

Form OS

OFF-SITE DELIVERY OF AN EXISTING PROGRAM FORM

Sponsoring Institution(s): Southeast Missouri State University
(campus or off-campus residential center
in the case of multi-campus institutions)

Program Title: Department of Agriculture

Degree/Certificate: B.S. – Agribusiness (Plant and Soil Science Option)

Institution Granting Degree: Southeast Missouri State University

Delivery Site(s): Southeast Missouri State University – Sikeston
Southeast Missouri State University – Kennett
Southeast Missouri State University – Malden
Three Rivers Community College (junior and senior
years only)

Mode of Program Delivery: Combination of face to face, ITV, and WEB-based

Geographic Location of Student Access: Southeast Missouri State University – Sikeston
Southeast Missouri State University – Kennett
Southeast Missouri State University – Malden
Three Rivers Community College at Poplar Bluff
(junior and senior years only)

CIP Classification
(provide a CIP code): 01.0102

Implementation Date: Fall, 2010

Cooperative Partners: Three Rivers Community College

AUTHORIZATION

Dr. Jane Stephens, Provost _____
Name/Title of Institutional Officer Signature Date

Dr. Michael Aide, Chairperson _____ (573) 651-2796
Person to Contact for More Information Telephone

NEED, DUPLICATION, AND COLLABORATION

2. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A. Student Demand:

The Department of Agriculture desires to advance the educational opportunities for undergraduate students pursuing agribusiness and agriculture careers by placing the existing Agribusiness / Plant and Soil (degree/option) at (i) Southeast Missouri State University-Sikeston, (ii) Southeast Missouri State University-Malden, (iii) Southeast Missouri State University-Kennett, and (iv) Southeast Missouri State University at Poplar Bluff. The program at Southeast Missouri State University at Poplar Bluff will only involve the junior and senior years, allowing Three Rivers Community College to utilize their AA degree program to support the freshman and sophomore curriculum.

The Department of Agriculture at Southeast Missouri State University estimates that approximately 20 to 30 students from the seven counties (Scott, Mississippi, Pemiscot, New Madrid, Stoddard, Dunklin, Butler) that constitute the “Missouri Bootheel” elect to attend agricultural studies at Arkansas State University because of their extensive emphasis on the plant sciences. A similar number of students elect to attend Mississippi State University because of their extensive emphasis on the plant sciences, especially row-crop and horticulture. An unknown number of students attend Murray State University (KY). There is every indication that the majority of these students would attend a Missouri agriculture program that was plant science oriented and geographically centered in the “Missouri Bootheel”. Thus, from an agricultural education perspective, these seven counties have not been well-served by Southeast Missouri State University or the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Contributing to the lack of student preference to attend Southeast Missouri State University as an Agribusiness major is a cultural/agricultural divide that exists between (i) the agricultural region encompassing Cape Girardeau County and regions to the north and (ii) the counties constituting the “Missouri Bootheel”. This line of demarcation transitions the Midwest mixed-farming belt (cattle, forages and row-crops intended for animal usage) with the Mid-South agriculture, which is primarily based on larger farms having row-crop (soybeans, cotton, rice) as cash-sale commodities. The associated agribusinesses that serve these two agriculture belts reflect agriculture differences in product sales, technologies and economies of scale. Thus, the content of the agribusiness degree should reflect the unique situations of these two diverse regions, rather than imposing the mid-west farming perspective on students from the Mid-South region.

B. Market Demand:

The Missouri Bootheel region and its extension into Arkansas and Mississippi will rapidly become the most productive, sustained agriculture region in the world. The Central Valley of California is experiencing difficulties associated with labor costs, urbanization and water availability. None of these concerns are major issues in the Lower Mississippi River Valley.

The intensive and spatially diverse agricultural production capacity of the Missouri Bootheel is illustrated in Figures 1 to 6. State ranks for soybean, rice, cotton and corn position this region as Missouri's leader. Other products not listed include grain sorghum, wheat, potatoes, melons, peaches, strawberries, green and lima beans, pecans, etc.

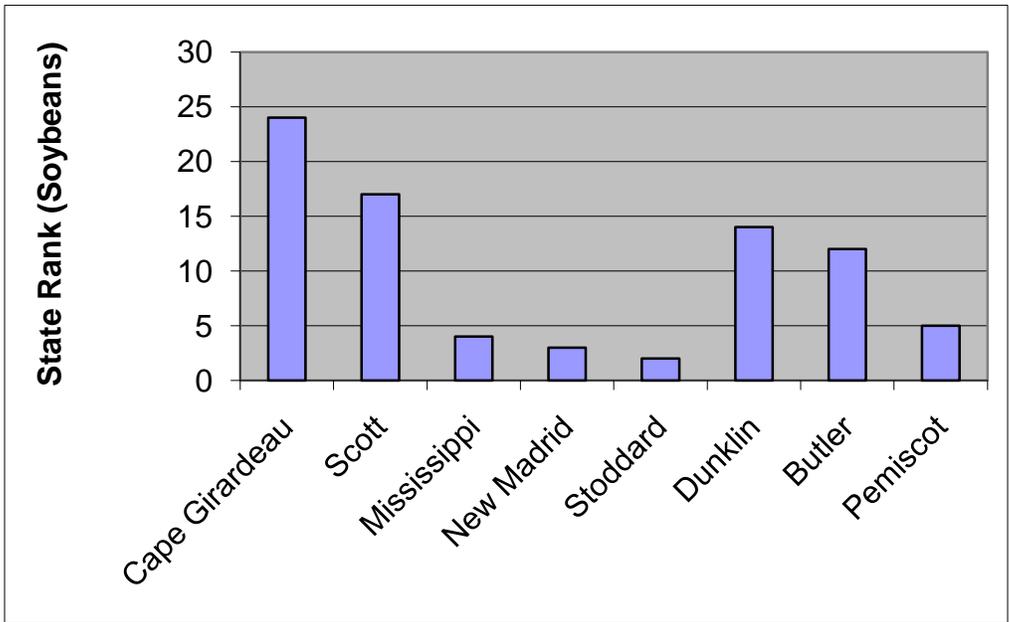


Figure 1. State rankings for soybean production in Missouri.
 (Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.)

