

16 August 2018 – Fort Collins, CO

## Let's Grow Committee and RightRisk Make Online Courses Available

One of the target priorities for the American Sheep Industry Let's Grow committee is the development of better business management skills to assist sheep producers with success in the sheep business. We invite you to participate in three open access online course modules offered in this fall. These course modules include: Foundations for Business Management, Managing Depreciation for Your Farm Business, and Hiring and Keeping Agricultural Workers.

The course instructors include RightRisk Education Team members: John Hewlett, a Farm and Ranch Management Extension Specialist with the University of Wyoming; Jeff Tranel, an Agricultural & Business Management Economist with Colorado State University; and, Jay Parsons, an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

You can access the all three modules using the Moodle online learning platform by pointing your browser to <http://www.eRightRisk.com/courses/>.

This opportunity is made possible by the Let's Grow Committee of the American Sheep Industry Association and the RightRisk Team.

The screenshot shows a webpage titled "RightRisk LET'S GROW". It lists three course modules:

- Module 1: Foundations for Better Business Management** - Instructors: John Hewlett (University of Wyoming) and Jay Parsons (University of Nebraska-Lincoln).
- Module 2: Managing Depreciation for Your Farm Business** - Instructor: Jeff Tranel (Colorado State University).
- Module 3: Hiring and Keeping Agricultural Workers** - Instructor: Jay Parsons (University of Nebraska-Lincoln).

Each module description includes a brief overview of the topics covered. The page also features a "Register now!" button and a URL: <http://www.eRightRisk.com/courses/>.



## Better Business Management Course Modules

Available now through October 31, 2018.

### Module 1: Foundations for Better Business Management

In this course module you will: (1) Gain an understanding of enterprise accounting within financial management; (2) Learn an approach for accurate enterprise financial assessment (net return or breakeven); and, (3) Learn about industry estimates for sheep enterprise profitability (industry budget).

### Module 2: Managing Depreciation for Your Farm Business

Expanding your operation? Acquiring depreciable assets? Matching the cost of a productive asset to the revenues earned from using it is an important thing to correctly account for in any well run business. This course module provides an overview of depreciation and the Section 179 expensing election. You will learn the impacts of various depreciation strategies on both annual and long term financial management and income tax liabilities using examples pertinent to sheep operations.

### Module 3: Hiring and Keeping Agricultural Workers

Who manages the agricultural labor force? More people have a hand in management than most of us realize. Their roles and the names by which they are commonly known differ across the country, including: property owner, general manager, manager, ranch or crew supervisor, patrón, foreman, majordomo, lead man, crew boss, chief mechanic, jefe, office administrator, the owner's spouse, and many production employees whose informal influence much outweighs their job titles. This course module provides insights into Staffing the Farm Business, Supervising Agricultural Work, and Managing Employee Performance. Materials are drawn from three chapters found in Ag Help Wanted - a 240+ page guide for owners and managers at every level of agricultural and horticultural operations.

### Register now!

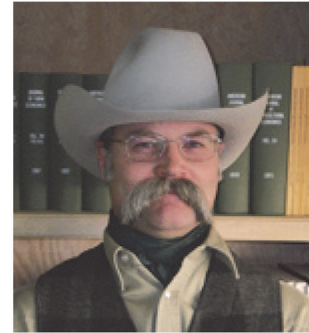
<http://www.eRightRisk.com/courses/>

Log in using either an existing Moodle account or click the Create New Account button to create an account. There is no charge for using any or all of the Better Business Management course modules.

Each course consists of a series of recorded presentations, practice materials, and course evaluations. Discussion groups provide the opportunity to interact with the instructors and fellow course participants from around the country.

Sign up today at <http://www.eRightRisk.com/courses/>

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John Hewlett  
University of Wyoming



Jeff Tranel  
Colorado State University



Jay Parsons  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln