (owners vs labor/mgmt) clearly defined	9 – 39	25	
Capital Investment Analysis tools understood & accessible	25 – 49	34	
Partial Budget techniques understood and utilized regularly	29 – 58	38	
Activity Based Costing used to ID standard cost of repetitive operations	33 – 43	43	

- → 1/2 do budgets & track profit/cost centers
- → 1/4 track key ratios
- → 1/4 have policy for dividing earnings & withdrawing capital

^{*}Surveys administered to participants of TEPAP Program

Survey Results

Percent Adoption of Key Farm Management Proficiencies

	_		
Marketing and Risk Management Proficiencies	TEPAP Score Range	AVE	2025
Inventory to market is defined well in advance of marketing	53 – 85	70	
Market Targets are established based on known Break Even Point, Cost of Production, & Cash Flow requirements	44 – 75	59	
Forward contracts, hedging, and option tools are understood & utilized regularly	54 – 82	67	
Crop Insurance provides balanced protection- hail, fire, all risk	67 – 96	83	
Liability insurance covers balance of risks – liability, health, environmental exposures	75 – 97	86	
Business Risk Assessment and contingency plans designed to cope with catastrophic events	23 – 26	25	

2/5 market production with no idea of production cost!

Would you loan money or invest in an industry that gets a flunking grade in core management proficiencies?

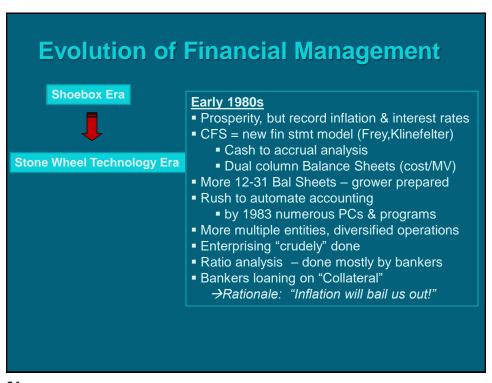
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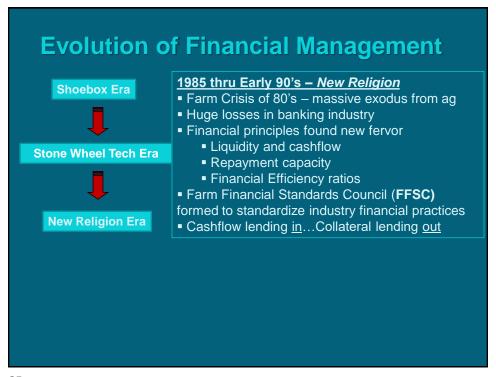
Evolution of Financial Management

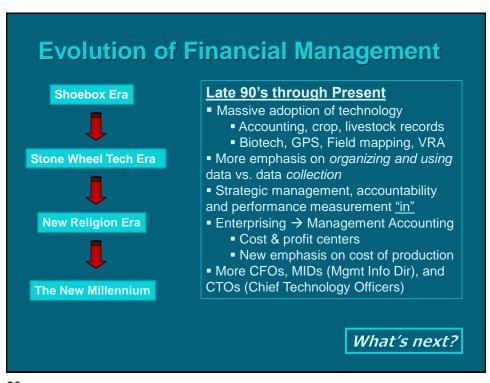
Shoebox Era

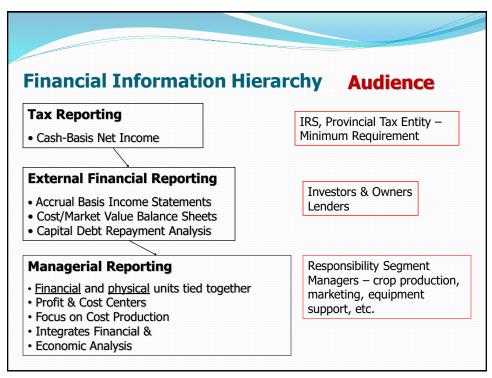
Early 1950-70's

- Cash accounting only
- Lenders prepared financial statements
- Inconsistent balance sheet dates
- Ratio analysis non-existent
- Lender focus: collateral lending
- Producer performance measured by:
 - \$ owed bank
 - inventory values
- Primary performance goals
 - Production all you can produce
 - Marketing minimize tax bill
 - Finance annual pay off's









Financial Analysis: A Quick Tour

Can't move to Third Level - Management Accounting until master basic concepts

- Balance sheet & income statement construction
- Accrual vs. cash income analysis
- Financial ratio analysis

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Analyzing Financial Performance is About...

- Defining key indicators KPAs
- Analyzing trends and projections
- Defining and comparing to benchmarks
- Setting acceptable performance targets
- Understanding key drivers of financial performance & relationships Dupont Model

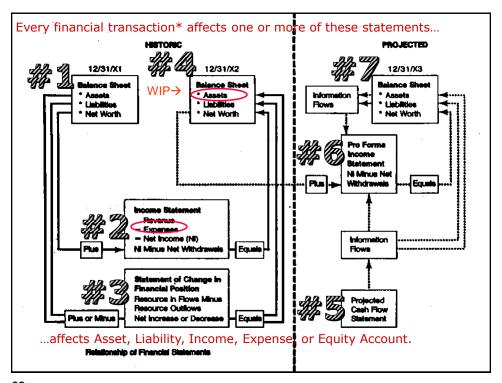
Key Uses - Financial Ratios and Benchmarks

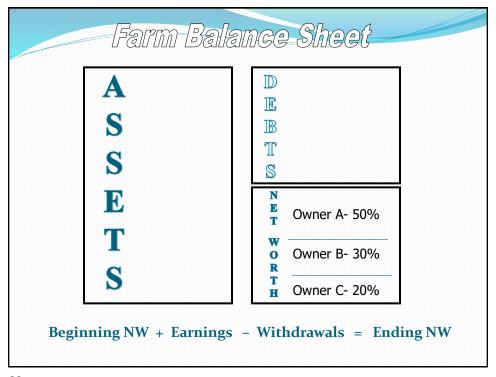
- Performance comparisons
 - Own historical performance
 - Benchmark comparisons competitors, industry norms
- Goal setting and decision making
- Lenders/creditors
 - Risk assessment; constructive use of debt leverage
- Investors
 - Assess alternative opportunities to maximize ROE

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Foundation for Financial Analysis

- Balance Sheets Cost & market; fiscal year-end
- Income Statements Accrual based
- Statement of Changes in Financial Position Funds Statement
- Statement of Cash Flows Historical & Projected





History of Financial Ratios

- Used in agriculture and lending for decades
- Definitions and ratios standardized 1989-1991 Farm Financial Standards Council*
- Five focus areas "Sweet 16 Ratios" modified to "Legal 21" **New in 2021!** 13 Key Metrics

Pull out your trend sheets now....

*FFSC is a 40-member board of farm financial experts from all phases of agriculture. Focus is standards and guidelines for financial analysis and reporting.

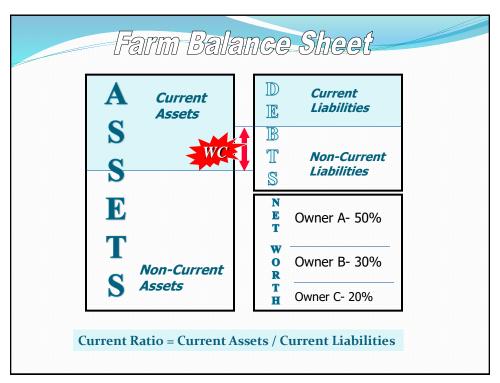
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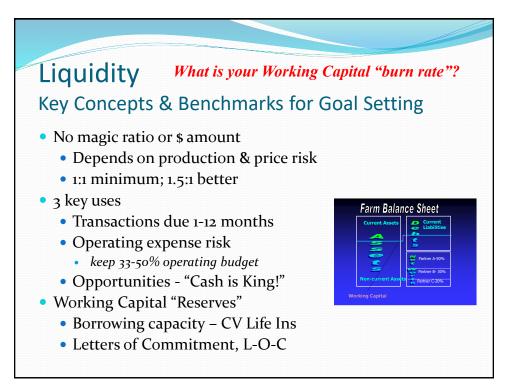


Measures the ability of farm business to meet obligations as they come due

Expressed As Two Measures:

- 1) Working Capital = Current Assets Current Liabilities
- 2) Current Ratio = <u>Current Farm Assets</u> Current Farm Liabilities





Solvency

Measures ability to repay indebtedness, withstand risk, and continue operations after financial adversity.

Three Measures (only need one): TEPAP Median D/A '20 = .37; '23 = .36; '24= .24

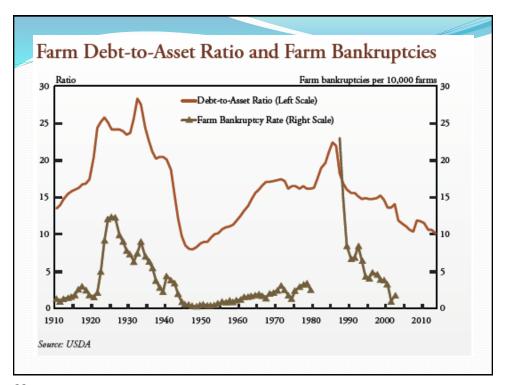
1) Debt* Asset Ratio = Total Farm Liabilities
*aka Liab/Asset Ratio Total Farm Assets

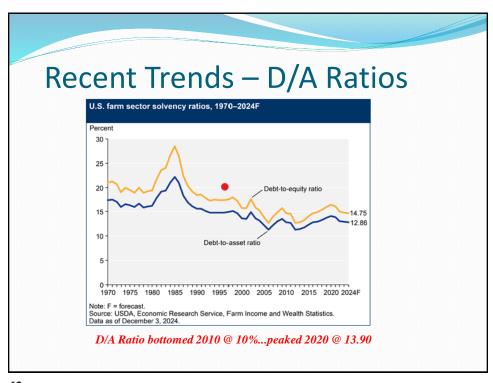
2) Equity to Asset Ratio = Total Farm Equity
Total Farm Assets

3) Debt/Equity Ratio = <u>Total Farm Liabilities</u> (aka Leverage Ratio) Total Farm Equity

2010=.45 2012=.31 2013=.35 2015=.28.4 2016= .32:1 2017 = .36:1; 2018 = .45

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Recent Tr	rends – D	/A Ratio
Year	Debt /Asset Ratio	USDA % Incr-RE
2013	11.39	na
2014	11.78	5.4%
2015	12.39	0.4%
2016	12.84	1.5%
2017	12.99	3.0%
2018	13.30	1.5%
2019	13.67	1.4%
2020	13.90	3.7%
2021	13.56	9.7%
2022 Forecast	13.05	10.0%
D/A Ratio bott	omed 2010 @ 10%pea	ked 2020 @ 13.90

Solvency Key Concepts & Benchmarks for Goal Setting

- Debt/Asset Target < 50%
- Factors to consider:
 - · Climate and market risks
 - Asset mix leased, owned
- Capitalization policies
 - Minimum capital needed?
 - Ownership Transitions/Equity withdrawal policies?