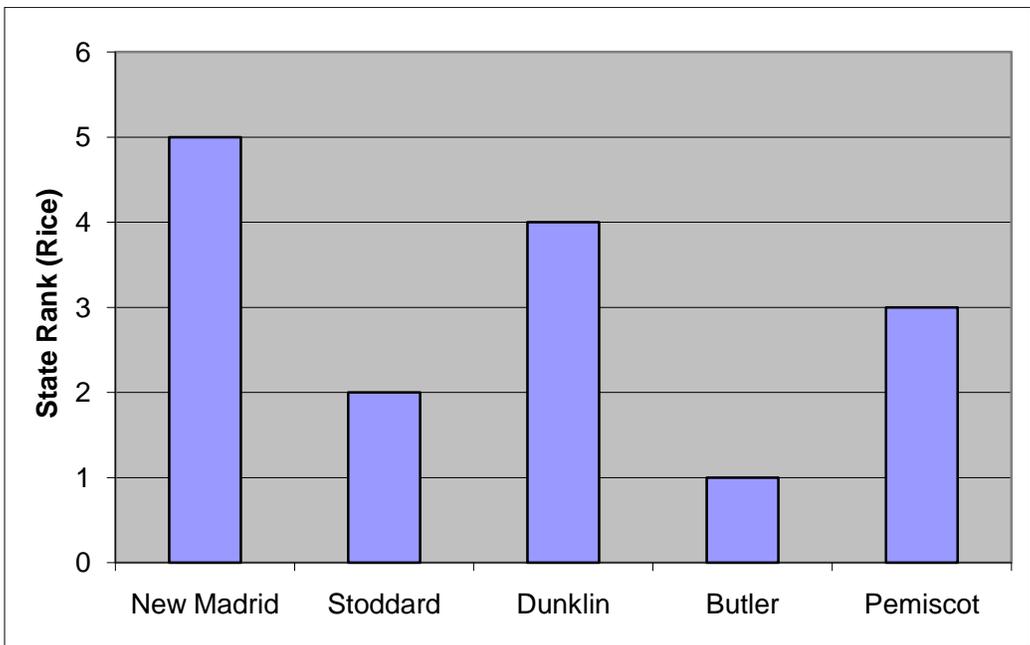


Figure 2. State rankings for rice production in Missouri.
 (Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.)

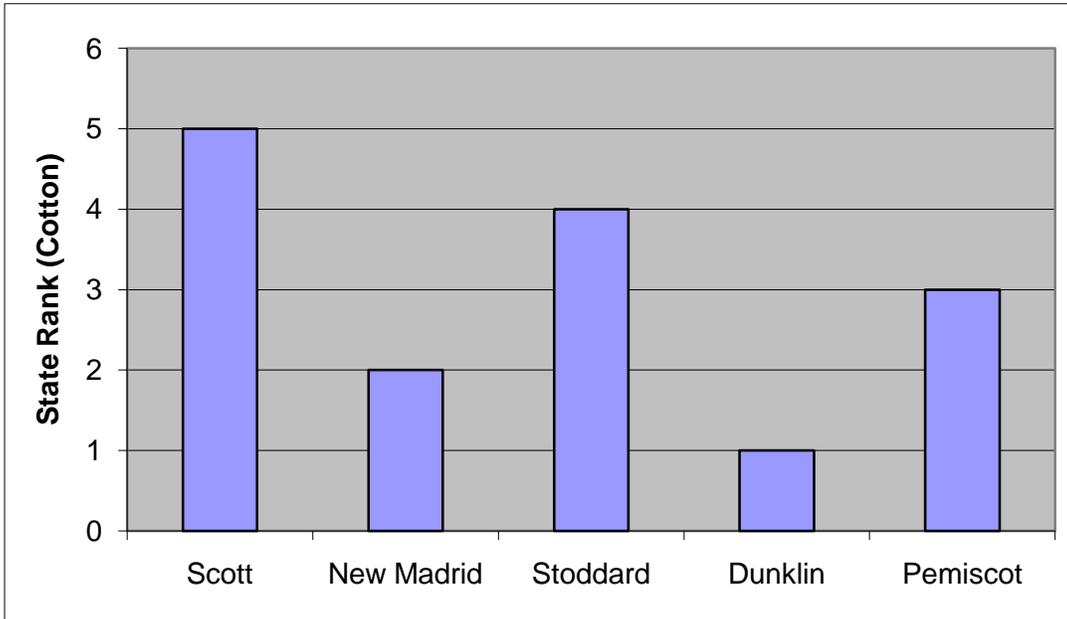


Figure 3. State rankings for Cotton production in Missouri.
 (Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.)

