



Kansas Forage and Grassland Council

1228 Westloop Place, PMB# 144, Manhattan, KS 66502-2840 ~ email: info@ksfgc.org ~ www.ksfgc.org

Dr. John Floros, Dean of Agriculture/Director of Research & Extension
114 Waters Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506

Dr. J. Ernest "Ernie" Minton, Associate Dean of Research & Graduate Programs
Agricultural Experiment Station
112 Waters Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506

Dean Floros and Associate Dean Minton,

I'm writing on behalf of the Kansas Forage and Grassland Council to request that you refill the currently vacant Research Forage Agronomist position at the KSU Southeast Ag Research Center.

The Kansas Forage and Grassland Council serves as an umbrella organization providing education and programs to strengthen the forage industry in Kansas. Our membership includes farmers and ranchers, commercial businesses, trade associations, and university and government agency personnel, all focused on promoting and supporting the forage industry in Kansas.

We understand that financially this is a difficult time for both the state and university, and tough decisions must be made but this position is vitally important to the forage and beef cattle grazing research efforts in Kansas as well as other areas of the Midwest.

Dr. Moyer's work within the forage project has been a critical component of both the beef cattle and soil and water management projects at the Southeast Agricultural Research Center for many years. As you well know, most forages grown in SE Kansas and nearby regions are introduced species. Because of this, proper fertilization is critical, not just from the perspective of production and economics but also from an environmental management standpoint. The soil and water management, and forage projects have always worked well together, evaluating fertility options for these crops but these efforts will be jeopardized without this position.

Forages are generally an under-appreciated crop. Contributing significantly to the Kansas economy through the value derived from the beef, dairy and sheep industries, yet with no direct checkoff and comparatively little industry support for research and education. Without a strong research and extension presence, forage producers and the forage industry will suffer.

We appreciate your efforts to serve the state and university and again ask that you consider refilling the vacant Research Forage Agronomist position at the KSU Southeast Ag Research Center.

Sincerely,

Roger Black, President