Greetings,

Thanks for getting the materials for Lesson 13 to us in a timely fashion. We should be complete now in receiving all materials. I think you will find reviewing the presentations enjoyable and informative, so I wanted to give you a chance to start your peer reviews early.

There appears to be some great materials in the presentations. Monday, April 11, is the ‘official’ beginning date for this activity but you may begin any time. The presentations are up on the Web at https://cals.cypoint.iastate.edu/unit/AGRON/MSAgron/AGRON_512/SitePages/Home.aspx (2016) (if you have difficulties in accessing the presentations, please contact us). You may also find this link in BBL under Lesson 13 > ‘Presentations for Review’, in BBL on the opening page under ‘Presentations Achieves’, or in BBL under Course Homepage > ‘Presentations.’

There are 25 presentations this year. I think it is too much to ask each of you to carefully evaluate all presentations. Therefore, I propose that each of you carefully evaluate a minimum of 8 presentations. Also, please feel free to review and make comments on other presentations that might be of interest to you (your minimum assignment, however, is 8 presentations). Please realize that to activate notes in the PPT, click ‘notes’ on the bottom of the webpage. As mentioned in the course introduction under grading, 25 points will be assigned for your participation in providing meaningful reviews.

The presentations are displayed alphabetically by students’ last name. Find your name on the list; the next 8 presentations alphabetically after your name (below in the list) are your required presentations for review (if your name is near the bottom of a page; i.e., bottom of the alphabet, review those below you and then continue at the top of the list until you have reviewed 8 presentations. In this way, each of you should receive a minimum of 8 reviews. You will find a Peer Review.doc form (Word document) under Lesson 13 in the left-hand column for activities under Lesson 13. Please carefully follow the directions outlined. Unedited files will be made available to the presenter (I will review all files). The files will be anonymous and we will place in random order so comments cannot be traced to an individual. As an educational activity, however, I ask that you be honest in your appraisal but considerate while offering suggestions to others for improvement. If there are things you liked, be sure to mention those as well.

Guidelines on the Peer.Review.doc form:
   a) Was it informative?
   b) Was it logically constructed and easy to follow and understand?
   c) Were letter size, contrast, images, and format appropriate?
   d) Was the topic clearly introduced and did the conclusions fit the information that was presented?
   e) Other comments?
   f) Give the presentation a numerical score between 0-100. Consider 91-100 = A, 81-90 = B, etc. For example, the score might be 91/100.

Yes, we do wish for you to complete reflections at the end of Lesson 13. Was it a good activity? What did you learn? Can the activity be improved? Things yet unclear?

Please let me know how I can be of help.

Tom L.