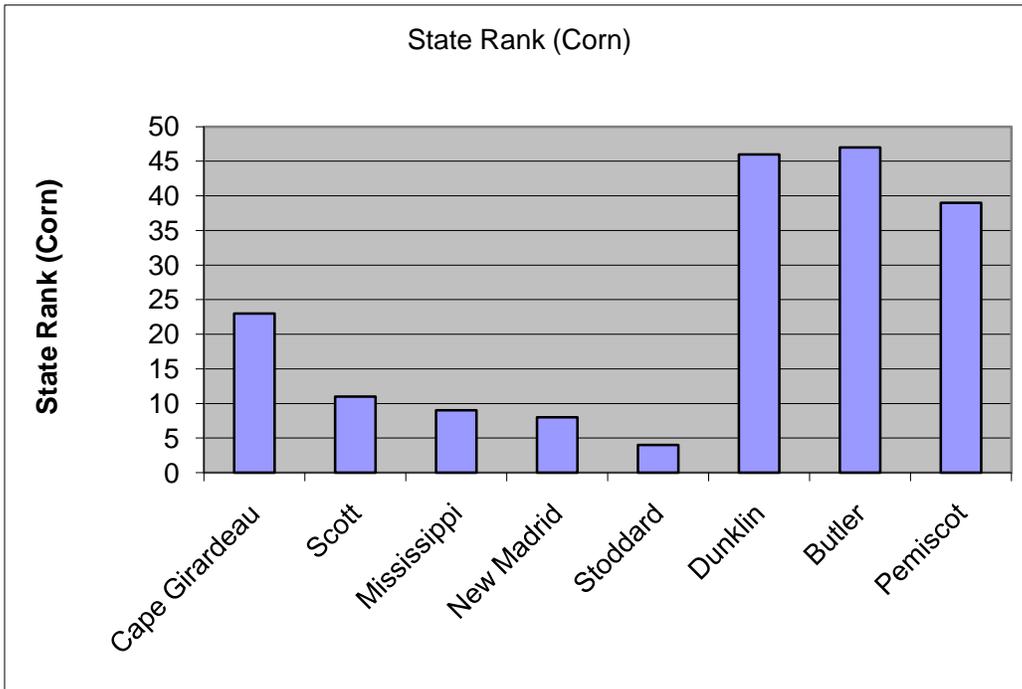


Figure 4. State rankings for corn production in Missouri. (Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.)

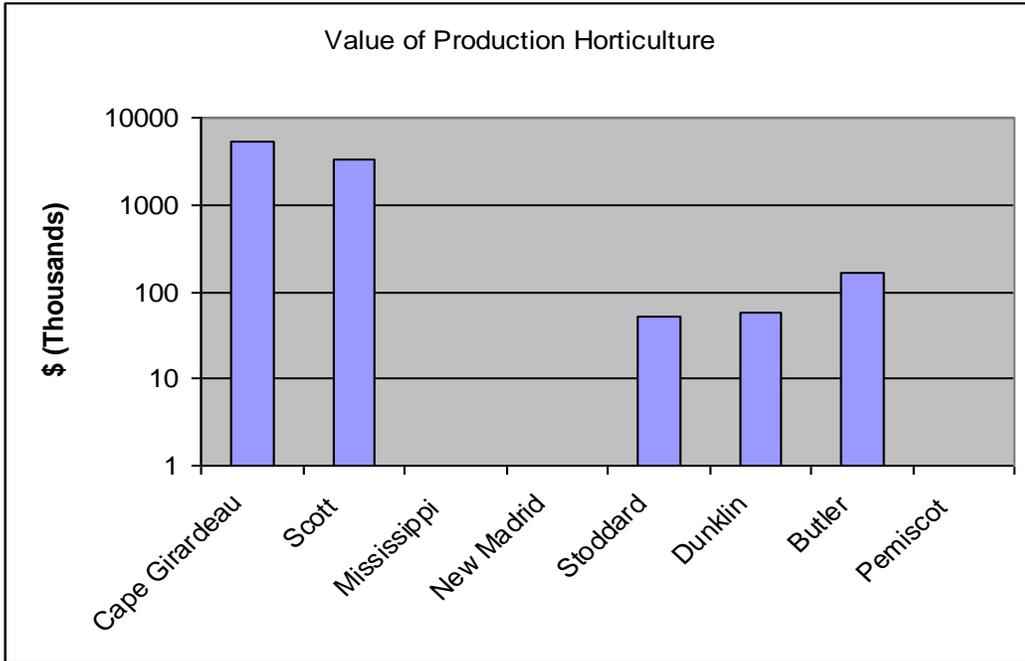


Figure 5. Production horticulture value (\$millions) in Southeastern Missouri. (Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.) (Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, sod).

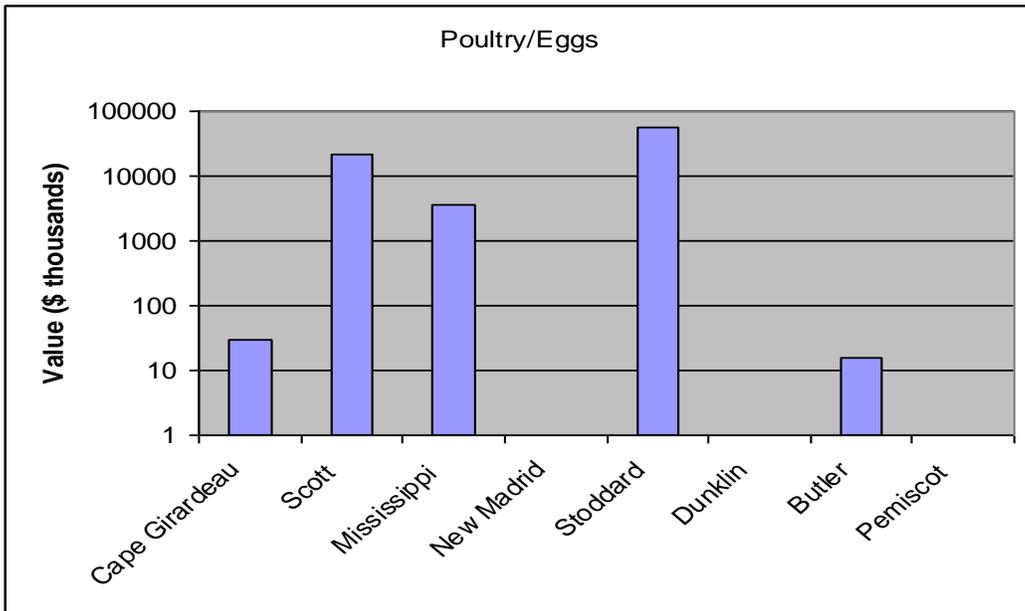


Figure 6. Production value of poultry/eggs (\$millions) in Southeastern Missouri. (Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.)