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Profitability Measures

Measures ability of farm business to generate a profit as well as a return on assets and equity

Five Measures

- 1) Net Farm Income (NFI) = Revenue Expenses + Gains/Losses (must be Accrual Based to be meaningful)
- 2) Operating Profit Margin Ratio (OPM) = ← Key Performance Indicator

Net Farm Income + Interest Exp - Value of Unpaid Labor/Mgmt Gross Revenue

Median OPM = '15 = 18%; '16 = 18%; '17=19%; '18 = 18.9% '19 = 12.4; '20 = 14.9; '24=8.1

3) EBITDA – Earnings Before Interest Taxes Depreciation and Amortization

Net Farm+ Non-Farm Inc + Deprec/Amort + Int Exp – Family WD*)

*if WD proxy for unpaid labor/management

Profitability Measures (cont'd)

4) Return on Assets (ROA) = ←Key Performance Indicator

(Net Farm Income + Farm Interest Exp - Value Unpaid Labor/Mgmt)

Average Farm Assets

TEPAP Median 5.3, 4.4, '20=5.3; '23=5.8%; '24 = 5.2%

5) Return on Equity (ROE) = ← Key Performance Indicator

(Net Farm Income – Value of Unpaid Labor/Mgmt)
Average Total Farm Equity

TEPAP Median 4.0;8.2;7.3;4.4%;'20=5.5;'23=9.8%; '24 = 7.1

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Profitability Key Concepts & Benchmarks (cont'd)

ROA

- Should be > cost of debt
- Goal depends on % <u>owned</u> vs. leased assets
- Key drivers:
 - Operating Profit Margin operating efficiency indicator
 - Asset Turnover Ratio (Revenue/\$ of Assets)

ROE

- <u>Ultimate</u> "Bottom Line" indicator
- Key indicator for investment analysis

What is "Family Living Cost"?

<u>Averages - Farm Bus/Farm Mgmt Assn Records</u>

University of Nebraska \$56-60,000 2000

University of Nebraska \$97,000 2013

University of Illinois* \$92,337 2021

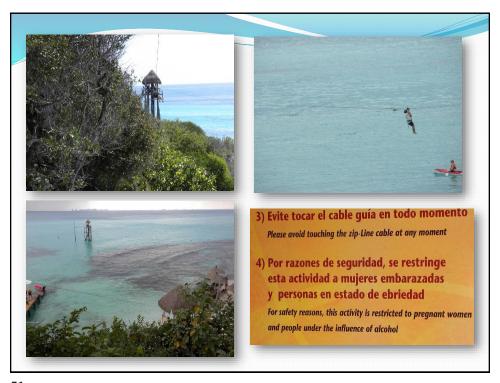
*incl. living expenses and personal capital outlays; this equates to \$108/ac -- \$.45/bu. corn raised.

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Comp	ensation Sui	nmary		Joe Owner-Op	erator
			Year:		
	Period	Rate/Mo		No Mos.	Yearly Tota
Salary	Nov-Feb	\$4,000	Base	12	\$48,000.00
		Rate/Hr	Hrs/Mo		
Wages	Mar-Oct	\$0.00	250	0	\$0.00
	Cash Salar	y & Wages Su	btotal:	\$48,000	
Employe	er Pd Soc Sec/G	ov't Retirement	% Rate:	7.65%	\$3,672.00
			Rate/Mo		
Housing		\$1,200.00	12	\$14,400.00	
Utilities	- Power, Phoi	ne,etc	\$350.00	12	\$4,200.00
Meal Al	lowance, Groo	eries	270 days @ \$6.0	00/day	\$1,620.00
Beef, Fa	arm Produce		1/2 beef - 350# (@\$1.40/lb	\$490.00
Other-			\$0.00	12	\$0.00
Medica	I Insurance		\$900.00	12	\$10,800.00
Uncove	red Medical R	eimbursemen	t		\$4,000.00
Other-					
	iting Pickup				\$3,000.00
	Auto Insurance	e, gas, maint	Spouse & children	ו	\$4,000.00
Other-					\$ -
	tal Wage and E		(Items 1-7)		\$94,182.00
	Based on Yea			10%	\$4,800.00
	ent Contributi			7%	\$3,360.00
To	tal Compensat	ion:			\$102,342.00

Total Hours Worked Per Ye	ar 270	Days Worked	270
	(excl bonus	& ret.)	(incl bonus/ret)
Total Compensation per Ho	our \$34.8	8 (line 8/line 11)	\$37.90
Total Compensation per Da	y \$ 348.8	2	\$379.04
Total Value of Non-Taxable	Benefits (Items 4-7)		\$42,510.00
Non-Taxable Benefit Analys	sis @ Tax Rate: *	43.15%	30.15%
Pre-Tax Wage Equivalent (L	ine 12/(1-TaxRate)	\$74,776	\$60,859
Total Tax Savings (Line 13-Lin	ne 12)	\$32,266	\$18,349
Tot. Pre-Tax Wage Equivale	ent-(Line 9c+ Line 14)	\$134,608	\$120,691
	- Per Hour	\$49.85	\$44.70
* Tax Table Summary	High Rat	te Low Rate	
Federal Tax	28.00	% 15.00%	
State Tax	7.50	% 7.50%	
Social Security/Gov't Retirement Pr	gm Tax 7.65°	<u>7.65%</u>	
Total Tax Rate	43.15	% 30.15%	

Survey Results – TEPAP 2025 Median 2003-2024 Ave 2025 Total Value of Compensation \$82,551 Total Non-Taxable Compensation \$21,400 \$ Est # Days Worked Per Year 297 Est # Hours Worked Per Year 2,881 Total Pre-Tax Salary/Wage Equiv* \$94,588 *At 36% tax rate **Per Day Per Hour** Total Farm Package Value \$278 \$28.65 \$ Pre-Tax Wage Equivalent \$318 \$ \$32.83





Multiple measures – Two <u>important ones...</u> '17 = 1.6:1; '18 = 1.5:1 '19 = 2.25; '20 = 1.74

- 1) <u>Debt Coverage Ratio</u> Repayment and Replacement Capacity*/Scheduled Principal and Interest
- 2) Replacement Margin & Ratio Median Ratio '23 = 2.35; '24 = 2.91

 Margin = Capacity* Commitments**

Ratio = Capacity/Commitments

*Capacity = Inc from Oprns + Non-Farm/Misc Inc + Depr - Inc Tax- Owner WD

**Commitments = Total Debt Repayment + Unfunded Capital Replacement

Repayment and Replacement Capacity Measures and Ratios

Repayment & Replacement Capacity Key Concepts & Benchmarks

- Key credit factor
 - Earnings pays debt service, <u>not</u> asset liquidation or appreciation
- Profitability <u>not enough</u>; must also:
 - service term debt & leases
 - · pay living & taxes, and
 - replace capital

- Goal for Repayment & Replacement Margin
 - 1:1 minimum; 150% better
 - Depends on
 - Equipment replacement needs
 - Growth patterns
 - Operating Profit Margin

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Measures how efficiently a farm's assets are being used to generate revenue.

Asset Turnover Ratio (ATR) = <u>Total Revenue</u> Average Total Assets

Median Nos.

'18 = .37:1, '19 = .32:1; '20 = .34:1; '23 = .35:1; '24 = .35

Asset Turnover Ratio Key Concepts & Benchmarks

- Depends on enterprise
 - Grains, orchards, cow-calf turn assets every 3-6 yrs
 - →ATR .33 to .17
 - Feedlots, dairies, nurseries turn assets 1-2 yrs
 - → ATR 1.0 to 0.5

- Ratio shows <u>downside</u> of asset accumulation
 - "Farmers love to own toys and land!"
- Major driver of ROA along with OPM Ratio

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Relationship – GFR to OPM

(Gross Farm Revenue divided by Operating Profit Margin)

Assumptions:

Operating Profit Margin = 12% Compensation to Fund Family Unit = \$60,000

GFR required to sustain added family:

<u>GFR</u> = \$60,000 = \$500,000 OPM .12

The Dupont Model Looks at Big Picture & Inter-Relationships

- Developed early 1900s at Dupont
- Shows how bottom line (ROE) affected by:
 - Asset Use Efficiency (Turnover Ratio)
 - Operating Efficiency (Operating Profit Margin)
 - Financial Leverage (Assets to Equity Ratio)

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Dupont Model – **ROA** Drivers

(Asset Turnover Ratio)* x (OPM Ratio)** = Return on Assets

*Gross Farm Revenue x **Inc from Operations = ROA

Ave Farm Assets Gross Farm Revenue

Note: <u>Income from Operations</u> and <u>ROA</u> are before interest deduction and adjustments for other revenue and expense

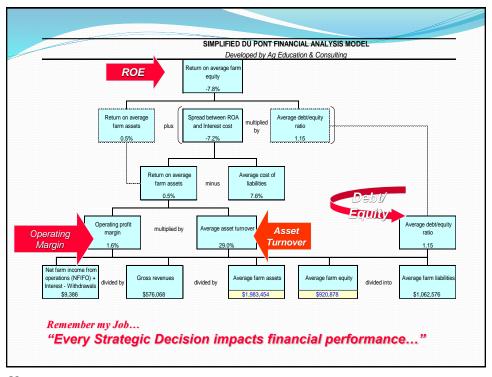
Dupont Model – **ROE** Drivers

```
ROE = (Profitability x Asset Efficiency) x Leverage Impact
= (OPM x ATR) plus [(ROA – COL*) x Debt/Equity Ratio]

NFI = [ Inc Oprns x GrFam Rev ] + [(ROA-COL*) x Debt ]
Equity GrFamRev Farm Assets Equity
```

*Cost of liabilities (COB) = Interest Expense/Total Liabilities

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What's better: Grow? Or reduce costs?

Dupont Model **Simulation Exercise**

Review Cases A – D, test data

Test Alternative Strategies

- 1. Identify strategic shift
- 2. Develop \$ changes in operation
- 3. Enter revised \$ compared to baseline (Case A)
- Record data changes and revised ratios on worksheet.

Data Set	Case A	Case B	Case C	Case D
Revenue	\$776,000	\$853,600		
Var Oper Costs	499,000	548,900		
Fixed Op Cost	95,000]	
Interest Costs	78,000]	
Net Farm Income	104,000			
Labor/Mgmt W/D	60,000]	
			1	
Average Assets	1,800,000]	
Ave Liabilities	1,000,000			
Average Equity	800,000]	
			1	
OPM	15.7%	17.5%		
ATR	43.1%	47.4%		
ROA	6.8%	8.3%]	
ROE	5.5%	9.0%	L	

Case A - Baseline data - grain and livestock operation

Case B – Grow 10% (assume unused capital and mgmt) Revenue & variable operating costs go $\underline{up\ 10\%}$.

Case C – Increase cost efficiency by 10%. Operating costs decrease \$49,900.

Case D – Reduced assets to produce same revenue. Example: Share ownership of drill & power unit. Financial impacts: Assets & debts -\$200,000; Depreciation - \$10,000 (Fixed Costs), Variable Oper Costs -\$4,000, Interest Costs -\$14,000.

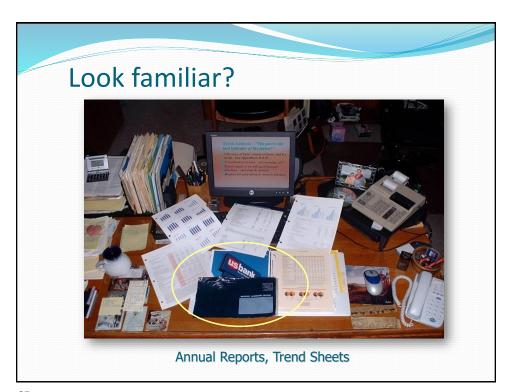
LINK TO Dupont Case Examples

SEE HANDOUTS/Reference Files on Website

Special Topics – Financial Analysis

- Cash, Accrual Adjusted, vs. True Accrual
- Cost vs. Market Value Balance Sheet
- Trend analysis Key Ratios, Dupont Model
- Analyzing multiple entities
- Sustainable Growth Rate
- Unrealized Gain & Deferred taxes
- Tax vs. economic depreciation
- Net Present Value (NPV) –Time Value Money
- Activity Based Costing (ABC)

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Trend Analysis

The past is the best indicator of the future!

