

your guide to

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY **COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

specialist directory



Utah State University
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

extension.usu.edu

Karin Allen, Assistant Professor
Food Quality & Entrepreneurship Specialist

Department: Nutrition, Dietetics, and Food Sciences

Phone: 435-797-1768

E-mail: karin.allen@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Development of extension programming to assist small businesses and entrepreneurs with production and processing of quality foods; coordination of academic and outreach services of the on-campus Food Innovation Laboratory and Incubator Kitchen; and assisting with labeling requirements to meet State and/or Federal regulations.



Diane Alston, Professor
Entomology Specialist

Department: Biology

Phone: 435-797-2516

E-mail: diane.alston@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Horticultural entomology, integrated pest management, insect diagnostics.



Roger Banner, Associate Professor
Rangeland Specialist

Department: Wildland Resources

Phone: 435-770-0394

E-mail: roger.banner@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Ecologically-based rangeland management and plant-herbivore interactions.



**Richard Beard, Associate Professor
Agricultural Engineering Specialist**

Department: Agricultural Systems Technology and Education

Phone: 435-797-0573

E-mail: Richard.Beard@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Pesticides, agricultural engineering energy efficiency and electrical power.



**David L. Bell, Associate Professor
Landscape Architect Specialist**

Department: Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning

Phone: 435 797-0511

E-mail: david.bell@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Community and residential planning; urban and downtown planning and design; parks, trails and recreation planning and design; site planning; and landscape architecture and design.



**Marion Bentley, Associate Professor
Extension Business and Economic Development
Specialist**

Department: Applied Economics

Phone: 435-797-2284

E-mail: marion.bentley@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Entrepreneurship and small business development programs including Business Outreach Support Services (BOSS) and Extension Small Business Development Center activities in Logan, Vernal, Brigham City, Tooele, Price, and Blanding. Also, statewide rural and community economic development programs including strategic planning and training.



**Brent Black, Associate Professor
Fruit Specialist**

Department: Plants, Soils, and Climate

Phone: 435-797-2174

E-mail: brent.black@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Tree fruits and berry crops.



**Steven W. Burr, Associate Professor
Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Specialist**

Department: Environment and Society

Phone: 435-797-7094

E-mail: steve.burr@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Outdoor recreation and natural resources-based tourism policy, planning, marketing, and management; rural and community tourism development; sustainable tourism development; and the human dimensions of natural resources management.



**Beth Burritt, Extension Assistant Professor
Rangeland Resource Specialist**

Department: Wildland Resources

Phone: 435-797-3576

E-mail: beth.burritt@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Ruminant behavior and nutrition, and grazing management



**Fee Busby, Professor
Range Management / Watershed Specialist**

Department: Wildland Resources

Phone: 435-757-5636

E-mail: fee.busby@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Rangeland improvements; grazing management; inventory and assessment; watershed management; rangeland recreation.



Grant E. Cardon, Associate Professor
Soils Specialist

Department: Plants, Soils and Climate

Phone: 435-797-2278

E-mail: grant.cardon@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Soil fertility and quality management; soil salinity management; soil testing; soil physical and chemical properties measurement and interpretation.



Nedra K. Christensen, Professor
Nutrition Specialist

Department: Nutrition, Dietetics, and Food Sciences

Phone: 801-484-9374

E-mail: nedra.christensen@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Nutrition in critical care, community nutrition specializing in diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cystic fibrosis and all areas of nutrition with disabilities. Low income audience nutrition education, e.g. F\$NE or Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Education program and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program



Earl Creech, Assistant Professor
Agronomy Specialist

Department: Plants, Soils and Climate

Phone: 435.797.7319

E-mail: earl.creech@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Primary duties include 1) developing a flagship Extension educational program in agronomy for the state of Utah and 2) conducting applied research that addresses critical needs of Utah's irrigated and dryland production agriculture. Works closely with agricultural producers, federal and state agencies, agribusiness organizations, life sciences companies, the media, and the scientific community concerned with crop management issues.



**Kynda Curtis, Associate Professor
Agriculture Business Specialist**

Department: Applied Economics

Phone: 435-797-0444

E-mail: kynda.curtis@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Agricultural marketing, agribusiness development and finance.



**Steve Daniels, Professor
Community Development Specialist**

Department: Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology

Phone: 435-797-1255

E-mail: steve.daniels@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Conflict management, leadership development, community development, public lands issues.



**Daniel (Dan) Drost, Professor
Vegetable Specialist**

Department: Plants, Soils and Climate

Phone: 435-797-2258

E-mail: dan.drost@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Commercial vegetables with secondary effort to address needs of home gardens.



**Dillon Feuz, Professor
Commodity Marketing Specialist**

Department: Applied Economics

Phone: 435-797-2296

E-mail: dillon.feuz@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Marketing of agricultural commodities and risk management; beef cattle economics.



