Economics 642
Agricultural Economics

Instructor (for the first half semester) Bruce Babcock
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Office Hours: By appointment or drop in (if I am available).

Course Description: I have three goals in this half semester. The first goal is to give students an appreciation of the effects of uncertainty on firm decisions. The second goal is to increase students’ abilities to use the quantitative tools needed to conduct research in this area. The third is to increase students’ understanding of the U.S. crop insurance industry and policies.

Course Requirements: The grade for this half semester will be determined by your performance on a series on problem sets and by a take-home exam that will be given out on in class on Thursday, October 6, and is to be handed in on Tuesday, October 11 at the beginning of class. We will not otherwise have class on October 11. Brent Hueth will begin his half of the class on Thursday, October 13. Students are encouraged to work jointly on the problem sets.

Reading Materials: I will post papers that you will want to read on the course website.

Other notes: Professor William Foster will be filling in for me on Sept 8th as I will be in Chicago.