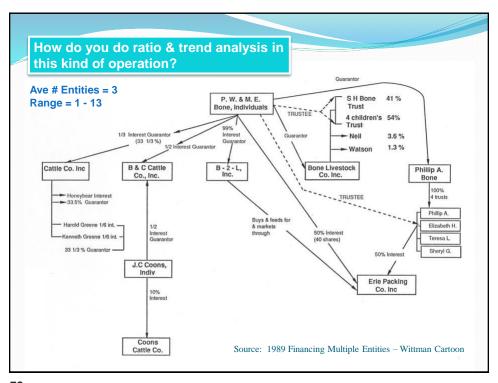
- Tells story of farm's financial history and key trends (see your data)
- 1st tool banker reviews... about 25% do this!
- Shows impact of operating & strategic decisions
- Great tool for communicating with owners & family stakeholders
- Key baseline for goal setting & strategic planning

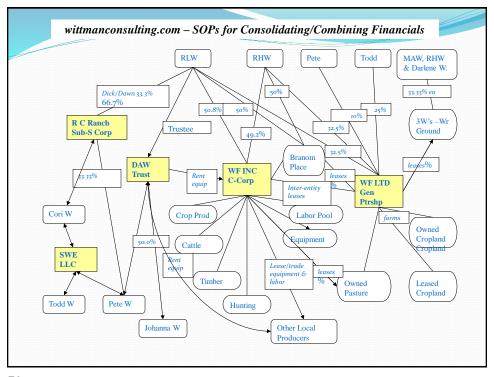
	Ratios & Indicators							
	Joe P Sample Cust # Example							
	Balance Sheet		FYE 2008 12/31/2008	FYE 2007 12/31/2007	FYE 2006 12/31/2006	FYE 2005 12/31/2005	FYE 2004 12/31/2004	FYE 2003 12/31/2003
	Total Current Assets		288.955	215.020	217.052	217.725	231.100	212,900
	Total Current Liabilities		144.045	97.697	118.525	128.510	125.175	107.100
	Working Capital		144,910	117.323	98.527	89.215	105.925	105.80
Liquidity-WC	Liquidity Ratio		2.01	2.20	1.83	1.69	1.85	1.9
=-9	Total Assets		1.208.705	1.171.370	1.202.152	1.191.725	1.184.600	1.166.45
	Total Liabilities		547.127	545.807	590.050	641.080	661.475	673.65
	Total Equity		661.578	625,563	612,102	550.645	523.125	492.80
	Debt to Asset Ratio		45.27%	46.60%	49.08%	53.79%	55.84%	57.75
Solvency-D/A	Eguity to Asset Ratio		54.73%	53.40%	50.92%	46.21%	44.15%	42.25
DUIVELICY-D/A	Debt to Equity		0.83	0.87	0.96	1.15	1.26	1.3
		Avg	Projected	FYE 2008	FYE 2007	FYE 2006	FYE 2005	FYE 200
	Income Statement (VFP)		Cash Flow 01/01/2009	01/01/2008	01/01/2007	01/01/2006	01/01/2005	01/01/200
Profitability	Ag - Pers.	5 Yr. Avg.	12/31/2009	12/31/2008*	12/31/2007*	12/31/2006"	12/31/2005*	12/31/2004
	Gross Revenue	517,170	545,028	614,369	495,353	499,187	476,305	500,63
	VFP / Gross Profit	437,949	457,028	530,199	416,503	419,282	398,025	425,73
	Operating Expense	251,140	269,487	281,392	240,933	247,428	252,928	233,01
	(excl. depr. & Int.)							
	Oper, Exp. Ratio	57.34%	58.97%	53.07%	57.85%	59.01%	63.55%	54.73
	Depreciation Expense	31,948	30,700	28,450	31,600	32,600	35,640	31,45
	Depr. Exp. Ratio	7.29%	6.72%	5.37%	7.59%	7.78%	8.95%	7.39
ATR, OPM	Interest Expense	57,875	40,348	45,481	76,157	52,360	55,580	59,79
y U111	Int. Exp. Ratio	13.21%	8.83%	8.58%	18.28%	12.49%	13.96%	14.059
	Asset Turnover Ratio	0.37	0.38	0.45	0.35	0.35	0.33	0.3
	Net Income From Oper.	96,986	116,493	174,876	67.813	86,894	53.877	101.47
ROE, ROA	NIO Ratio	22.15%	25.49%	32.98%	16.28%	20.72%	13.54%	23.835
	Rate of Return on Assets	10.18%	9.67%	15.05%	9.22%	8.97%	6.72%	10.939
	Rate of Return on Equity	10.73%	11.56%	20.76%	5.37%	9.46%	4.51%	13.539
	Oper. Profit Margin Ratio	27.59%	25.57%	33.78%	25.25%	25.60%	20.05%	30.199
Dobt Some Can	Income After Owner Withdrawal	75,405	100,493	148.026	47,713	67.224	34.339	79.72
Debt Serv Cap.	Term Debt & Cap. Lease Cov. Ratio	1.64	2.11	2.59	1.43	1.56	1.22	1.5
								1.0

Items to Add to Trend Analysis

- Growth Rate
 - Production base
 - Gross Farm Revenue growth
- Gross Revenue per Family Unit
- Diversification Profile
 - Farm vs Non-farm assets (Stocks, Retirement, Housing, etc.)
 - % of Personal NW in Farm Equity

 $See\ \underline{www.WittmanConsulting.com}\ for\ Trend\ Sheet\ Template$





Should Deferred Tax be Recorded?

Options:

1. Record on the balance sheet as Deferred Liability

Pros – more realistic presentation of net worth **Cons** – bankers don't like this...distorts serviceable debt and financial ratios (WF case in point!)

2. Record as footnote to financial statements

Pros – recognizes the liability exists; acknowledges that \$ amount is not an exact science (tax laws subject to change) **Cons** – tends to overstatement recognizable equity

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Tax vs. Economic Depreciation

- FFSC Prior Position
 - Tax depreciation can be used as proxy for cost based income analysis
- <u>Current Problem</u>: Accelerated write-offs distort real depreciation expense
 - Section 179 added write off \$25,000
 - Special Depreciation Allowance new equipment
- New Guidelines:
 - If tax depreciation differs significantly, cost based analysis should use <u>"book"</u> instead of "tax" depreciation

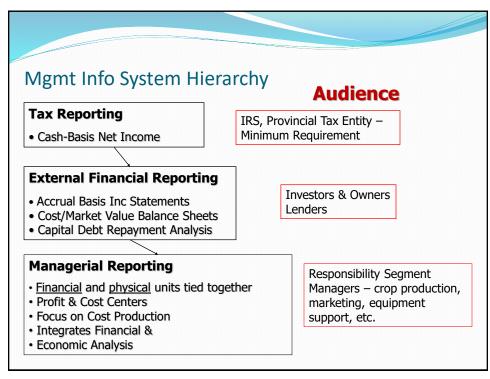
Part II — Analyzing Performance of Manageable Segments of the Business

Drilling Deeper into Financial Performance
The Essence of Management Accounting

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Relationship: DuPont Model to Managerial Accounting

- Financial ratio analysis provides "whole farm business" perspective
- Managerial Accounting goes to next level
 - Responsibility centers
 - Drives to "heart" of decision-making processes
 - Answers more clearly "cause-effect" of strategic & operating decisions



Key Questions of Decision Makers

- Margin in each profit center
- Cost of production compared to:
 - My peers, or my own historical trends
- How cost and margins impacted by:
 - Tillage, genetic or production strategies
 - Growth in the business
 - Price & yield variability
 - Key input cost trends
- How capital asset use efficiency affects ROE

Farm Financial Standards Council Managerial Accounting Project – 1998-2002

- National guidelines for managerial accounting
- Goal: consistent approach for
 - Calculating total Cost of Production
 - Assessing performance of manageable segments
 - Benchmarking and peer group comparisons

WEBSITE: www: ffsc.org

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Implementation Topics

- Sorting out Accounting and Economic Analyses
- Identifying manageable segments
- Profit/Cost center design
- Handling unusual transactions – cost recovery, revenue adjustment
- Integrating <u>financial</u> and <u>physical</u> quantities (\$, bu, acres, employees)

- Definitions: Direct vs indirect; variable vs. fixed
- Transfer pricing
- Alternatives for allocating indirect costs/overhead
- Other technical issues
 - Inventory valuations
 - Equipment gains/losses
 - Tax vs. Book Depreciation
- Case studies of sample farms

Key Management Question

"How can *managerial accounting* be used to measure the impact of *strategic decisions*?"

....primer for later session on Strategic Planning

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5 Steps to Strategic Management

- **Step** #1 Analyze costs and activity in each management activity center
- **Step #2** Identify strategies that influence performance
- **Step** #3 Simulate impact of alternative strategic decisions
- **Step** #4 Implement high impact strategic options
- **Step #5** Measure the impact of decisions made

Strategic Options – Revenue Enhancement

- Adopt technology to improve yields
- Marketing options to maximize price
 - Value-added
 - GMOs
 - Organics
- Off-farm supplementation
- Custom services to utilize underemployed assets, fixed overhead

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Strategic Options - Cost Structure Management

- Strategic Alliances/Joint Ventures-inputs, equipment
- Precision Farming
- Direct Seeding/NoTill
- Optimizing buy, lease, custom hire decisions
- Feed enhancements- rBST, Ralgro
- GMO crops-Bt corn, RR
- Pre-pricing key inputs
- Optimizing in-sourced vs. out-sourced services
- Growth/OH Cost dilution

Management Accounting Standards CDS Test Drive

- RME Grant ('02-03): 30 growers in info exchange group following similar management practices
- Goals:
 - · Learn MA concepts/benefits
 - Design MA system to fit how business is managed (segments)
 - · Identify cost of production
 - · Build benchmarking model
 - · Optimize strategic decisions

We learn by doing.



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Expected OUTCOMES from Direct Seeding

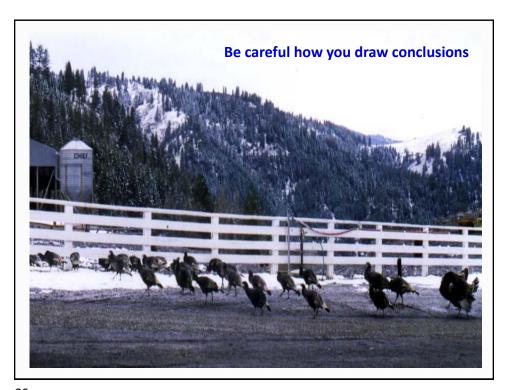
- Reduced operating costs
- Increased operating margins
- Improved environmental quality
- Improved capital asset use efficiency

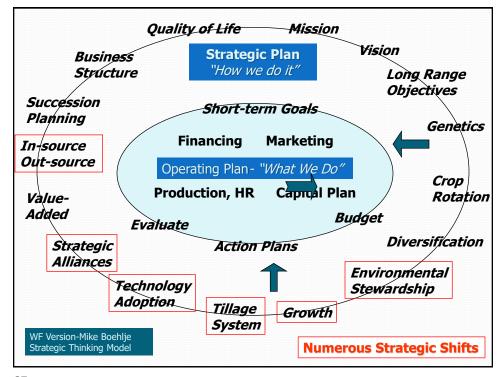
<u>Ultimate Target</u>: Higher ROA & ROE

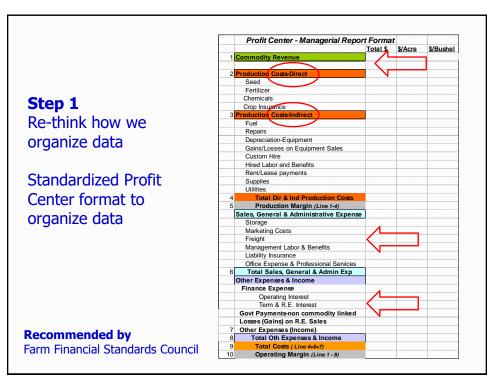


Key Questions:

- 1. Can we measure impact of strategic decisions?
- 2. Are we making progress?