Each of these components of the agriculture sector requires expert management and associated agribusiness that provide products and services. The revenue generated by the agriculture sector in southeastern Missouri is generally partitioned into row-crops and livestock, with row-crop agriculture the dominant revenue generator in all counties (Figure 7). Stoddard County is the number one agriculture county in Missouri and the seven counties of the Missouri Bootheel constitute nearly 40% of the agricultural output of Missouri. Most of the livestock industry in southeastern Missouri is devoted to beef cattle and poultry. Thus, the agriculture sector is the dominant economic sector and its maintenance is critical for both rural and urban prosperity.

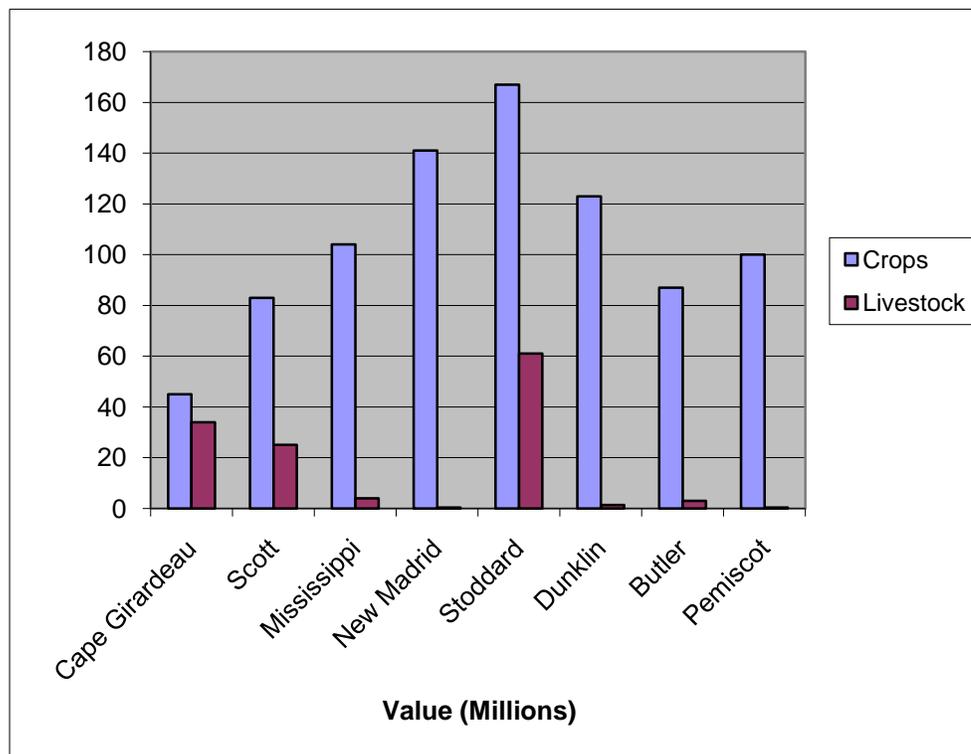


Figure 7. Production value (\$millions) in Southeastern Missouri.
 (Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.)

Missouri is the second leading state in the total number of farms (Texas #1). Although Cape Girardeau has the greatest number of farms (Figure 8), the farms of the Missouri Bootheel are generally larger (Figure 9).

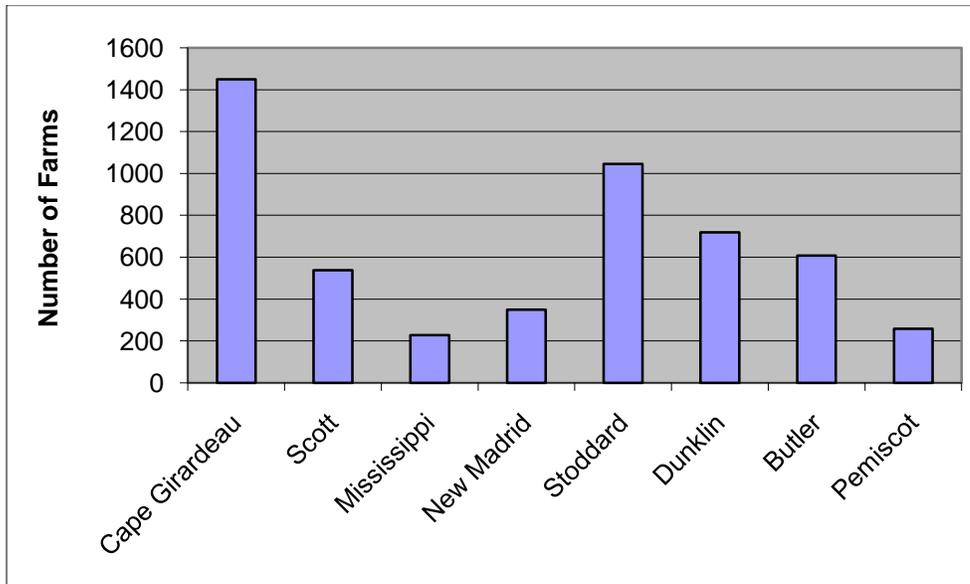


Figure 8. Number of farms in Southeastern Missouri.
 (Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.)

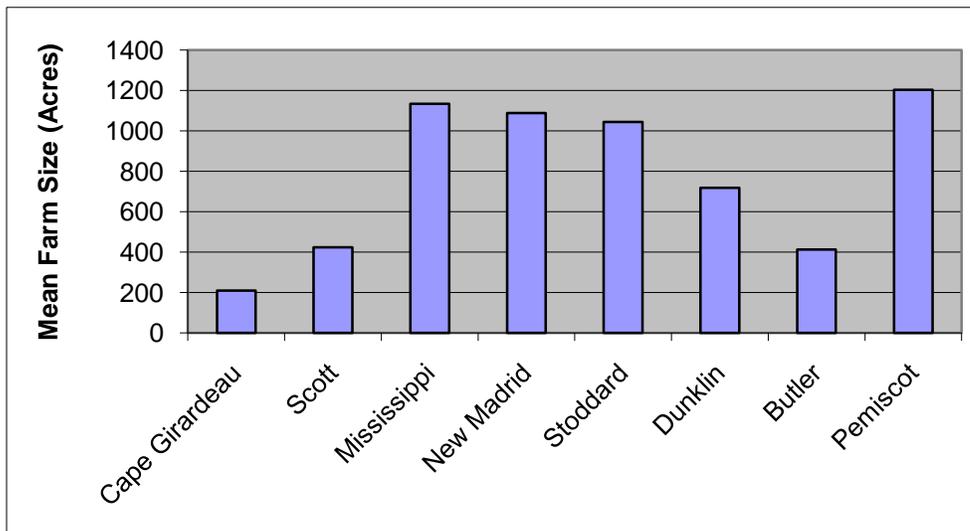


Figure 9. Mean farm size (acres) in Southeastern Missouri.
 (Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.)

