

# 2025 SRMEC Project Director Training

Extension Risk Management Education  
(ERME) Program

Ronald Rainey  
Director

**Southern Risk Management Education Center  
University of Arkansas**

**Website:** <http://srmec.uada.edu/>

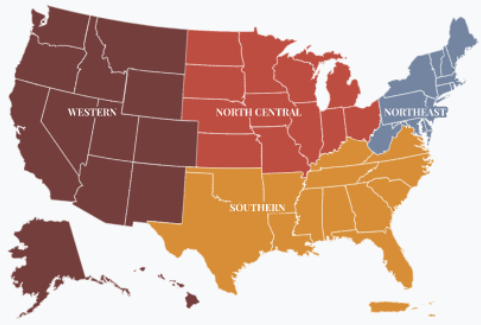
**Email:** [srmec@uada.edu](mailto:srmec@uada.edu)

# Extension Risk Management Education : Managing risk drives success

([extensionrme.org](http://extensionrme.org))

## Extension Risk Management Education

*"Educating America's farmers and ranchers to manage the unique risks of producing food for the world's table."*



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Projects are producer-focused, outcomes-based and encourage public-private partnerships. Funded projects must identify targeted outcomes that will help producers manage risk and then describe how the project will measure those outcomes.

Extension Risk Management Education has funded innovative programs that have generated tangible outcomes for producers in every state. Commitment to funding outcomes, providing transparent accountability, and encouraging collaboration allow you to view the accomplishments of all funded projects on this website.

**ERME Events & Activities**



Extension Risk Management Education  
2023 National Conference  
Chicago, IL

[Learn More](#)

**Western Center**

Washington State University Extension  
(509) 477-2168  
[westrme.wsu.edu](http://westrme.wsu.edu)

**North Central Center**

University of Nebraska – Lincoln Extension  
(402) 472-1742  
[www.ncerme.org](http://www.ncerme.org)

**Northeast Center**

University of Delaware Cooperative Extension  
[www.nerme.org](http://www.nerme.org)

**Southern Center**

University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture  
(501) 671-2165  
[srmecc.uada.edu](http://srmecc.uada.edu)

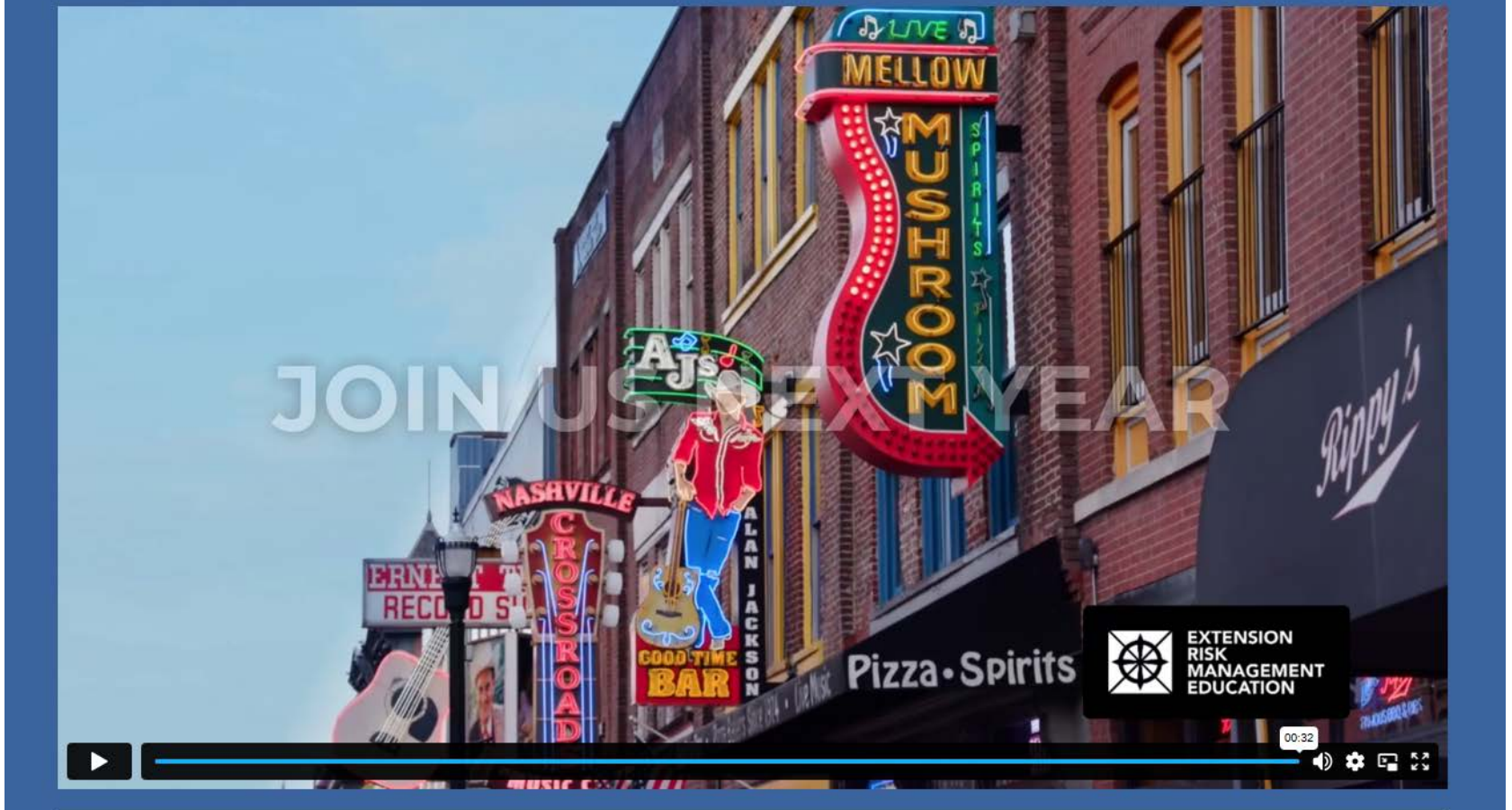
**ERME Infographic**



2022

See how ERME continues to help farmers manage risks to increase profitability

### What is Risk Management?



## DoubleTree by Hilton Nashville Downtown

April 1-3, 2025

315 Fourth Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

# 2025 ERME National Conference April 1 – 3, 2025



SOUTHERN  
EXTENSION  
RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION

# Empowering Producers to Manage Risks

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Enhancing  
Quality of  
Farm Family Life



Providing a  
Safe & Secure  
Food Supply



Improving  
Rural  
Prosperity



Strengthening  
Economic  
Viability




<https://srmec.uada.edu/>


# Website Navigation - Reporting



Results Verification System

RVS is designed to help organizations:

-  Manage grant programs
-  Submit grant applications
-  Report accomplishments

 [Learn more about RVS](#)

Email Address

Password

[Sign In](#)

[Forgot your password?](#)

[Create New Account](#)

## About RVS

The **Results Verification System** is an integrated grant application and reporting system designed to facilitate reporting the accomplishments of funded programs.



# Website Navigation - Reporting

## Reporting Requirements for Education Projects

[ACCESS FOR PROJECT REPORTING](#)

All reporting is conducted online, and is submitted through the Results Verification System (RVS) – the same system utilized for the application process. Upon approval, the **Final Report** for each project will become a **public document**, and will be accessible for viewing through the national Extension Risk Management Education Program [website](#).

- **Progress Reports – 2023 Grant awardees** have a contractual requirement to submit five Progress Reports for their projects which are due:
  - July 1, 2023
  - October 1, 2023
  - January 1, 2024
  - April 1, 2024
  - July 1, 2024
- **Final Report is due October 30, 2024.**

## Reporting Requirements for Education for Producers Underserved by Crop Insurance Projects

[ACCESS FOR PROJECT REPORTING](#)

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# Evaluation Measures

If you are uploading a resource to measure what took place because of your project, please check for each resource the (1) type of measurement; (2) time of measurement; and, (3) method of measurement.

Type of measurement	Method of measurement (check all that apply):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Direct measure</li> <li>✓ Indirect measure</li> </ul> <p>Direct measures demonstrate participant learning. Learning is observable in the form of actual products such as presentations, portfolios, test results, etc.</p> <p>Indirect measures imply that learning takes place by asking participants' perceptions or attitudes about their learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Observation (draft business plan, permit; application)</li> <li>✓ Peer assessment of product or skill</li> <li>✓ Self-assessment of a product or skill</li> <li>✓ Photos, screen capture, video (before/after)</li> <li>✓ Questionnaire/survey</li> <li>✓ Interview (individual, group)</li> <li>✓ Submitted/approved document (application, permit, report)</li> <li>✓ Test</li> <li>✓ Testimonial</li> <li>✓ Logs, records</li> <li>✓ Other</li> </ul>
Time of measurement	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Before participant learning session(s)</li> <li>✓ During participant learning session(s)</li> <li>✓ After participant learning session(s)</li> </ul>	

# Project Outcomes

Please update two items for each of your proposed project outcomes.