	1996-98	1999	2000	2001	
Direct Production Costs	\$93.03	\$82.21	\$98.88	\$107.84	
	\$1.29	\$1.14	\$1.11	\$1.20	
	Produc	ction Costs d	ropped \$.29,	/bu – 12%	
Indirect Production Costs	\$92.74	\$85.12	\$97.48	\$96.78	
	\$1.28	\$1.18	\$1.10	\$1.08	
	SG & A Costs dropped \$.26/bu – 48				
Sales, General & Admin Costs	\$39.61	\$21.83	\$30.84	\$25.42	
	\$0.54	\$0.30	\$0.35	\$0.28	
	Finance Costs dropped \$.15/bu – 6				
Finance Costs	\$15.93	\$10.12	\$9.06	\$6.36	
	\$0.22	\$0.14	\$0.10	\$0.07	
Total Costs	\$241.31	\$199.28	\$236.26	\$236.40	
	\$3.31	\$2.77	\$2.65	\$2.63	
	Total Costs dropped \$.68/bu -21%				
Yield (bu/acre)	73.6	72.0	88.1	90.0	

DuPont Financial Analysis (Review)

Improvements in capital use and operating efficiency

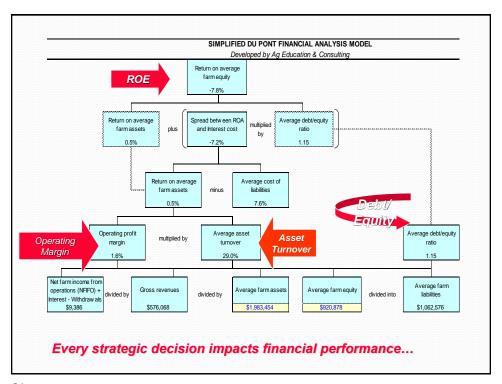


ROA & ROE

Asset Turnover Ratio x OPM Ratio = Return on Assets

(Return on Assets – [Interest Adjustment) x (Financial Structure)] = Return on Equity

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A Tale of Two Tillage Systems

	Conventional	Direct Seed / NT		
ATR	.50 : 1	1.05 : 1		
OPM	12.8%	16.3%		
ROA	6.47%	17.14%		
ROE	3.88%	22.61%		

Which set of strategies is more likely to survive?

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How Do We Implement Managerial Reporting?

- Learn core concepts of managerial accounting
- Standardize definitions and methodology
- Work through case studies
- "Test drive" concepts in your business

Six Core Concepts of MA

- 1. Requires cost-based, accrual accounting
- 2. Uses **Responsibility Centers** (manageable segments) for accumulating and summarizing transactions
- 3. Integrates **production** factors and **financial measurements** (i.e. /cwt, /bu)

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Six Core Concepts (cont'd)

- 4. Core transactional information is accumulated, then <u>supplemented</u> with economic analysis
- 5. Follows GAAP, commercial industry practice, multi-commodity applicability
- 6. Must accommodate multiple period production cycles (crop, livestock, perennials)

Major Benefits from MA

- Identifies Unit Cost of Production (UCOP)
- Assess activity and performance of center managers
- Isolate strategies to improve business performance
- Enables real-time WIP and Inventory Valuation system

→ monthly financials more useful for management interpretation compared to cash to accrual practice.

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Monthly Records Using Accrual Adjusted Accounting

Monthly Month Net Income		Year to Date Net Income	YTD NI as % of Tot Yr NI	Month End Net Worth	% Change from Beg NW	
Beg of Yr				\$ 376,334		
January	\$ 22,419	\$ 22,419	23.6%	\$ 398,753	6.0%	
February	\$ 25,205	\$ 47,624	50.1%	\$ 421,959	12.1%	
March	\$ (28,781)	\$ 18,843	19.8%	\$ 393,177	4.5%	
April	\$ (132,953)	\$ (114,111)	-120.1%	\$ 211,298	-43.9%	
May	\$ (14,732)	\$ (128,842)	-135.6%	\$ 196,566	-47.8%	
June	\$ (81,326)	\$ (210,168)	-221.2%	\$ 115,240	-69.4%	
July	\$ (27,570	\$ (237,738)	-250.2%	\$ 87,670	-76.7%	
August	\$ 112,079	\$ (125,659)	-132.3%	\$ 199,749	-46.9%	
September	\$ 151,387	\$ 25,727	27.1%	\$ 351,136	-6.7%	
October	\$ 6,135	\$ 31,862	33.5%	\$ 357,271	-5.1%	
November	\$ (230,138)	\$ (198,276)	-208.7%	\$ 122,133	-67.5%	
December	\$ 293,283	\$ 95,007	100.0%	\$ 474,453	26.1%	

Definitions – Cost Categories

Depends on behavior of cost and what drivers change cost

- <u>Direct Cost</u> cost item identified with single cost object
- <u>Indirect Cost</u> cost item common to two or more cost objects; can't be identified with one cost or profit center

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Fixed vs. Variable Costs

- Fixed Costs remain static for the production cycle regardless of production level or base units
- **Variable Costs** increase or decrease proportionately with changes in base units of production
- **Fixed and Variable Costs** can be both <u>direct and indirect</u> costs (Examples: fuel, rental expense, etc)

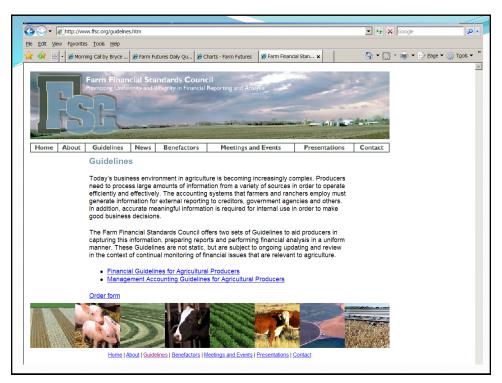
Cost versus Expense

- <u>Cost</u> is associated with building an asset value (inventoriable or capitalizable)
- Expense doesn't "build value"
 - Period Expenses: Interest expense, marketing costs, transportation, etc.

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Handling Unusual Transactions

- Integrity of MA System keys on proper handling initial transaction
- <u>Ask:</u> Is transaction revenue, cost, revenue adjustment, or cost adjustment?
- Examples: Handling Unusual Transactions
 - Refer to FFSC MA Guidelines <u>www.ffsc.org</u>
 - Have bookkeeper download or acquire copy



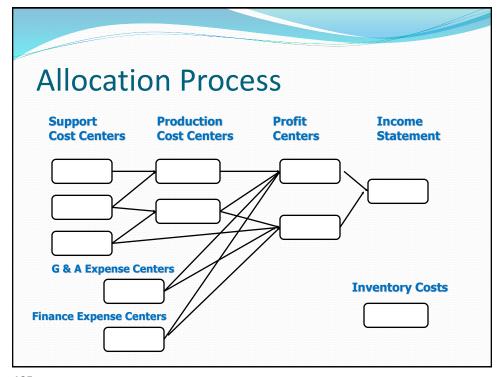
Case Illustrations Unusual Transactions

- Case A Equipment Rental Income
- Case B Custom apply & re-sell fertilizer
- Case C Sell surplus machinery repair parts
- Case D Receive Yr-End Quantity Discount
- Case E State/Federal fuel tax refunds
- Case F Sale of raised wheat for seed
- Case G Custom haul grain for landlord, neighbor

Center Types

- Production (production stages, activity sequences)
- Support Operations
- Sales, General and Administrative (SG&A)
- Financing

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Deciding Centers to Track

- Management intent
 - For profit
 - Cost of doing business
- Management behavior expected of center managers
- Threshold of activity to justify tracking performance
- Question: When is it a profit vs. cost center?
 - Hay or corn
 - Custom trucking or fertilizing

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Allocation Procedures

- Define best objective and measurable manner in which one cost center supports another cost or profit center
- All cost centers ultimately are allocated to profit centers
- Keep product costs and period expenses separate
- Do not allocate SG&A and Financing to production focused cost centers—period costs are not capitalized in inventory

What is Transfer Pricing?

- Situations where applies
 - Inter-entity transactions
 - Enterprises transfers costs & revenues
 - Examples:
 - · Raised grain fed to livestock enterprise
 - Raised grain used for seed
 - Rental house used for farm laborer
 - Beef provided to employees
- Pricing SOP to use when transferring cost
 - Arms length pricing?
 - Cost or market value?
- Importance of consistency when recording entries

...who's ready to DEBATE???

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Spread-N-Grow Case Study*

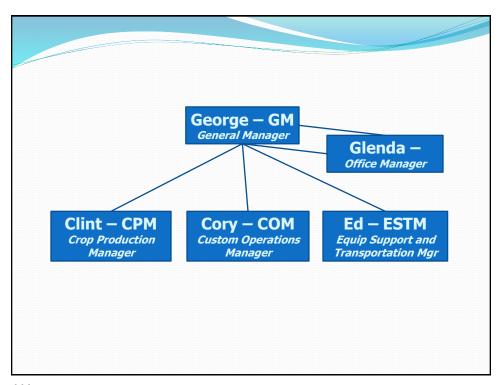
- <u>Goal</u>: Design profit, cost and support centers for diversified farm with custom enterprise
- Unique features:
 - Multiple crop enterprises + custom operation
 - Distinctly separate accountability roles
 - All managers desire improved information
 - Management accounting system mirros management structure of business

* 1 of 4 FFSC Case Studies

Operational Data

- 6,000-acre diversified farm wheat, barley, and canola under direct seed/NT program
- Gross revenue = \$1,350,000 (3 yr ave.)
- Custom seed 2,500 acres @\$25/acre
- Custom fertilize 5,000 acres \$300,000 revenue generated from application and fertilizer sales

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Management Intent

- Manage three commodities and custom application as "for profit" enterprises
 - Criteria: significant activity to manage & opportunity to control performance
- Custom trucking incidental income viewed as "cost recovery" to reduce net cost of equipment support

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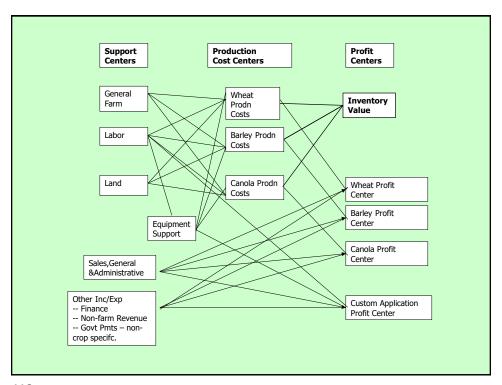
Case Solution - Profit Centers

- Four profit centers
 - Wheat
 - Barley
 - Canola
 - Custom Application
- Ruled out custom trucking <u>not significant</u> <u>activity</u> managed "for profit"

Cost/Expense Centers

- <u>Production Cost Centers</u> set up one for each crop enterprise to accumulate work-in-progress costs
- Support Cost Centers
 - Equipment Support
 - Labor
 - General Farm
 - Land Cost Center
- SG&A* & Finance Expense Centers

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^{*} SGA = Sales, General and Administrative Expense

Production Cost Center

Report Design (same for Wheat, Canola, Barley)

Revenue/Cost Recovery

· Grain by-products, straw

Production Costs

Direct Costs

- Seed
- Fertilizer
- Chemicals
- · Crop Insurance

Indirect Costs

- Costs Allocated from General Farm Overhead Center
- Costs Allocated from Equipment Support Center
- Costs allocated from Labor Support Center
- Costs allocated from Land Cost Center

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General Farm Overhead Cost Center

Report Design

Revenue/Cost Recovery

Coop Dividends – Supplies

Production Costs

Direct Costs

- Labor and Benefits (include here or in separate Cost Center?)
- Utilities
- Supplies
- Fuel (non-farm related, i.e. boss's pickup, wives and kids)

Indirect Costs

No transactions likely to come as indirect allocation to GFO

Allocation Criteria

Allocate to Wheat, Barley, Canola, & Custom Application

Use a two-step staging of allocation rules:

- 1. Allocate between custom application and grain
- 2. Allocate portion going to each grain crop by pro rata share of acres in each crop

Equipment Support Cost Center

Great report for peer comparisons!