An economic study called “WIRED” stated that southeastern Missouri suffers from a lack of technical talent and training capacity to meet the technology and start-up support necessary for economic expansion, particularly in the agriculture/agribusiness sector (Source: WIRED: Commerce Corridor of Southeast Missouri, Produced by Tamerica Management Company, Manderville, LA 70448). Similarly, MERIC (Missouri Economic Research and Information Center) states that farm managers (317 in 2006 and 375

projected (18.3% growth) in 2016) is a key career growth prospect for southeastern Missouri. Similarly, Sales representatives (majority located in the Agriculture / Agribusiness sector) are currently assessed at 361 and projected for 423 in 2016 (17.2% growth).

C. Societal Demand

Southeast Missouri has a critical need for promoting higher education in many disciplines, including Agriculture/Agribusiness. The population of the Missouri Bootheel is most adequate to support an undergraduate Agriculture/Agribusiness program in the region.

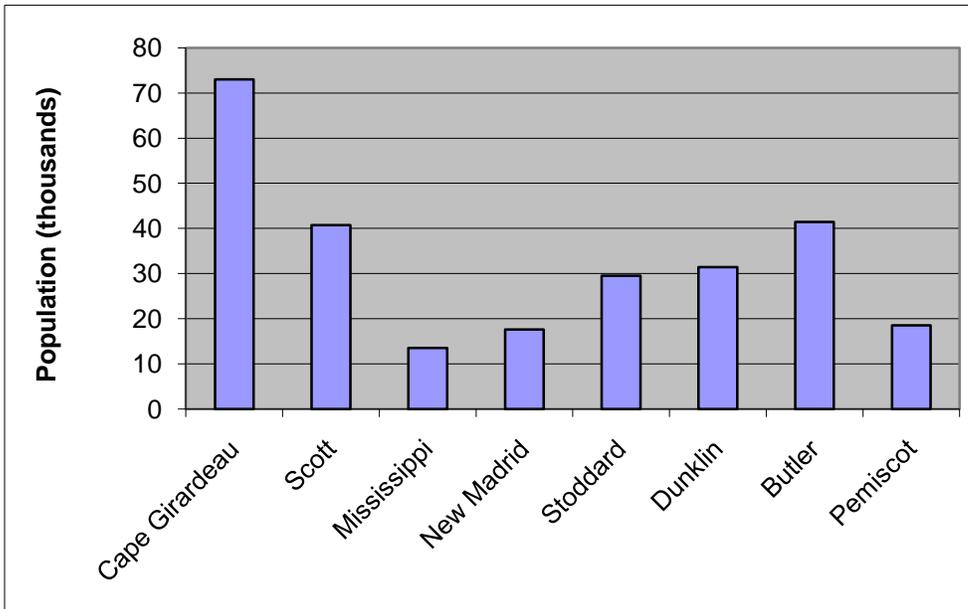


Figure 10. Population of counties in Southeastern Missouri.
(Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture-County Profile, USDA-National Ag. Statistics Service.)

However, the number of higher education graduates in the Missouri Bootheel substantially lags behind the national and state means (Figure 11). The number of high school graduates, including an appreciable percentage of African-American students, is smaller than the national average. The percentage of people below the age of 18 years suggests a substantial pool of talent capable of higher education, particularly in educational opportunities exist (Figure 12 and 13).

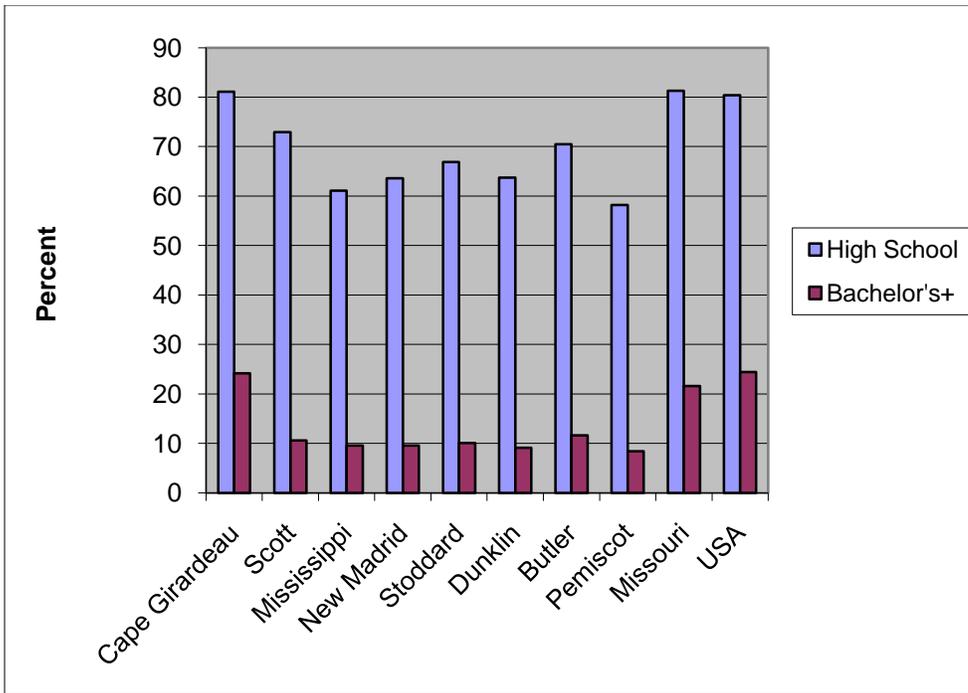


Figure 11. Educational attainment in Southeastern Missouri.
 (Source: 2008 U.S. Census Bureau-<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/29000.html>)

