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EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE *Changing Lives*



Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program

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When you support Extension, agricultural producers apply leadership skills to make cutting edge decisions that impact agriculture, rural communities, and society in the 21st century.



The KALP Class of 2014 is among the 267 graduates since the program began in 1985. Graduates are leaders in local, state, and international agricultural organizations, agencies, and businesses.

Extension Identifies and Empowers Young, Motivated Agriculturist to be Community and Industry Leaders

The Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program (KALP) improves communication, management, and leadership skills of young farmers to elevate the image and profitability of agriculture and enhance the quality of life in rural communities.



“Kentucky faced changes to its agriculture structure following the elimination of the federal tobacco program, yet thanks to prepared leaders, such as those from KALP (Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program), it was better equipped to deal with those changes. “

Laura Knoth, Executive Director of the Kentucky Corn Growers Association

The Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program (KALP) and its predecessor, the Phillip Morris Agricultural Leadership Development Program, have graduated 267 individuals from eight states since 1985. An advisory board consisting of representatives from the University of Kentucky, regional universities, and Governor’s Office of Ag Policy, Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, Kentucky Farm Bureau, and KALP alumni design the program.

Participants are active farmers, representatives of agribusiness or an agency or organization supporting agriculture. They exhibit a commitment to agriculture and learning, as well as evidence of leadership qualities. Participants invested financial resources and committed fifty days to the program over two years.

The leadership program includes study seminars, state, regional and international study tours where participants were informed on agricultural issues and the political process. Participants connected with policymakers, farm group leaders, educators, and government officials as they equipped themselves to assume leadership roles in their workplace or community. They demonstrate confidence when educating media, urban audiences, and decision makers on issues affecting agriculture and rural communities.

The KALP alumni reflect the impact of the program. Serena Gilkison of Clark County shared, “More than ever, I see a promising, successful future for American agriculture based upon the innovation, energy and most importantly, character, of my classmates.” Quint Pottinger of Nelson County now lives by the motto, “Perspective generates innovation,



“This is the motto I began to live by shortly after KALP... Perspective generates innovation, and innovation fuels change.”

Quint Pottinger
Nelson County



“Every farm visit from Western Kentucky to South Africa with so many stops between opened my eyes to management challenges, and the overall challenges that farmers and members of the agriculture community face on a daily basis. “

Reese Koffler-Stanfield
Scott County



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Serena Gilkison
Clark County

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This program is made possible by support of sponsors, which include the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, agribusinesses, farm organizations, program alumni and directors.