Revenue/Cost Recovery

- Gains (Losses) on Equipment Sales
- Custom Trucking Income

Production Costs

Direct Costs

- Fuel
- Repairs
- Depreciation (Mach & Equip)
- Property Taxes (Equipment)
- Custom Equipment Hire
- Equipment Rental Expense

Indirect Costs

- General Farm Overhead (allocated from GFO Cost Center)
- Labor (allocated from Labor Center)

Allocation Options:

Use standard rate for assigning costs to custom farming; allocate balance of costs to crop enterprises on pro rata basis

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Land Cost Center*

Revenue/Cost Recovery

- Gains (losses) on sale of real estate
- Land rental income
- Fixed government payments base related

Operating Costs

- Cash Rent
- Repairs Costs Building & Improvements
- Real estate taxes
- Fire & Liability insurance Fixed Improvements
- Professional fees land management fees, lease renewal fees and transaction costs
- Property management fees

Allocation Method: Allocate to crop production cost centers based on % of farm in each crop

* Controversial concept still being debated

Custom Application Profit Center

Revenue
Custom Seeding Income \$xx,000 Custom Fertilizer Sales \$xx,000

Production Expenses \$xx,000

Direct

Custom License Fees \$xx,000 Cost of Fertilizer Resold \$xx,000

Indirect

Gen Farm Overhead (allocated from GFOH center) \$xx,000 **Equipment** (allocated from Equipment Cost Center) \$xx,000 \$xx,000 **Labor** (allocated from Labor Support center)

SG & A - allocated \$xx,000

Finance – allocated \$xx,000

> **Net Profit – Custom Application** \$xx,000

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Implementation Conclusions

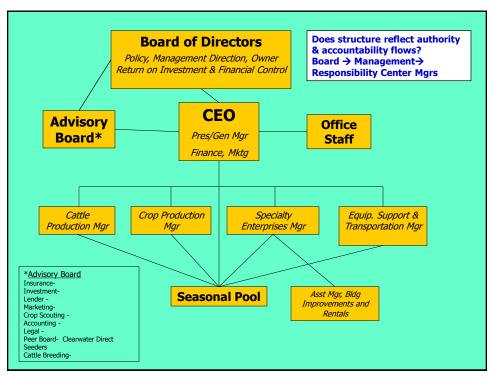
- #1 Bigger job than most realize
- Few have adequate skills to implement MA
 - Accrual understanding; cost vs. market values
 - Accurate ratio analysis
- Full implementation will likely involve
 - Developing skilled CFO (internal or outsourced)
 - More rigorous accounting software & implementation

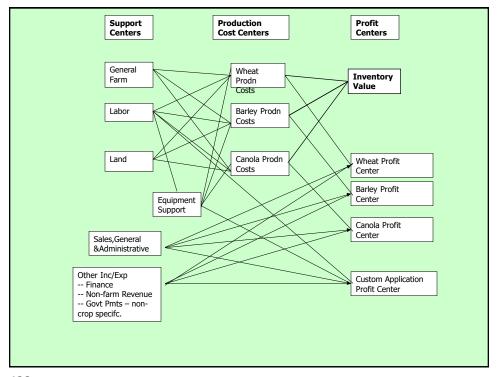
Implementation Conclusions

- #2 Managerial Accounting (MA) design should mirror business management structure
- <u>MA core premise</u>: desire to measure performance by manageable segment
- Attempts to implement MA often expose poorly delineated accountability
- MA provides a "teachable moment" for reevaluating personnel management
 - Look at Organization Chart & Center Design

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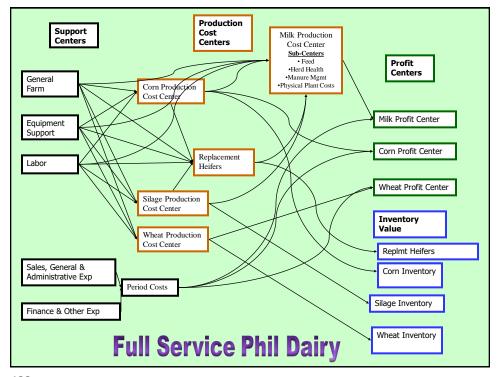
FFSC goal: Expand application models for other ag industries

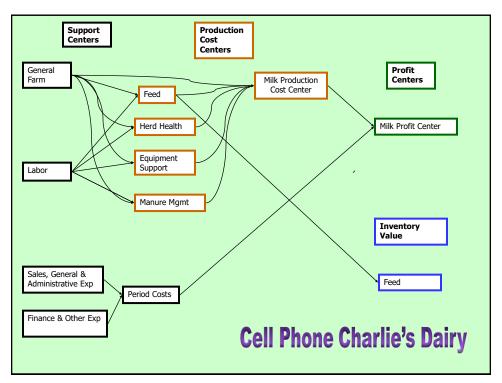
MA Center Designs for DAIRY

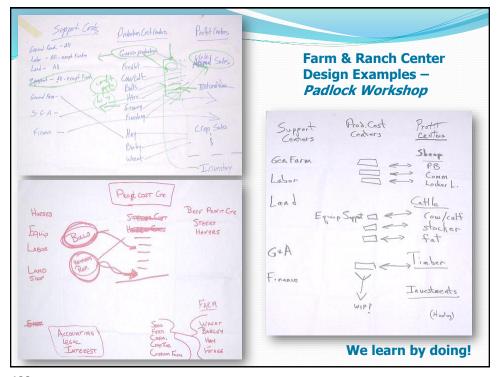
Two Extreme Cases:

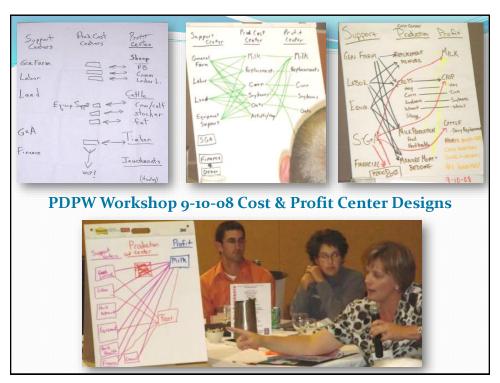
- Full Service Phil
- Cell Phone Charlie

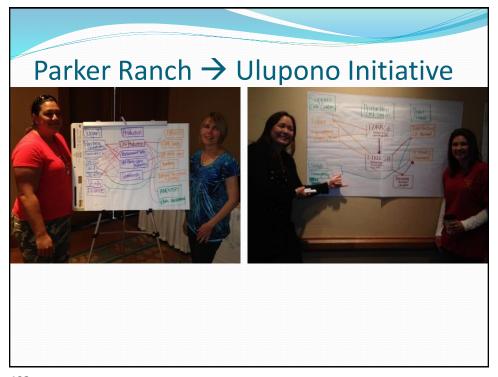
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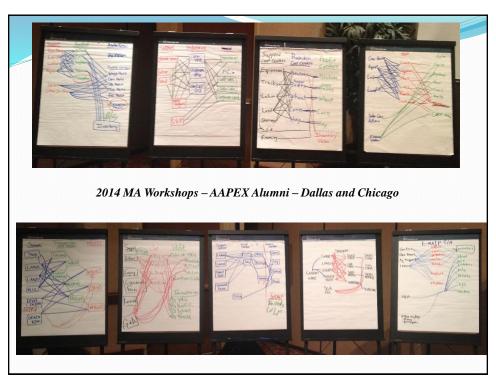














Implementation Conclusions

#3: Peer Group Benchmarking is secondary benefit

- Benchmarking billed as key reason for MA
- Loses importance once get into process
 - Too many variations in structure, strategy, enterprises, and methods of operation
- <u>REAL VALUE</u>: comparing current to past trends in <u>same operation</u> ... examine how strategic shifts can enhance performance in the future.

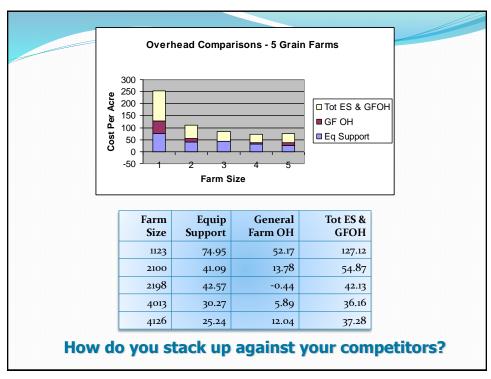
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Implementation Conclusions

#4: Cost Management is "land of opportunity"

- Historical focus on revenue enhancement
 - Milked cow 'til it is dry!
 - Government bailouts less helpful
- Big opportunities lie in managing costs direct vs. indirect (overhead) costs
- Segment analysis helps identify <u>problems</u> and <u>opportunity</u> areas ...
 - → focus on bottom line doesn't tell us much

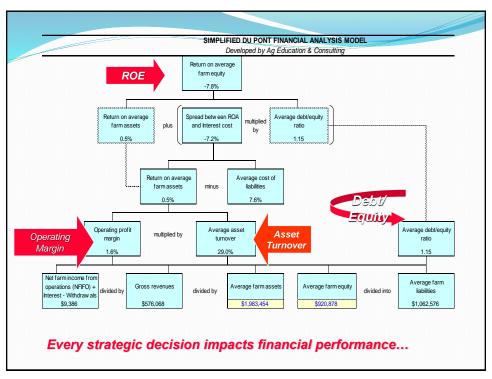




Implementation Conclusions

#5: What carrot motivates implementation of MA?

- NOT satisfaction of doing cost and profit center reports!
- MA helps identify <u>strategies</u> to enhance performance in <u>specific segments</u>
- <u>Challenge</u>: how to link performance analysis and strategic management
- → Dupont Model Simulation experience demonstrates this visually and vividly



Dupont Model – **Simulation Exercise**

Review Cases A – D; test data

Test Alternative Strategies

- 1. Identify strategic shift
- 2. Develop \$ changes in operation
- 3. Enter revised \$ compared to baseline (Case A)
- 4. Record data changes and revised ratios on worksheet.

Data Set	Case A	Case B	Case C	Case D	Case E	Case F
Revenue	\$776,000	\$853,600				
Variable Oper Costs	499,000	548,900	449,100	495,000		
Fixed Op Cost	95,000			85,000		
Interest Costs	78,000			64,000		
Net Farm Income	104,000					
Labor/Mgmt W/D	60,000					
Average Assets	1,800,000			1,600,000		
Average Liabilities	1,000,000			800,000		
Average Equity	800,000					
OPM	15.7%	17.5%	22.2%	17.5%		
ATR	43.1%	47.4%	43.1%	48.5%		
ROA	6.8%	8.3%	9.6%	8.5%		
ROE	5.5%	9.0%	11.7%	9.0%		

Case A – Baseline data is for mixed grain and livestock operation summarized from balance sheet and income statement. In this strategic shift gross farm revenue and variable operating costs both go up 10%.