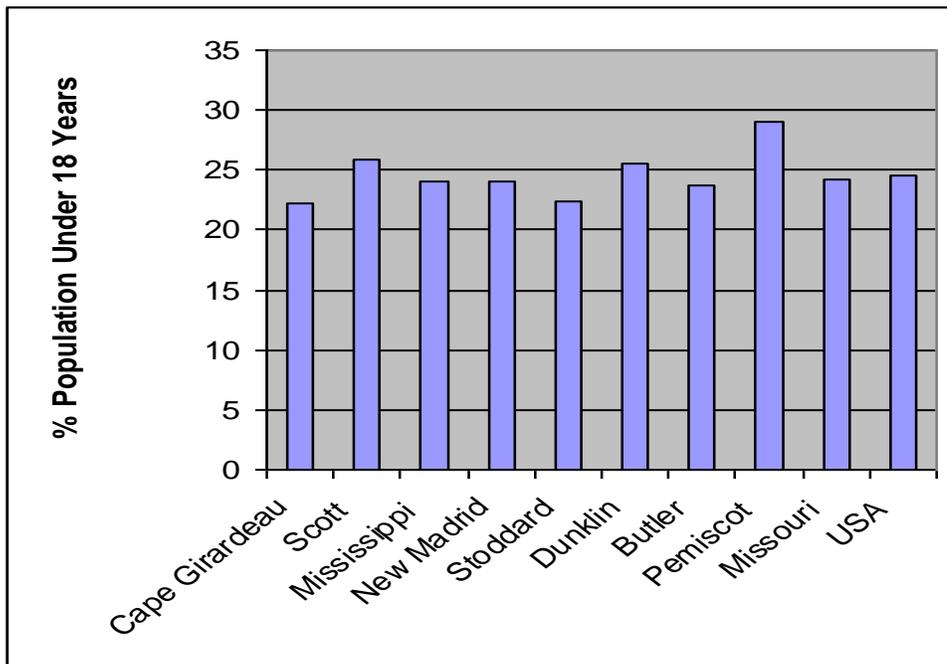


Figure 12. Percent of Population under 18 years in Southeastern Missouri.
 (Source: 2008 U.S. Census Bureau-<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/29000.html>)

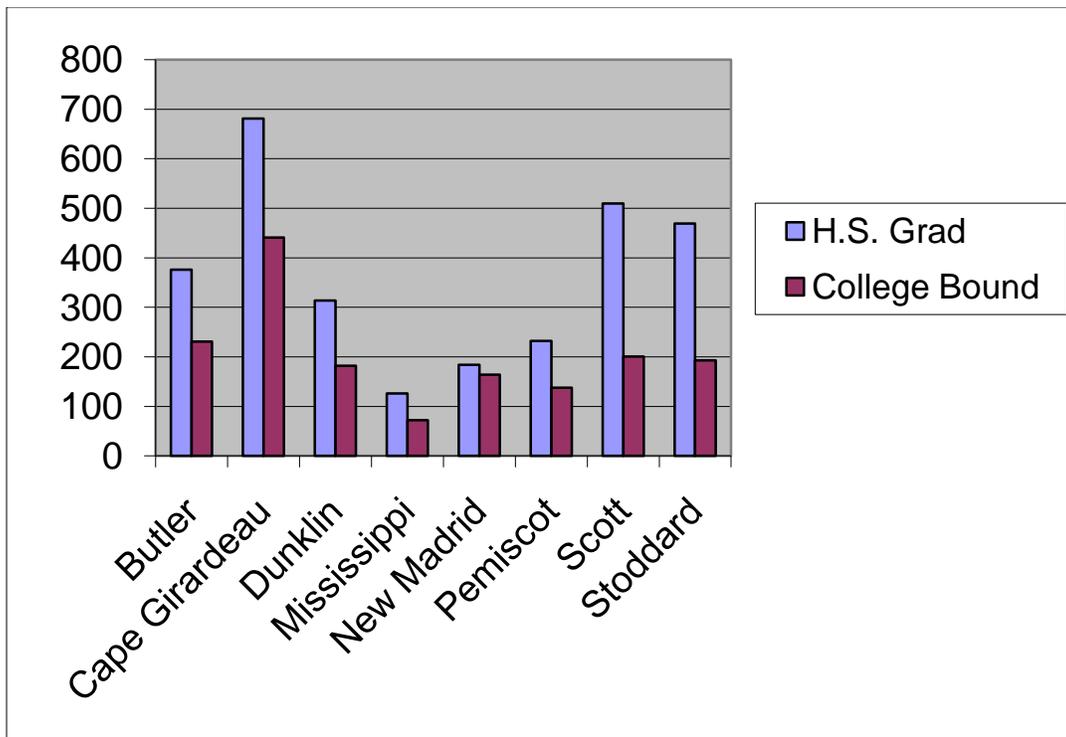


Figure 13. Comparison of H.S. graduates and college bound students.
 (Source: Wired: Commerce Corridor of Southeast Missouri, Produced by Tamerica Management Company, Manderville, LA 70448)

Also of critical importance is the need to augment family income throughout the region. Medium family income lags behind the state and national means (Figure 14).