<b>Actual Number</b>	Update the <b>Method</b> you used to measure each of your proposed risk management outcomes. Select your methods from the list below.
<p>Enter the <b>Actual Number</b> of participants who accomplished each proposed risk management outcome.</p> <p><i>Your estimated number will remain with the report and will show as a comparison to the actual number when the report is viewed by the public. This can help others viewing your report see if the number of participants you estimated would reach each proposed risk management result was realistic for your audience.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Observation (draft business plan, permit; application)</li><li>• Peer assessment of product or skill</li><li>• Self-assessment of a product or skill</li><li>• Photos, screen capture, video (before/after)</li><li>• Questionnaire/survey</li><li>• Interview (individual, group)</li><li>• Submitted/approved document (application, permit, report)</li><li>• Test</li><li>• Testimonial</li><li>• Logs, records</li><li>• Other</li></ul>



# Project Participation

ERME defines project participation in two ways:

**Number of Project Participants** – This is an unduplicated count. An individual is counted only once, even though he or she may have participated in multiple educational sessions.

Enter the total number of unique participants (unduplicated count) in your project. This number should reflect the individuals who had **meaningful engagement** in your programming, and whose participation you have documented/verified.

**Educational Contacts** – This is a duplicated count. An individual is counted every time he or she participates in one or more of your educational sessions.

Record the number of educational contacts (duplicated count) made through your project’s different modes of educational delivery. You’ll see four types of project delivery: Meetings, Webinars, Websites and Online Courses. Your project may not use all these methods of delivery. Record educational contacts only for delivery methods used in your project. A tabbed menu allows you to access each section.

If your project has extended its reach through materials posted online and you have analytics identifying their utilization, please include that information in either the revised “Project Overview” or the “Projects Comments” sections of your report.

# Final Reports: Project Summary

1. Write a brief summary of your original project overview.
2. Review your proposed audience emphasis. Describe the degree to which you were able to reach your intended audience.
3. Briefly describe your implemented project's delivery strategies. How many participated in your project (limit to in-person meetings; webinars; online courses)?
4. Review your proposed project outcomes narrative. Compare what you proposed with the outcomes achieved. Describe how your project led to the outcomes achieved.
5. What advice would you give to someone who plans to implement a similar project?



# Final Reports – Reflections

The following questions ask you to step back and reflect on your project overall. You'll gain insight into ways you might improve future programs. Your reflections are also invaluable to your peers as they develop and implement programs to help farmers and producers identify and mitigate for risk.

## **Unexpected Results**

Unexpected results can be positive, negative, or neutral. Examples of unexpected results are discovery of a new audience; unanticipated collaborations; multiplication of program delivery through partnerships; a key staff change and/or direction with a sponsoring agency; lack of follow-through on commitments, etc.

As you reflect on the actual outcomes of your project, what surprises you?? What results you didn't plan for? Anticipate? Why did these results occur? What brought the greatest satisfaction (frustration, disappointment) to you?

## **Improving your Project in the Future**

What advice would you give to someone who plans to implement a program like yours? If you were to do this project again, what changes would you make? What would you do differently to achieve your intended participant outcomes?

## **Keys to Success**

What were the keys to success for your participants – describe what the primary success factors were and why they were important in helping participants reach the proposed risk management results. Include both your project team's perspective and those of the participants.

# Final Reports – Reflections, cont.

**Individual Producer Stories and Quotes:** Participant stories are a powerful means of communicating the value and success of a project. You are required to share at least one story that reflects the impact your project has had on individual participants. Include the following components in the specified order for your story.