Case B – Increase through-put by 10%. Possible ways to do this: Feedlots-more inventory turns; farming-increasing base production units (acres, head, etc.); processing plants-more shifts; longer hours

Case C – Decrease operating costs by 10%. Potential ways to do this: minimum/NT, pre-buying strategies (fuel, fertilizer)

Case D – Reduce assets required to produce same revenue. Example: Share ownership of drill & power unit. Financial impacts: Assets & debts -\$200,000; Depreciation -\$10,000 (Fixed Costs), Variable Oper Costs -\$4,000, Interest Costs -\$14,000.

Management Accounting allows analyst to build new level of performance analysis at the base of the Dupont Model

#6: It's OK to be "half pregnant" in MA implementation

- Purists say MA is "all or none"... *I disagree!*
- Accumulating inventory costs on balance sheet <u>IS</u> ideal...but not only worthwhile goal.
- Major value in taking "baby steps"
 - Revisiting ratio analysis
 - Standardizing cost & profit center reports
 - Differentiating direct and indirect costs; allocations
 - Accumulating direct costs in WIP
 - Isolating manageable segments that people manage
 - Handling unique transactions to insure integrity of reporting

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#7: MA can change marketing management behaviors

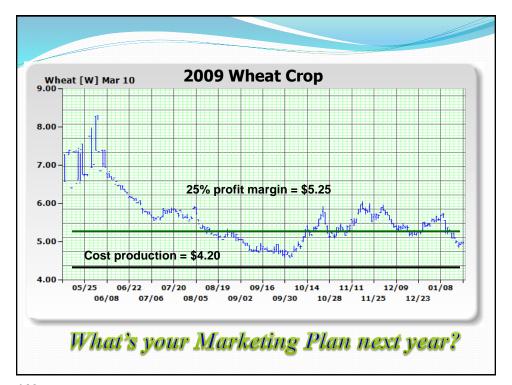
- Helps identify cost of production
- Can set price targets and execute marketing strategies tied to <u>profit margin objectives</u>
- Alternative is: Market based on "hope"...
 - That selling price covers costs
 - That you hit top of market (whatever that is...)

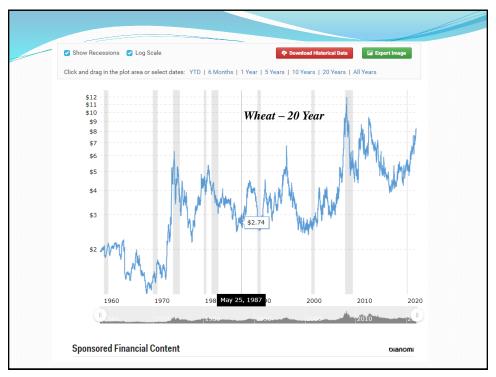
How would you feel about a 25% income margin?

...keep in mind

Historical operating profit margin (OPM) = 17-18%

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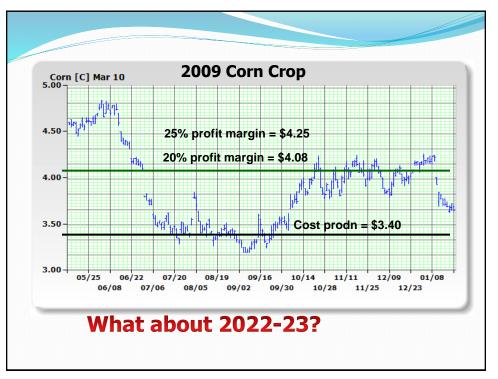


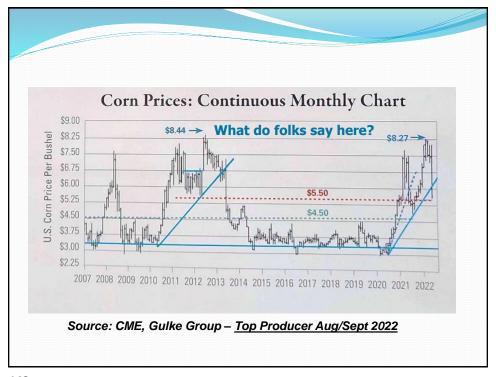


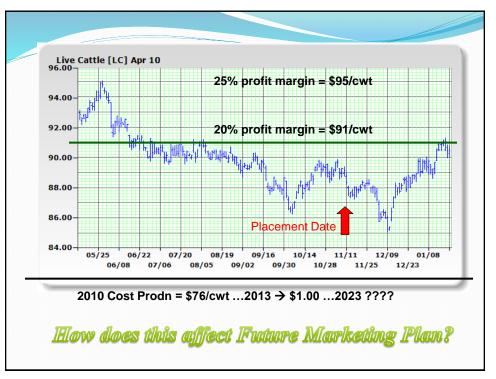
What is connection – price trends vs. cost of production trends

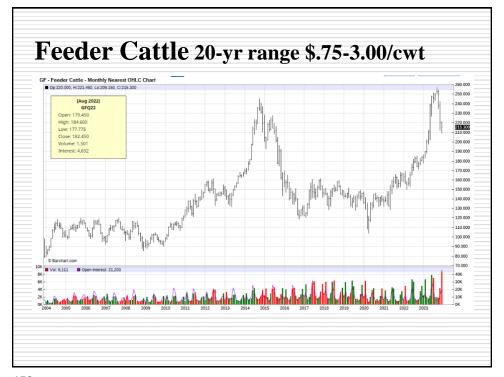
- Look at PNW Wheat producer data
 - 2002 \$3.56
 - 2012 \$5.86 +65%
 - 2022 \$7.04 +20%
 - 2023 \$7.16 +2%

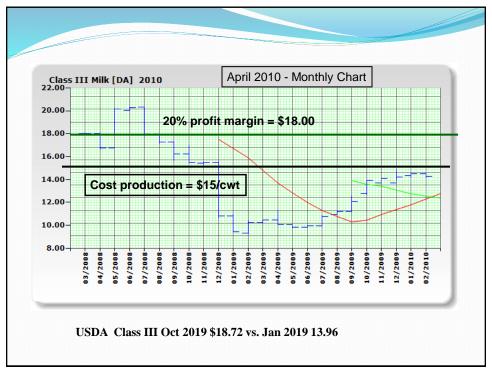
..\..\CONS\Management Accounting\Cost of Production Trends-2023 Schulteis.xlsx

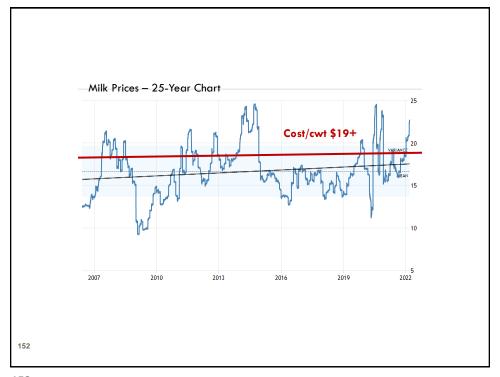












#8: Developing adequate computer software is critical

- Software vendors actively engaged in MA debate...some more than others
 - Red Wing, FBS, AgManager, Quickbooks
- Producers will find most current software inadequate to do MA properly & efficiently
- ???? What are farmers using
 -Great discussion for Bear Pit!!!

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Accounting Software Users*

- 47.8% Quickbooks and Quickbooks Pro
- 12.0% Red Wing/Centerpoint Accounting
- 4.7% Farmworks
- 3.6% Quicken
- 3.0% FBS Systems, Ag Base/AgriSolutions
- 1.9% Peachtree
- 1.7% Famous, PC MARS, FINPACK
- 25% 16 Other software systems

Can software generate management information beyond basic financial reporting?

^{*}Based on TEPAP surveys 2003-2023

Detail Needed for Tax Reporting, MA and Production Mgmt – *The Integration Challenge*

Basic Transaction Data to file a Tax Return

- Date
- Bank account affected
- Vendor/customer name
- · Transaction no.
- Account assignment (asset, liability, equity; income, expense)
- Amount
- Memo/Notation

Additional Data needed for Unit Cost of Production (UCOP) & Mgmt Acctg Reporting

- Units/Quantity
- Responsibility Center
 - Cost Center; Profit
 Centers
- Production Year
 - As separate field
 - Use date range to select
- Production
 Center/Location

Agronomic/Livestock Data

- Soil types & tests
- Prescriptions-VRA maps
- Crop input records
- Field activity records
- FSA compliance info (acres, owners, crop share, farm- tract-Fd#, legal
 - descriptions/location
- Crop Insurance/RMA
- Inventory management and storage locations; grade attributes by commodity
- CCC loan information
- Pasture treatments /AUM use

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Lessons Learned – As Software User & Educator

- Never paid for ag software
- Beta testing software NOT bargain but has benefits!
- Software doesn't MAKE you an accountant—you need education and skills to use software successfully
- Most who say software "doesn't work"
 - · don't have skills to run it
 - don't take adequate time to get trained on how to use it
 - don't invest in support/mentoring to set it up correctly
- Having ability to "convert" data is over-rated
 - Old database often inconsistent with good accounting standards (chart of accountant, enterprise structures, cost/profit centers)
 - Better to start fresh and set things up right

Differences – Enterprising vs. MA

- Enterprising built foundation for MA
- OK for investors, bankers & 1-horse management team...not <u>Responsibility Center Managers</u>
 - <u>Investors</u> & <u>bankers</u> concerned about "bottom line"
 - Managers concerned about responsibility areas
 - Goals, decision-roles, strategies, resources
 - Performance results, cost management

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Building Blocks – MA Implementation

- Evaluate capacity of accounting system to provide accrual income and cost/MV balance sheet
- Review FFSC Guidelines; audit compliance of reporting formats and analysis methods
- 3. Complete 5-year trend analysis & ratios
- Simulate alternative operating/strategic shifts
 analyze impact on OPM, ATR, ROA, ROE

It's like climbing Mount Everest...

Building Blocks - cont'd

- Identify manageable segments clearly assign accountability to segment managers
 - Organization chart, job descriptions, reporting relationships
- 6. Complete compensation summary (Salaries, benefits)...key tool in analyzing overhead
- Set performance benchmarks for employee performance measurement



2017 TEPAP Student (Jason Fox) preparing to climb Mt. Everest

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Building Blocks - cont'd

- 8. Standardize use of terms: direct vs indirect; fixed vs variable; cash vs accrual vs economic analysis
- Review sample cases: management intent; types of cost & profit centers; MA center design solutions
- Identify areas/practices for handling transfer pricing on your farm – develop MA solution
- Define cost and profit centers needed to aggregate your farm's transactional data
- 12. Complete cost and profit centers for <u>historical data</u> using FFSC formats; then move to <u>current year data</u>

MA Wrap-Up Quiz

- What is the cost/unit to produce each commodity?
- How have costs changed in the last 5 years?
- What are the key strategies that will be re-evaluated in the next 1-5 years?

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Part III Capital Investment Decisions

→ Types of Decisions→ Analysis Methodology→ Simulation Models

Capital Investment Decisions

- Capital Items
 - Equipment
 - Facilities
 - Land
- Optimizing access
 - Buy, lease, custom hire, joint venture?



We don't believe in racial profiling!

