

## BIOGRAPHICAL RESUME

RALPH E. HEPP

Professor Emeritus

Department of Agricultural Economics  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1039  
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### PERSONAL DATA

Birth Date: February 27, 1936  
Citizen: United States  
Marital Status: Married, 3 children

### HOME ADDRESS

Okemos, Michigan 48864

### HIGHER EDUCATION

Ph.D. -- Agricultural Economics, University of Wisconsin, 1965  
-- Major field -- Farm Management  
-- Minor field -- Extension Administration  
  
M.S. -- Agricultural Economics, University of Wisconsin, 1962  
-- Major field -- Farm Management  
  
B.S. -- Agriculture and Education, University of Wisconsin, 1960

### MILITARY EXPERIENCE

Army Active Duty, June 1960 - December 1960  
Army Reserves, December 1960 - June 1966

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

-- Professor and Extension Specialist, Michigan State University, 1977 to 1998  
-- Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Michigan State University, 1971-1977  
-- Sabbatical Leave with Extension Service, USDA, Study of Agricultural Cooperatives in the U.S. 1975~1976  
-- Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Michigan State University, 1965-1971  
-- Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Wisconsin, 1963-1965  
-- Project Associate, University of Wisconsin, 1962-1963  
-- Research Assistant, University of Wisconsin, 1961-1962

### DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Extension responsibilities in farm management including financial management, crop production costs, farm business organization and transfer, and computer decision making models. Teaching includes one farm management course and advising students processes and decision making models, financial management, business organization and transfer and role of small part-time farms in Michigan agriculture.

## PUBLICATIONS

Numerous MSU Extension bulletins and research reports have been published over time and some are available on request. The Extension bulletins and research reports have been distributed through the MSU Bulletin Office to Extension clientele requesting information on farm management topics. Mimeograph Agricultural Economics staff papers have been prepared on timely farm management topics and distributed to agricultural clientele attending Extension-educational meetings and Extension staff for their use in preparing educational materials. Newspaper and magazine articles have been prepared for state and regional coverage of timely farm management material.

## PROFESSIONAL EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Various educational *delivery* systems including publications are used in Extension educational programs. Radio tapes have been prepared and delivered to numerous radio stations who utilize the material in their programs. Television and video-tapes have been prepared on farm management topics and used in covering agricultural subject material. Some of the television programs are taped for a series of 15 to 30 minute segments that are used over a period of time on specific topics. Each year, 30 to 40 educational talks are given at county, regional or state meetings and workshops on farm management topics. A limited number of farm families (25-35 each year) receive individual assistance in the analysis of critical decisions made by the family. Organizing conferences and workshops for agricultural clientele and developing materials and teaching in-service training programs for Extension field staff are important responsibilities.

## MAJOR MSU COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

MSUE Economic Development Committee (1994-1998)  
 MSUE Field Crops Committee (1994-1998)  
 Member, Department Tenure Committee (1995-1996)  
 Member, Department Undergraduate Policy Committee (1995-1998)  
 Member, Department seminar committee (1992-1996)  
 Member, Department Computer Services Committee (1992-1996)  
 Agricultural Economics Extension Program Coordinator (1989-1993)  
 Farm Management Project leader (1982-1989)  
 Chairperson, Department Advisory Committee (1987-1989)  
 Equal Employment Opportunity Counselor, Extension (1987-1998)  
 Member, Vice-Chair, Michigan Council Extension Associations (1985-1987)  
 Member, MSU Academic Council (1985-1989)  
 President/Vice President, Extension Specialist Association (1985-1988)  
 Chairperson and/or member, Department Extension Advisory Committee (1983-1993)  
 Chairperson and/or member, Department Advisory Committee (1983-1985)  
 Chairperson and/or member, Department Seminar Committee (1976-1977),  
 (1982-1983), (1993-1994)  
 Chairperson and/or member, College Advisory Council (1972-1974), (1980-1982)  
 Member, Department Undergraduate Policy Committee (1980-1982)  
 Member, Hispanic Leadership Training Committee (1979-1981)  
 Chairperson and/or member, Department Computer Services Committee (1969-1972)  
 Chairperson and/or member, Department Faculty Affairs Committee (1970-1972)  
 Extension, Various committees (1966-1998)

## MAJOR NATIONAL/REGIONAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

AAEA National Task Force on Commodity Costs and Return Measurement Method (1991-1998)  
 National Panel on Financial Management Projects, ES-USDA (1990)  
 National Panel on Leadership Development, USDA (1985-1989)  
 Chair, Vice-Chairperson. Secretary and/or member North Central Farm Management Extension Committee (1982-1993)  
 National Rural Leadership Planning Committee, Kellogg Foundation (1979-1981)  
 National Extension Planning Committee on Integrated Pest Management Organizations, ECOP (1978-1981)  
 NCR-1 Income and Employment on Small Farms (1978-1981)  
 American Agricultural Economies Association, Extension Affairs Committee (1977-1980)  
 National Leadership Development Impact Study, Kellogg Foundation (1977-1979)  
 Producer Initiative in Agricultural Marketing. USDA (1975-1977)  
 NCRS-1 Research Needs for Small and Large Farms (1974-1975)  
 North Central Public Policy Extension Sub-Committee on Death and Taxes (1973-1974)

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

American Agricultural Economic Association  
 North Central Journal of Agricultural Economics  
 Michigan Association of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers  
 Extension Specialist Association  
 Epsilon Sigma Phi

## PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC HONORS

Leadership on EMAT and JTPA Programs, Extension Agricultural/Marketing Programs, 1988  
 Outstanding Extension Specialist, ESA, 1987  
 Specialist of the Year, Michigan County Agents Association, 1986  
 Alpha Zeta Award, 1981  
 Leadership in Extension, CES Agricultural Marketing Programs, 1986  
 John A. Hannah Award for Extension Program Excellence, 1973  
 Cooperative Extension Service State Team Award, 1972  
 Alpha Zeta

## ADVISOR

Alpha Zeta (1978-1981)  
 Michigan Professional Dairy Farmers Association (1968-1975)  
 Food System Economics and Management Undergraduate Majors (1972-1975)  
 Agricultural Economics Club (1967-1969)  
 Agricultural Economics Graduate Students (1965-1998)

**INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL**

Group Leader, Group VII, Michigan Agricultural Leadership Program --  
People's Republic of China, Thailand, and Korea, 1986  
Group Leader, Group VI, Michigan Agricultural Leadership Program --  
France, Belgium, Kenya and Egypt, 1983  
Group Leader, Group II, Quest for Quality -- England and Scotland, 1974  
Group Leader, Group I, Quest for Quality -- Mexico, 1973  
Group Leader, Group IV, Kellogg Farmers Study Program -- Italy,  
Ethiopia, India, Thailand and Japan, 1971

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

MSU Federal Credit Union, Board of Directors (1987-present)  
Briarwood Home Owners ASSOCIATION President/Vice President  
MSU Federal Credit Union, Credit Committee, Member of Year Award 1985  
Okemos Public Schools, Various committees  
St John's Student Parist\ Various committees