

The first program will be in North Platte on Sept. 9 and 10, Nov. 16 and 17 and Dec. 14 and 15. Register by Aug. 1.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension specialists, in collaboration with agricultural educators and businesses across the state, have developed a new comprehensive business management program for agricultural business owners.

“The program provides comprehensive management experience for farmers and ranchers regardless of what they raise or how much they raise,” said Jessica Jones, extension educator in Johnson County and member of the Husker Ag SMARTS planning committee. “The ultimate goal is to increase the sustainability and profitability of these producers.”

Husker Ag SMARTS will focus on Strengthening Management Abilities, Responsiveness and Technical Skills. The six-day intensive program will cover strategic and scenario planning, human resource management, production costs budgeting and financial analysis, marketing and risk management, land issues and estate planning.

Participants will take part in interactive discussions, case study analysis, hands-on training and practice, computer-based simulations and discussions with successful individuals in agribusiness.

The program consists of three different meetings that each last two days. The second program will be in Aurora on Nov. 9 and 10, Dec. 7 and 8 and Jan. 18 and 19.

Registration for the North Platte program is \$600 before Aug. 1 and \$650 after. Registration for the Aurora program is \$600 before Oct. 1 and \$650 after. This covers all educational materials and meals. Participants are responsible for travel and lodging expenses.

Go to <http://johnson.unl.edu> to download an application. Mail this and a \$100 deposit to UNL–West Central Research and Extension Center, c/o Matt Stockton, 402 West State Farm Road, North Platte, NE 69101.

Enrollment is limited to 20 people per session. Deposits will be refunded if space is not available. The full balance is due by the beginning of the first day.