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Key Questions to Ask

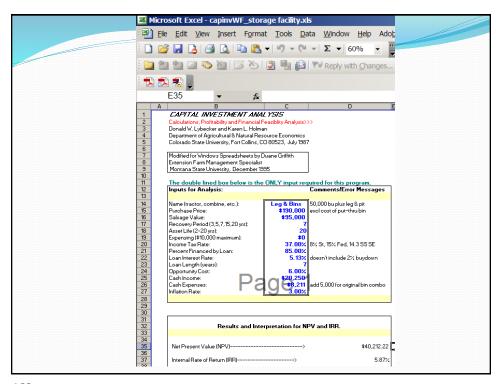
- Is it Profitable Investment?
- Financial feasibility?
 - Impact on liquidity and leverage
 - Debt service capacity; coverage ratio
- Risk considerations
- Exit plan
- Impact on management structure; capacity to manage revised infrastructure

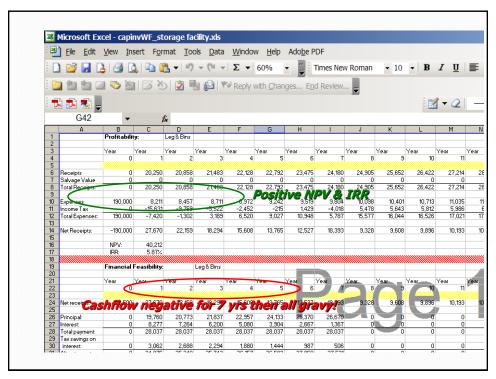
Capital Investment: Grain Storage

- <u>L. R. Objective (1983)</u> 250,000 bu + leg,pit, Scale
- <u>12-31-00 Status</u> 54,000 bu + Axle Scale
- 2001 Action Plan
 add 3 bins, extend 2, pit, leg,
 and load out Bin
- <u>Feasibility Study</u>
 pros, cons, Cap Inv Analysis
 - Used CSU/MSU model to simulate results for <u>Profitability</u>
 <u>Financial Feasibility</u>

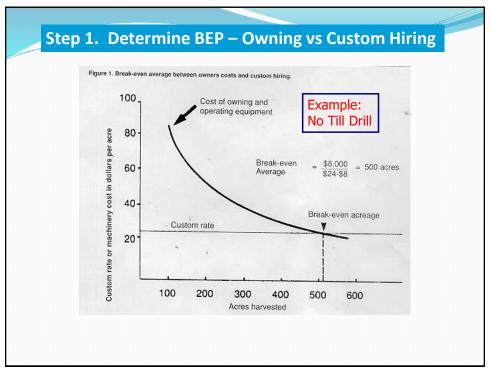


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Doing the Analysis

- Define facts and assumptions to analyze
 - Cost data: purchase, rent, lease custom hire rates
 - Usage data: acres or hours unit
- Select model to crunch the numbers
- Interpret results and act accordingly!

Case Study #1

"I'm buying a new drill. How should I access?"

- Own
- □ Rent/Lease
- Custom Hire
- Joint Venture

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Step #1 – Identify Cost Components

- Ownership Costs
 - Fixed Deprec, Interest, Taxes, Housing, Ins
 - Variable Maintenance, Fuel, Labor, Other
- Rental/Lease Costs
 - Fixed Lease Pmt; Rent/Unit of Use, Insur
 - Variable Fuel, Labor, Other Inputs
- <u>Custom Hire Costs</u> Rate/Acre

Purchase Option

Purchase Price \$53, 750

Down Payment (30%) \$16,125

Loan Repayment Period (yrs.) 5 years

Annual Payments (10.15% interest) \$9,963.44

Salvage Value - 5 years \$22,500

Maintenance Costs #3.00/acre

Lease Option

Lease Length 5 years Annual Lease Fee \$11,854

Short Term Rental Option

Rental Fee (\$/acre) Annual acreage seeded \$14.00 800 acres

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Step #2

Calculate break-even threshold for **owning** vs. **renting** drill.

Be sure to use "economic depreciation" ...not "tax depreciation"

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Solution #2 - Simple Formula - Break-even Analysis*

Annual Costs
$$=$$
 deprec, inter, taxes, insur*, and housing

$$=$$
 \$6,250 + \$3,870 + \$572 + 0* + \$0 = \$10,692

Source: RLW Excel Spreadsheet



1996 Costs/hour to Operate 30' Combine @ \$177,000 cost Vs. Cost TODAY ...what has changed?

1996 Data					
Hrs Use		Cost/Hr			
100		\$258.45			
200		149.85			
300	BEP->	125.56			
400		111.39			
500		101.85			



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Let's look at some more sophisticated models

Knowing Usage History is Key

			Equipmen	t Utilizatio	n History - V	Vittman Far	ms		
	Dec-95	Dec-96	Dec-97	Dec-98	Dec-99	Dec-00	Dec-01	Dec-02	Ave Use
JD4650					7068	7698	8348	8865	
- Ann Usage						630	650	517	599
75C-30" '94		885	1039	1515	1913	2188	2549	2875	
- Ann Usage			154	476	398	275	361	326	332
85D-35"					802	1408	1900	2445	
- Ann Usage						606	492	545	548
85D-30"	Bot 9-19-99	9		1056	1347	1859	2297	2626	
- Ann Usage					291	512	438	329	393
JD8400T-'97						2107	2288	2856	
- Ann Usage							181	568	375
Case 7150		1461	1676	1828	2125	2409	2766	sold- 10/1	
- Ann Usage			215	152	297	284	357		261
NH9680			867	1387	1889	2138	2300	2400	
- Ann Usage				520	502	249	162	100	307

Hours: Tractors, combines

Miles/Hrs: Trucks

Acres/Hrs: Drills, Major Tillage Implements

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Information Needed to do Analysis

- Ownership costs
 - Cost of power unit/implement
 - Planning Horizon/useful life
 - Salvage value
 - Cost of capital or borrowing
 - Insurance & housing costs
 - Tax rates
- WARNING: Use <u>YOUR</u> costs
 - NOT economic costs from someone else's data
 - NOT replacement cost
- Annual usage of power unit all operations

- Operating costs
 - Fuel
 - · Consumption/hour
 - · Cost of fuel
 - Labor cost
 - Primary operators
 - Support personnel
 - Repairs and Maintenance
 - Other Equip Support Overhead Costs (combine labor vs parts example)
- Productivity of Operation
 - Working width
 - Speed
 - Field efficiency %



What is it?

Activity-based approach to tracking cost of production

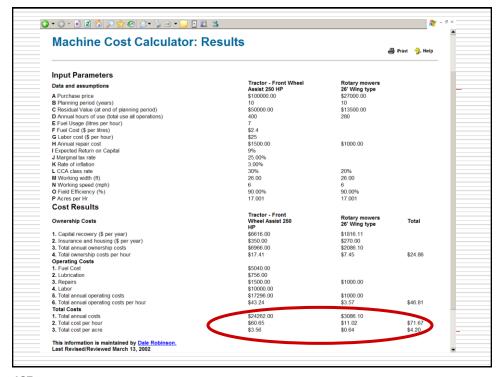
Examples

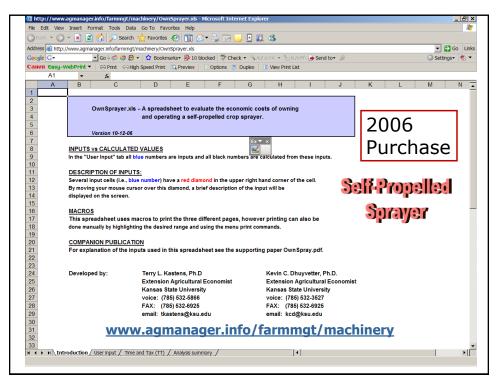
- Crop Operation:
 - Pre-plant ground preparation
 - Seeding/Fertilization
 - Pest Control
 - Harvest
 - Post Harvest Land
- Hog Operation:
 - Breeding
 - Farrowing
 - Weaner
 - Finishing

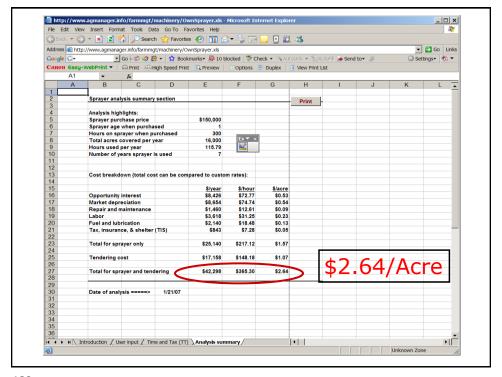
Hay Harvest:

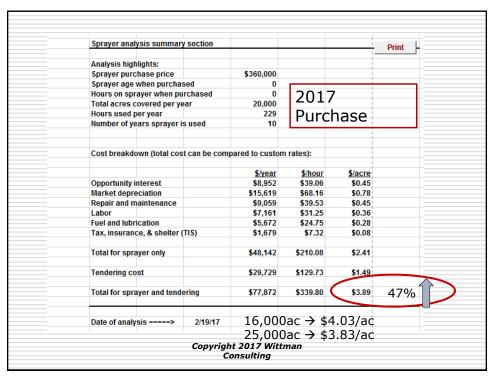
- Swathing
- Raking
- Turning
- Baling
- Hauling & Stacking
- Tarping



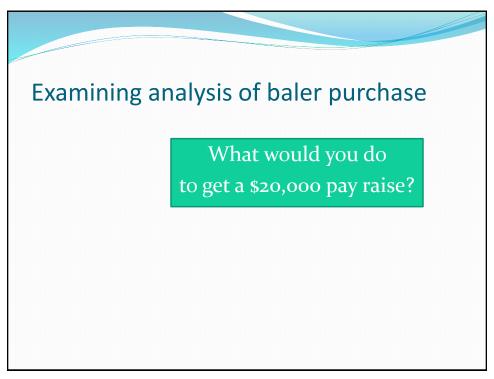


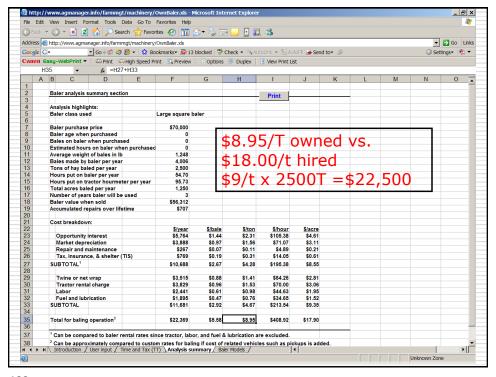






Information Need	<u> </u>
 □ Ownership costs ■ Cost of power unit/implement ■ Planning Horizon/useful life ■ Salvage value ■ Cost of capital or borrowing ■ Insurance & housing costs ■ Tax rates □ WARNING: Use YOUR costs ■ NOT economic costs from someone else's data ■ NOT replacement cost □ Annual usage of power unit – all operations 	□ Operating costs ■ Fuel □ Consumption/hour □ Cost of fuel ■ Labor cost □ Primary operators □ Support personnel ■ Repairs and Maintenance ■ Other Equip Support Overhead Costs (combine labor vs parts example) □ Productivity of Operation ■ Working width ■ Speed ■ Field efficiency %





Conclusions about ABC

- Critical information for making incremental decisions
 expansion
- Identifies when it's best to in-source vs. outsource
- Sets accurate base for pricing in custom work & trade relationships
- Can be reasonable alternative to cost center tracking & allocation approach

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Part IV Integrating Financial Management & Human Resource Management

Integrating Finance & Mgmt – 5 Issues

- Role of Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
 - Duties, proficiencies, & performance expectations
 - Who is CFO now...who should be?
- Financial Policies & SOP's
- Building financial management knowledge owners and management team members
- Use of Peer Groups for Performance Review

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CFO Role

- Emerging as *key position* in Ag Businesses
 - Unique skills technology, finance, & info management
 - One person can't be "jack of all trades"- agronomist, GPS expert, mechanic, marketer, herdsman
- Career Path: Bean counter → Financial Analyst
 → Strategic Planner → CFO → CEO

TEPAP Survey Results*

Financial positions staffed in farm business...