**Collette Floyd, Lecturer
Youth Equine Specialist**

Department: Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences

Phone: (435) 752-1251

E-mail: colette.floyd@usu.edu



Areas of Expertise:

Equine management with emphasis on health and reproduction.

**David D. Frame, Associate Professor
Poultry Specialist**

Department: Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences

Phone: (435) 283-7586

E-mail: david.frame@usu.edu



Areas of Expertise:

Poultry health and disease; poultry management and production.

**Dave Francis, Extension Associate Professor
4-H Youth Development Specialist**

Department: 4-H and Youth

Phone: 435-760-4109

E-mail: dave.francis@usu.edu



Areas of Expertise:

4-H Programs including 4-H Science (science, technology, engineering and applied math) Junior Master Gardeners 4-H Military programs. Environmental Science and Natural Resources for children and youth.

**Nicki Frey, Assistant Professor
Wildlife Resources Specialist**

Department: Wildland Resources

Phone: (435) 586-1924

E-mail: nicki.frey@usu.edu



**Stan Guy, Associate Professor
Community Development Educator**

Department: 4-H and Youth

Phone: 435-797-3221

E-mail: Stan.Guy@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Community surveys, youth city councils, program evaluations, and extension reporting.



**Brian Higginbotham, Associate Professor
Family Life Specialist**

Department: Family, Consumer and Human Development

Phone: 435-797-7276

E-mail: Brian.H@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Marriage, divorce and remarriage.



**Robert W. Hill, Professor
Extension Irrigation and Water Resources
Specialist**

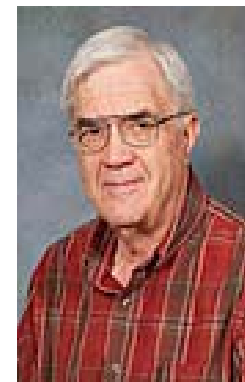
Department: Civil and Environmental

Phone: (435) 797-2791

E-mail: robert.hill@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Irrigation engineering, irrigation sciences, agricultural hydrology, agro-meteorology, crop water requirements, crop yield and irrigation scheduling models, soil-water-plant management and research.



**Justin Jenson, Lecturer
Dairy Youth Specialist**

Department: Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences

Phone: 435-245-6067

E-mail: justin.jenson@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

4-H and FFA dairy judging contests, Junior Holstein Association shows and activities (dairy bowl, jeopardy).



**Kelly Kopp, Associate Professor
Water Conservation and Turfgrass Specialist**

Department: Plants, Soils and Climate

Phone: 435-797-1523

E-mail: kelly.kopp@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Landscape water conservation and turfgrass outreach and education. Primary focus on efficient landscape irrigation and routine turfgrass maintenance practices.



**Michael Kuhns, Professor
Forestry Specialist**

Department: Wildland Resources

Phone: 435-797-4056

E-mail: mike.kuhns@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Forestry and trees, including rural forestry, urban forestry, and forestry in the wildland/urban interface.



**Mark Larese-Casanova, Faculty
Utah Master Naturalist Program Specialist**

Department: Watershed Sciences

Phone: 435-797-8060

E-mail: marklc@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Environmental education programs that focus on learning about and promoting stewardship of Utah's natural world.



**Heidi LeBlanc, Extension Associate Professor
Food Sense Director**

Department: Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Sciences

Phone: 435-797-3923

E-mail: heidi.leblanc@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Low-income basic nutrition education.



**Stacey MacArthur, Extension Assistant Professor
4-H Volunteer Development Coordinator**

Department: 4-H and Youth

Phone: 435.797.2202

E-mail: stacey.macarthur@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Protective factors during adolescence.



**Hector Mendiola, Director
Program for Latino Communities**

Department: Extension Diversity

Phone: (435) 757-6731

E-mail: hector.mendiola@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Design, implement, and offer education programs for Latino communities. Develop partnerships with Mexican education institutions, school districts and social agencies.



**Gary Merkle, Professor
Irrigation Engineering Specialist**

Department: Civil and Environmental Engineering

Phone: (435) 797-1139

E-mail: gary.merkley@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Design, management, and evaluation of irrigation systems, including hydraulic analysis, crop water requirements, and water measurement.



Nancy Mesner, Associate Professor

Water Quality Specialist

Department: Watershed Sciences

Phone: (435) 797 7541

E-mail: nancy.mesner@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Protection and improvement of surface water quality, including monitoring and mitigation techniques. Also development and assessment of water quality curricula.



Terry A. Messmer, Professor

Wildlife Specialist

Department: Wildland Resources

Phone: 453-797-3975

E-mail: terry.messmer@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Human-wildlife conflicts and the management of wildlife damage.



