

NEWS RELEASE

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Purdue agricultural economists highlight inflation and pandemic-related uncertainties in annual outlook

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – The [Purdue Agricultural Economics Report's](#) annual outlook issue identifies key factors that may affect the agricultural economy in the coming year. For 2022, Purdue experts cite inflation and COVID-19 uncertainty as key issues impacting food prices, general economy performance, farm costs and returns, farm financials and household economics.

[Jayson Lusk](#), distinguished professor of agricultural economics, tackles the issue of increasing food prices in the coming year, suggesting that slowing government spending may slow the rate of inflation. [Larry DeBoer](#), professor emeritus, examines the role of inflationary expectations on the broad economy asserting that price increases in 2021, as well as how continued COVID-19 complications, may have a continued negative effect on economic recovery. [Maria Marshall](#), professor and Jim and Lois Ackerman Endowed Chair of Agricultural Economics, identifies the challenges that inflation places on households, especially those in rural areas, as they relate to childcare and employment. In the areas of farm management and finance, professors [Michael Langemeier](#) and [Nicole Olynk Widmar](#) forecast that crop and dairy producers should expect to see increasing input costs and a squeeze on margins in 2022.

Additional articles in the issue focus on topical areas where COVID-19 and inflation are not primary concerns; however, their effects are still being felt. Professor [Russell Hillberry](#) and associate professor [Roman Keeney](#) focus on changes in trade (supply chains, China) and farm policies (economic shocks impacting the next farm bill), while assistant professor, [Brady Brewer](#), and associate professor and Schrader Endowed Chair in Farmland Economics, [Todd Kuethe](#), look at changing farm land values, cash rents, and expectations for agricultural credit markets in 2022.

The [Purdue Agricultural Economics Report](#) is a quarterly publication from the department of agricultural economics. Articles in the annual outlook issue are intended to provide a roadmap for understanding challenges facing the agricultural economy.

Writer: Kami Goodwin, kami@purdue.edu

Source: Roman Keeney, rkeeney@purdue.edu

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