Bookkeeper 68%

Office Manager 43%

Controller 20%

Chief Financial Officer 34%

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Duties, Skills & Expectations- CFO

- <u>Primary role</u>: provide information & analytical services that help others optimize decisions
- Focus areas
 - Empower members of management team
 - Administer accounting system & MIS
 - Facilitate/coordinate financial planning and budgeting
 - Capital investment analysis
 - Arrange financing operating and strategic plans
 - Performance analysis whole business; management segments; cost of production; ABC's

^{*}Based on 44 responses January 2015 TEPAP Year I

Finance (CFO) and Marketing

- Budget preparation and variance analysis
- Maintain records and circulate to management team
- Arranging credit for operating and capital purposes
- Banking responsibilities
- Member of executive committee; key player in strategic planning
- Capital investment analysis; negotiate purchases
- Market grain commodities
- Preparation of tax returns
- Manage insurance & risk management programs
- Liaison with attorney on legal matters

Detailed description www.wittmanconsulting.com

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Challenge: Converting Data to Decisions

- <u>Data</u> numbers-meaningless by themselves
 - yield data, transaction journals, calving records
- <u>Information</u> data transformed into medium we can understand
 - color maps, graphs, financial statements
- Knowledge Human understanding applied to information
 - Ratio analysis, profit/cost center, herd data
- <u>Better Decisions</u>: Ultimate payoff → improved profits & financial performance

Who is CFO now...who should be?

Questions we should ask:

- "How much time do I <u>currently</u> spend on each function?"
- "...how much time should I spend?"



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Where do you find a good CFO?

- 3 TEPAP alumni multi-site grain operations and farm supply businesses
 - Hired controller/CFO from big firm ...60 hrs/wk
 - Paid \$75,000/yr for 30 hrs/week
 - + \$35,000 secretary/data entry person
 - Formed service bureau with office, computers, accounting systems, 401k
 - Total cost = \$150,000 split 3 ways
- Rent-a-CFO
- New buzzword: Fractional CFO

Defining Financial Policies and SOPs 4 Sloppy Areas

- Compensation/division of earnings
- Capital contributions/withdrawals
- Inter-entity transactions/transfer pricing
- Intra-family financing practices

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Dividing Returns: Mgmt vs. Owners

Assumptions:

Farm Operating Margin* = \$400,000

	Value of	Ownership	
<u>Position</u>	Mgt/Labor**	Share	
Sr. Farm Manager	\$60,000	50%	
Asst. Farm Manager	50,000	30%	
Jr. Farm Manager	40,000	20%	

^{*} Margin before management and owners are compensated ** Excluding \$40,000 non-cash employee benefits

Process for Dividing Returns

Farm Operating Margin \$400,000
less: Mgmt / Labor Allocation 150,000
Balance to Allocate to Owners \$250,000

 Sr. Farm Mgr
 50%
 \$125,000

 Asst Farm Mgr
 30%
 75,000

 Jr. Farm Mgr
 20%
 50,000

 \$250,000
 \$250,000

Total Returns:	<u>Mgmt</u>	Ownership	<u>Total</u>
Sr. Farm Mgr	\$60,000	\$125,000	\$ 185,000
Asst Farm Mgr	50,000	75,000	125,000
Jr. Farm Mgr	<u>40,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>	90,000
Totals	\$150,000	\$250,000	\$400,000

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Policy on Path to Ownership Capital Contributions, Withdrawals

- Minimum balances to maintain?
- Should everyone be "equal?"
- Is revenue earned based on <u>ownership ratios</u> or <u>other criteria</u>?
- Compensation for excess balances?
- Who can invest in the farm?
- "Can I ever get my money out?"

Audience experience with these problems?
...only 1 in 5 say they have a policy!
...MANY have problem & DON'T KNOW IT!

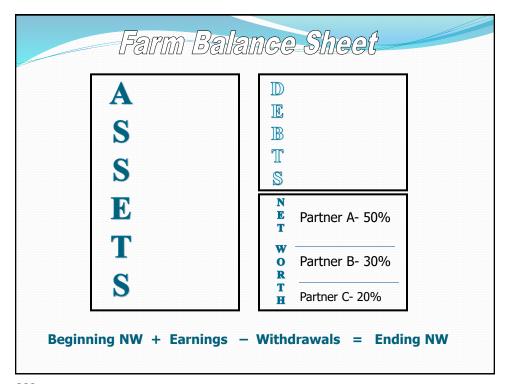
Example: Minimum Capital Target*

Minimum Capital Target = \$5,000,000						
<u>Owners</u>	<u>Share</u>	Book Capital	Target E	xcess (Deficit)		
Partner A	50%	\$3,000,000	\$2,500,000	+500,000		
Partner B	30%	1,500,000	1,500,000	-0-		
Partner C	<u>20%</u>	800,000	1,000,000	(200,000)		
Totals	100%	\$5,300,000	\$5,000,000	+300,000		

*Based on goals set for debt/asset ratios & working capital

...Are you getting your \$'s worth from your professional advisors?

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Good Management Practice

Make Valuation Equity Transparent!

<u>Owners</u>	Book Capital	<u>Unreal Gain*</u>	Total Equity
Partner A	\$1,750,000	\$1,300,000	\$3,050,000
Partner B	1,500,000	1,113,000	2,613,000
Partner C	900,000	675,000	<u>1,575,000</u>
Totals	\$4,150,000	\$3,088,000	\$7,238,000

^{*}Unrealized Gain (Valuation Equity) = 43% of Total Equity Value

...How much of your NW is YOURS vs. <u>TAX</u> owed to government?

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Retained Earnings and Capital Withdrawals — (Partnerships and Sub S Corporations) SAMPLE POLICY

The amount of capital provided by each capital provider is a key component in determining how net revenue of the business will be shared among owners or risk takers. The partners, joint members, or stockholders providing capital shall establish at least annually a common agreement on the base level of capital each capital provider is expected to keep invested in the joint operation. This base level will be established giving consideration to:

- >Minimum financial constraints or objectives (i.e. targets for working capital level, debt to equity ratio, and borrowing reserves)
- Needs of the business to fund future growth
- ➤ Ratio of ownership each capital provider wishes to maintain for future revenue sharing.

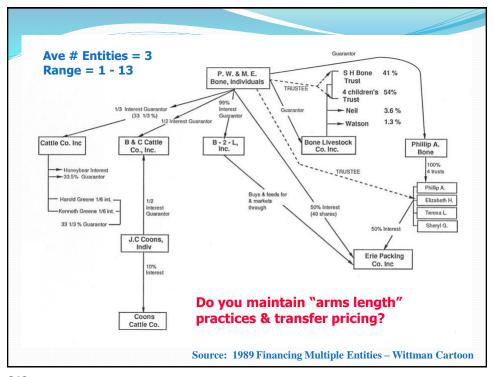
An analysis of capital account balances will be done following final draws for tax purposes on April 15 annually. Capital providers can withdraw excess capital for personal living and tax payments, outside investments, or other needs. Excess funds can also be loaned to the joint operation at a market rate of interest.

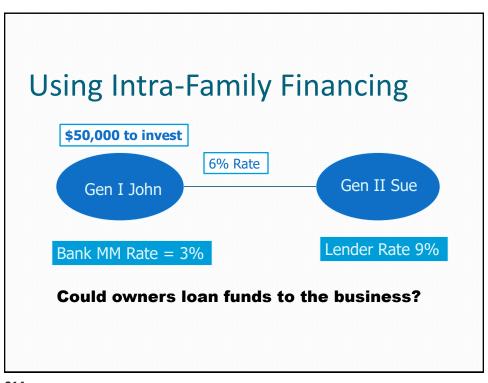
If a capital provider cannot maintain a target capital share level after an extended shortage situation, the partners will re-evaluate the at-risk capital resources provided and adjust the revenue sharing arrangement to reflect the change in capital contribution level.

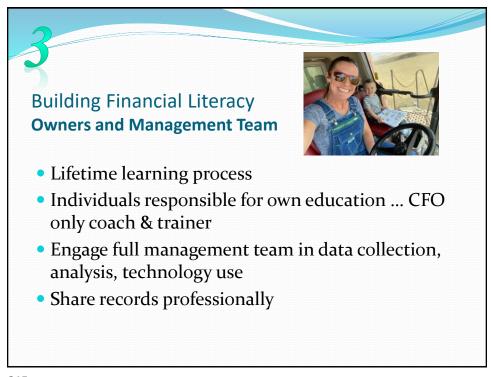
Inter-entity/Insider Transactions Keeping Policies "Arms-length"

- Common Situations:
 - Personal side-ventures
 (Use of feed, farm inputs, supplies, pasture)
 - Loans to the business
 - Leases of land/equip to/from the business
- Are transactions done on "arms-length" or competitive market basis?
- Arrangements renewed regularly?

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Are Your Farm Records ...



- Open to all?
- Circulated monthly?
- Reviewed annually?
 - cash vs. accrual
 - <u>cost</u> and <u>market value</u> balance sheets
 - profit & cost center (enterprise) analysis
 - key ratio calculations trend analysis

Confucius say: "People do what is inspected... not what is expected!"

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Peer Groups Comparisons

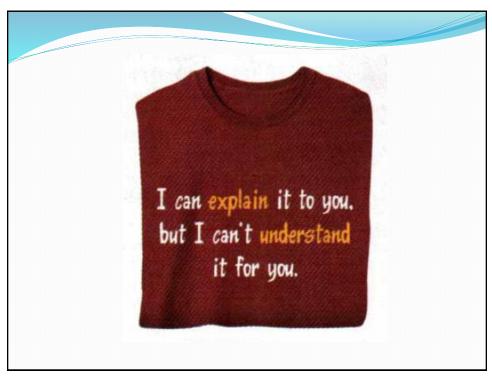
Benchmark Groups

- FBFM Associations
- "20 Groups" Spader
- Local "information exchange" groups

"Comparability" Pitfalls

- Non-standardized data
- Dissimilar operations, agronomics, climate, enterprises
- Un-reconciled year-year data





Financial Literacy Resources

- Farm Futures Magazine/FFSC Financial Boot Camp
- → <a href="https://www.farmfuturessummit.com/en/ag-finance-boot-camp/boot-c
- King Ranch Institute Managerial Acctg Lectureship
- → http://krirm.tamuk.edu/accounting/
- NW Farm Credit System Learning Center
- → www.northwestfcs.com/eLearning
- Centrec Consulting
- → www.centrec.com/self-study
- Farm Financial Standards Council Financial Guidelines
- → www.FFSC.org
- Wittman Consulting-Financial models, templates, trend sheets
- → www.wittmanconsulting.com
- FINPACK ratio definitions, templates
- → www.cffm.umn.edu/finpack/
- Wisconsin-PDPW: Financial Literacy Program
- ${\color{blue} \Rightarrow \ pwww.pdpw.org/programs/PDPWFinancialLiteracyForDairy20192020/details}}$
- Kansas (Approved for FSA Borrowers Financial Training Credit)
- <u>Kansas:www.agmanager.info/events/farm-financial-skills-kansas-women-agriculture</u>

Time to Head to the Barn!

Key Points - Finance I

- Your challenge: Data \rightarrow Information \rightarrow Knowledge \rightarrow *Better* Decisions
- Add key financial "gauges" to your dashboard
- Use proven models to <u>optimize</u> results
- <u>Empower</u> whole business team to <u>understand</u> and <u>benefit</u> from good financial mgmt



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Do we seek better management skills "just for the fun of it?"

Wheel of Life- 7 Habits