<b>Producer Situation</b>	Why did the producer choose to participate in this program?
<b>Producer Actions</b>	What did the producer do differently because of his or her participation? Changes in his/her understanding? Something he/she developed? A practice he/she implemented?
<b>Producer Impact</b>	What are the perceived impacts of these actions in terms of the producer's farm/ranch, family, business, etc.?
<b>Producer Testimonials</b>	Include participant quotes. These may be specific to the individual story you've recorded above. You may also include a sample of quotes collected during workshops, on evaluations, or unsolicited comments from participants.

*Do not include individual names in the stories and/or quotes. Use other means to refer to a participant such as, "A producer from Washington County..." or "A 32-year old producer from Lincoln City..." or "A beginning farmer with four years of experience..."*

## Funding Acknowledgment Requirements

While your grant has been awarded by the Southern Center, the funding is ultimately from USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). The regulations governing the use of these federal funds require that the following acknowledgment of support – and the two logos noted below – must be utilized on all promotional materials, presentations, media releases, and project materials developed for programming funded by this grant:

**USDA NIFA AWARD NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

In addition to the statement above, both the USDA-NIFA logo and Southern Extension Risk Management Education Center logo must be used on all printed materials, including those produced in electronic format. Please utilize whatever size best fits your printed/electronic material.

To use the NIFA logo, please visit: <https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/official-nifa-identifier> and use the identifier “as-is” (refer to the webpage for specific details on formats).



To use the Southern Center logo, right click on the logo below and “Save As” to your desktop or another file.





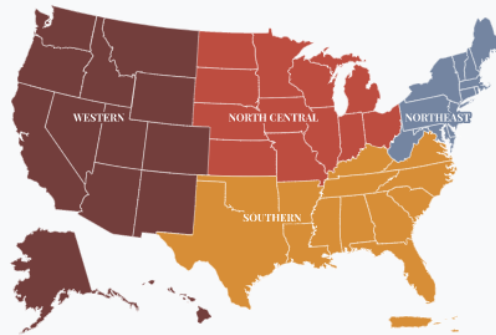
**COMPLETED PROJECTS**

**ALL FUNDED PROJECTS**

**SUCCESS STORIES**

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### Northeast Center

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Delaware  
Cooperative  
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### Southern Center

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Education  
2023 National Conference  
Chicago, IL

[Learn More](#)

### ERME Infographic



2022

See how ERME continues to help farmers manage risks to increase profitability

## What is Risk Management?

# **SRMEC 2024 Projects of Excellence**

- ❖ Where's the Beef? Economic and Legal Considerations for Direct Beef Sales. Texas A&M University**
- ❖ Risk Management Education for Socially Disadvantaged, Veteran, and Beginning Farmers & Ranchers. Virginia State University**
- ❖ Farmer Risk Management Rebound from COVID-19. Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project**



# Where's the Beef? Economic and Legal Considerations for Direct Beef Sales

Dr. Justin Benavidez and  
Tiffany Dowell Lashmet



TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION



SOUTHERN  
EXTENSION  
RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION



## Meet Our Team



**Tiffany Dowell Lashmet**  
**Agricultural Law Specialist**

- Tiffany has worked with AgriLife Extension in the AgEconomics Department for 10+ years



**Dr. Justin Benavidez**  
**Prior Economist**

- Dr. Benavidez is currently working as the Chief Economist for the House in Washington, D.C.



**Casey Matzke**  
**Project Manager**

- Casey joined Tiffany's team in the Fall of 2022







# 2024 Extension Risk Management Education

## Outstanding Project Award Winners

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**NORTH CENTRAL  
EXTENSION  
RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION**



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture



**SOUTHERN  
EXTENSION  
RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION**



**NORTHEAST  
EXTENSION  
RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION**



**WESTERN  
EXTENSION  
RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION**





# PROJECTS OF EXCELLENCE

## 1st Place

Risk Minimization for Beekeepers  
*Project Director, Courtney Bir*

## 2nd Place

Managing Marketing and Financial Risk in Dairy Farming Systems of the Southern Region  
*Project Director, Gonzalo Ferreira*

## 3rd Place

Develop and Deliver On-Farm Food Safety Risk Management Programs for Farmworkers to Address Food Safety Liability and Meet Federal and Market-Driven Food Safety Requirements  
*Project Director, Achyut Adhikari*



Thank You



Southern Risk Management  
Education Center  
University of Arkansas

Website: <http://srmec.uada.edu/>

Email: [srmec@uada.edu](mailto:srmec@uada.edu)

501-671-2165

