



Enhancing Louisiana Agritourism: Managing Financial and Legal Liabilities

Agritourism has become an essential practice for producers to diversify and increase their profits. This method allows farmers and ranchers to expand their business by attracting members of society. Visitors come to pursue entertainment or education, based on the commodities grown on each agricultural operation. However, operators of agritourism attractions face financial and legal risk associated with the convenience and safety of visitors.

In 2016, the LSU AgCenter developed a project to provide educational and networking opportunities to existing and potential agritourism operators in

Louisiana. This project emphasized the assessment and management of financial and legal risk, including safety and emergency management. Four workshops were hosted to discuss legal and financial risks, safety risks and emergency management strategies, and information on how to become a certified agritourist operator. Workshops were designed to be interactive, allowing plenty of time for discussion between participants. Scholars in attendance were given time to share their experiences with food safety and security issues in agritourism. A total of 106 participants attended the project, including farmers, county agents, tourism agents, and visiting scholars.

As a result of this project, agritourism operators were educated to avoid the threats that their attractions face. Current agritourist publications were updated, and more were developed for operators to refer to in the future.

The Southern Extension Risk Manage Education Center ([SRMEC](#)) seeks to empower the strengths and skills of farmers and ranchers across the Southern region to more effectively manage risks of operating in the diverse agricultural sector. To learn more about this SRMEC funded project visit this link: [Managing Financial and Legal Risks in Agritourism](#)



“Very good information. Inspired me to reevaluate and review my safety plans and walk over my place with fresh eye.”

-Louisiana Agritourism Operator



Empowering Producers to Manage Risks



**EXTENSION
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United States
Department of
Agriculture

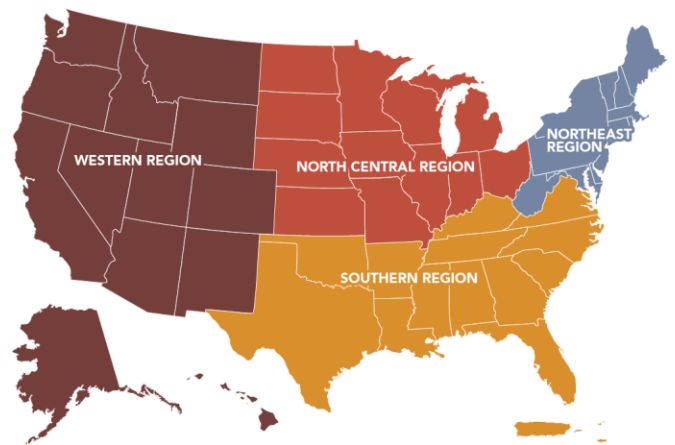
National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture

“Educating America’s farmers and ranchers to manage the unique risks of producing food for the world’s table.”

Extension Risk Management Education (ERME) is delivered through four regional centers that provide grant funding and leadership within their regions.

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

Extension Risk Management Education has funded innovative programs that have generated tangible results for producers in every state. ERME is committed to funding results, providing transparent accountability, and encouraging collaboration. View the accomplishments of all funded projects on our website.
<http://ExtensionRME.org>



ERME REGIONAL CENTERS



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