

Farm Management Decision Analysis. (A07-hawkins075022-Oral)

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Abstract:

With the application of new technologies in agriculture, farmers receive a tremendous amount of information. However, most of the decisions are made intuitively and farmers do not utilize the whole spectrum of information available to them. A decision analysis methodology was developed and applied at two Purdue Agricultural Centers and six commercial farms. This methodology is a description of the structure of the farm level decision-making process for crop production, including precision agricultural practices. It enables identification of the actual information needs for making decisions. The farming operations for crop production and the decisions for every operation were listed. Each decision was analyzed and decision frequency determined. The supporting information, processing mechanisms, tools and resources were determined. The decision analysis process can be used to communicate the structure of agricultural production to farmers, students, consultants and the non-ag public.

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