Rhonda Miller, Associate Professor

Agricultural Environmental Quality Specialist

Department: Agricultural Systems Technology & Education

Phone: 435-797-3772

E-mail: rhonda.miller@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Animal waste management;
air quality; water quality;
AFO/CAFO regulations;
composting.



**Claudia Nischwitz, Assistant Professor
Plant Pathology Specialist**

Department: Biology

Phone: 435-797-7569

E-mail: claudia.nischwitz@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Detection, identification and management of plant diseases.



**Brian Nummer, Assistant Professor
Food Safety Specialist**

Department: Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Sciences

Phone: (435)797-2116

E-mail: brian.nummer@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Food safety, retail-foodservice food safety, home food preservation, emergency food storage, food safety education.



**Ricardo Ramirez, Assistant Professor
Entomology Specialist**

Department: Biology

Phone: 435-797-8088

E-mail: ricardo.ramirez@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Integrated pest management in field crops and biological control of arthropod pests.



**V. Philip Rasmussen, Professor
Director of Western SARE Center
Geospatial (Precision Ag.) Specialist**

Department: Plants, Soils and Climate

Phone: 435-797-3394

E-mail: philip.rasmussen@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Sustainable agriculture systems;
precision agriculture systems;
geospatial (GPS) applications;
soil conservation systems; soil physics.



**Kerry A. Rood, Associate Professor
Veterinary Sciences Specialist**

Department: Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences

Phone: 435-797-1882

E-mail: kerry.rood@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Livestock (animal) health along with work in community agrosecurity planning.



**Larry A. Rupp, Professor
Ornamental Horticulture Specialist**

Department: Plants, Soils and Climate

Phone: 435-797-2099

E-mail: larry.rupp@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Plant propagation, landscape water conservation, and greenhouse management and crop production.



**Lindsey Shirley, Assistant Professor
Clothing and Textiles Specialist**

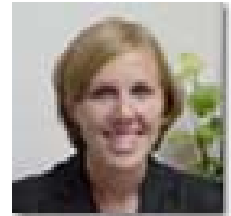
Department: Agricultural Systems Technology and Education

Phone: (435)797-3410

E-mail: lindsey.shirley@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Clothing/textiles and the environment; consumer awareness related to clothing and textiles; elements and principles of design; textiles and interiors; care, selection, use and maintenance to meet basic human needs; clothing construction; career opportunities; dress and culture, and fiber and fabric basics.



Linda Skogrand, Associate Professor

Family Life Specialist

Department: Family, Consumer, and Human Development

Phone: 435-797-8183

E-mail: Linda.Skogrand@usu.edu



Areas of Expertise:

Family relations, family strengths, couple relationships, stepfamilies, culturally diverse families and couples, and surviving and transcending a traumatic childhood.

Debra Spielmaker, Associate Professor

Director of Agriculture in the Classroom

Department: Agricultural Systems Technology and Education

Phone: 435-213-5562

E-mail: debra.spielmaker@usu.edu



Areas of Expertise:

Agricultural literacy education.

Ruby Ward, Associate Professor

Economy Specialist

Department: Applied Economics

Phone: (435) 797-2323

E-mail: ruby.ward@usu.edu



Areas of Expertise:

Agricultural entrepreneurship, agriculture tax issues, and community development. Coordinate the Diversified Agriculture Conference.

Ralph Whitesides, Professor

Weed Specialist

Department: Plants, Soils and Climate

Phone: (435) 797-8252

E-mail: ralph.whitesides@usu.edu



**David Wilson, Assistant Professor
Dairy Extension Veterinarian
Epidemiologist for Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Lab**

Department: Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences

Phone: (435) 760-3731

E-mail: David.Wilson@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Dairy cow, goat and sheep mastitis and udder health. Johne's disease. Epidemiology including experimental design for animal projects.



**Siew Sun Wong, Assistant Professor
Nutrition Specialist
EFNEP State Director**

Department: Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Sciences

Phone: (435)797-3464

E-mail: siewsun.wong@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Nutrition education; nutrition epidemiology; nutrition programs.



**Rebecca Winstead, Lecturer
Equine Management Specialist**

Department: Animal, Dairy, and Veterinary Sciences

Phone: 435-770-1856

E-mail: rebecca.winstead@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Equine related topics and horse 4-H.



**Allen Young, Associate Professor
Dairy Specialist**

Phone: 435-797-3763

E-mail: allen.young@usu.edu

Department: Animal, Dairy, and Veterinary Sciences

Areas of Expertise:

All areas of dairy management.



**Dale ZoBell, Professor
Beef Specialist**

Department: Animal, Dairy, and Veterinary Sciences

Phone: 435-797-2144

E-mail: Dale.zobell@usu.edu

Areas of Expertise:

Beef cattle management and nutrition.





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Utah State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.