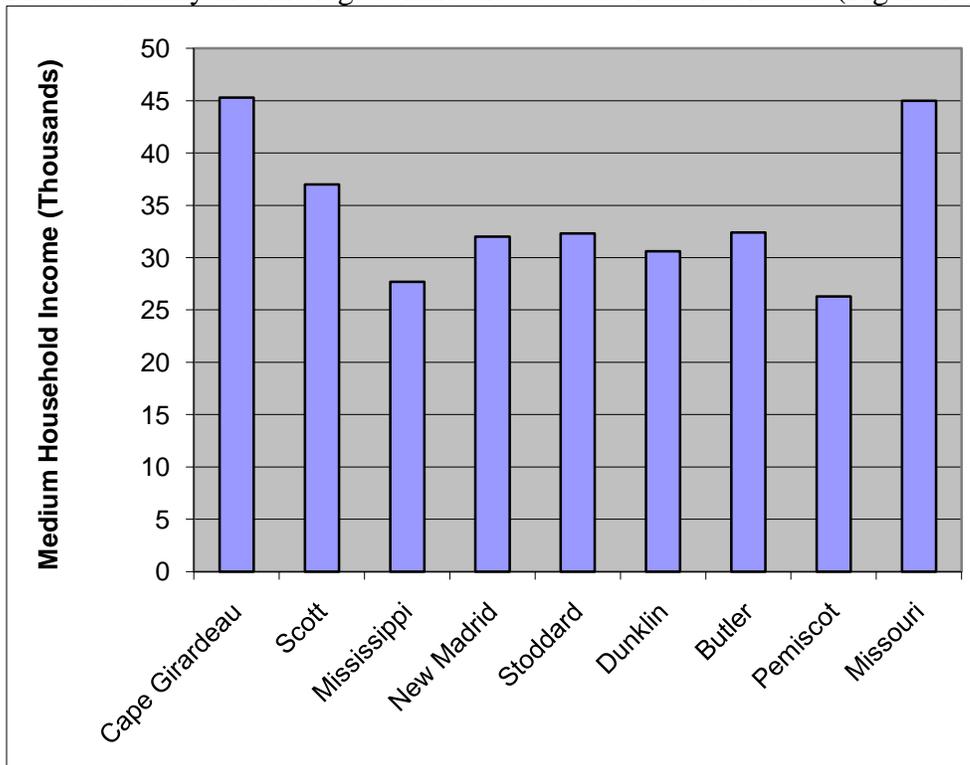


Figure 14. Medium household income of counties in Southeastern Missouri.
(Source: 2008 U.S. Census Bureau-<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/29000.html>)

An undergraduate program in Agriculture and Agribusiness would promote new talent for operating and managing the regions farms and associate enterprises. The growth of the agriculture sector will generate income that will spur new business growth and greater employment for a variety of citizens. The enhanced economic opportunities will elevate family income and provide greater incentives for young people to pursue higher education.

D. Community Needs Assessment

Our working assumption is “augmenting agriculture and agribusiness in southeastern Missouri promotes agribusiness expansion, leading to increased employment possibilities for the agriculture sector and other economic sectors dependent upon the agriculture sector”. Additionally, the Department of Agriculture at Southeast Missouri State University has also met publicly with local Chambers of Commerce and service organizations (Lions International, etc) in Dexter, Sikeston, Charleston, Malden, Poplar Bluff and other municipalities and the department has received clear indications that an undergraduate agriculture program is a critical need. These statistics and other personal communications present a compelling case for undergraduate agriculture located in the Missouri Bootheel.

3. DUPLICATION AND COLLABORATION

Currently, there is no local agriculture/agribusiness programs available to residents in the Missouri Bootheel region. The closest program in Missouri are at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.

The agribusiness major at Southeast Missouri State University (Sikeston/Kennett/Malden) consists of University Studies courses and discipline specific courses. Southeast Missouri State University will offer the University Studies courses as either face to face, WEB or ITV. Discipline specific courses will be offered primarily as ITV and WEB, with all laboratories offered face to face. The agribusiness major at Southeast Missouri State University at Poplar Bluff will use Three Rivers Community College freshman and sophomore courses (articulation agreements are in operation) and the junior and senior courses will be offered by Southeast Missouri State University at Poplar Bluff, using the same teaching vehicles as developed for Southeast Missouri State University (Sikeston/Kennett/Malden).

Form CL

COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS

Sponsoring Institutions: Southeast Missouri State University

Degree Program: B.S. – Agribusiness (Plant and Soil Science Option)

Length of agreement
(open-ended or limited): Open-ended

1. Which institution(s) will have degree-granting authority?

Southeast Missouri State University

2. Which institution(s) will have the authority for faculty hiring, course assignment, evaluation, and reappointment decisions?

The Department of Agriculture at Southeast Missouri State University will have authority for faculty hiring, course assignment, evaluation, and reappointment decisions at Sikeston, Kennett, and Malden.

The Department of Agriculture at Southeast Missouri State University will have authority for faculty hiring, course assignment, evaluation, and reappointment decisions for the last two (junior and senior) years at Poplar Bluff.

3. What agreements exist to ensure that faculty from all participating institutions will be involved in decisions about the curriculum, admissions standards, exit requirements?

The Department of Agriculture at Southeast Missouri State University will be responsible for the decisions after consultation with our partners at Three Rivers Community College.

4. Which institution(s) will be responsible for academic and student-support services, e.g., registration, advising, library, academic assistance, financial aid, etc.?

Southeast Missouri State University.

5. What agreements exist to ensure that the academic calendars of the participating institutions have been aligned as needed?

Previous 2+2 programs have already established appropriate protocols.

6. In addition to the information provided by each participating institution regarding Financial Projections (Form FP), please address the following items:

- A. How will tuition rates be determined if they differ among the institutions?

Tuition rates are those of Southeast Missouri State University.

- B. Has a formal agreement been developed regarding cost-sharing policies? If yes, please include it as part of the proposal. If no, please summarize the current understanding between all parties and the plans for developing a formal agreement.

There are no cost-sharing issues.

- C. What arrangements, if any, have been made for exchange of money between participating institutions?

There will be no obligations.

7. What commitments have been made by all participants to evaluate the program systematically?

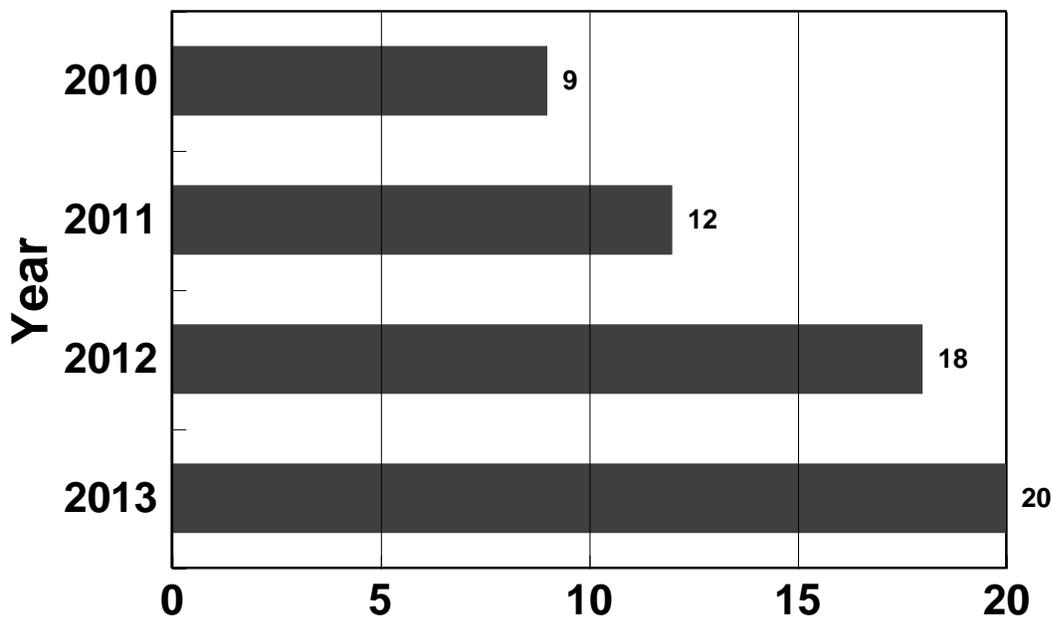
Southeast Missouri State University will be responsible for program evaluation based upon already established criteria by the Department of Agriculture.

8. If one institution wishes to discontinue the program, what agreements exist for terminating the offering?

After consulting with affected partners, Southeast Missouri State University reserves the right to terminate programs based on established University policy.

20 for 2011-2012, 27 for 2012-2013, and 35 for 2013-2014. Of these students, in 2012-2013 and 2013-2014, half were freshmen and sophomores and half were juniors and seniors (Table 4). Because much of the instruction is performed by ITV and WEB, students in courses at Southeast Missouri State University (Sikeston/Kennett/Malden) and Southeast Missouri State University at Poplar Bluff will have student counterparts at the main campus, thus class enrollments should be substantial.

Please note that the Department has pledged five scholarships (\$1000 each) for the freshman year for incoming student at the Southeast Missouri State University Centers (Sikeston/Kennett/Malden).



Total Students at all Centers

Figure 15. Student projections for the combined off-campus aggregate.

Student and Program Outcomes

Three year graduation rate is 0 students.

Five year graduation rate is 9 by the Center Directors' estimate, and 12 by Extended Learning's estimate

Program Accreditation

There are no accreditation programs in the discipline of agriculture.

Alumni and Employer Survey

The Department of Agriculture has a comprehensive assessment plan that will be duplicated at Southeast Missouri State University (Sikeston/Kennett/Malden). Typically, the surveys are administered one and three years post-graduation.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

General Oversight

As with all off-campus programs at Southeast Missouri State University, the B.S. in Agribusiness (Plant and Soil Science option) degree will be jointly administered by the Department of Agriculture and the School of Extended Learning. The Department of Agriculture will be responsible for all matters related to the academic administration of the program, including advising, course selection and scheduling and faculty selection. Extended Learning will provide administrative support which will rely on the administrative staff at Southeast Missouri State University (Sikeston/Kennett/Malden) and Southeast Missouri State University at Poplar Bluff.

The Department of Agriculture will use the Department's Advisory Committee composed of agribusiness professionals to oversee program quality and assist the faculty in recruiting and retaining students. The Advisory Committee will be expanded to include representatives from each of the service areas of Southeast Missouri State University (Sikeston/ Kennett/Malden) and Southeast Missouri State University at Poplar Bluff.

Faculty Qualifications

Plans call for the use of regular, full-time Department of Agriculture faculty to teach most of the program. The allied sciences are already available. We anticipate that AG334 (Agribusiness Finance), AG470 (Agribusiness Sales), AG447 (Marketing of Agriculture Products may be taught by adjunct faculty. The department desires to employ adjunct faculty who are noted experts in these fields to broaden the teaching perspective. If budget constraints are an issue, the Department of Agriculture has faculty who regularly teach these courses and they will be used. Additionally, the Department of Agriculture desires to use selected faculty of the University of Missouri-Columbia (Delta Research Station in Portageville Missouri) to teach selected courses, again to broaden the teaching perspective. As with selected agribusiness professionals, using Delta Center faculty is incumbent on funding and the Department of Agriculture will use departmental faculty as required.

Support Services

The administrative staff at Southeast Missouri State University (Sikeston /Kennett/Malden) and Southeast Missouri State University at Poplar Bluff maintain a close working relationship with all on-campus administrative and support programs/departments. Consequently, the support services for this program, for both faculty and students, are comparable to the provision of those same services on the main campus.

Southeast Missouri State University (Sikeston/Kennett/Malden) and Southeast Missouri State University at Poplar Bluff have staff trained to assist students with admissions and financial aid, have an academic advisor who will work with the program coordinator, and maintain modern classrooms with adequate technological support. The Department of Agriculture will transport needed equipment from the main campus to support its laboratories. Library and computer support is appropriate. Courier service is a most dependable service.

FORM SE

STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full-Time	5	6	9	10	10
Part-Time	4	6	9	10	10
TOTAL	9	12	18	20	20