

What the heck's a riparian buffer? (and how much would one cost if I had to buy one?)

**Mount Vernon High
School**

May 24, 2005



What the heck's an Economist?!\$#&!

Some things an economist does:

- Cost and benefits of project or activity
- Economic impact of a project or “thing”



What the heck's a "farm economy"?!

- Income
- Costs
- Net Return
- Called a "Budget" if you're looking forward, "Income Statement" if you're looking back

How does the farm economy CHANGE you add a buffer to the farm landscape







How does the farm economy **CHANGE** if you add a buffer to the farm landscape?

- **Income**

- Foregone crop revenue
- Maybe the buffer could increase farm revenue?

- **Costs**

- Putting in the buffer, maintaining the buffer (weed control, fencing)
- Other costs are not so apparent, like additional feed costs

- **How does it affect the farmer's net return?**

Economic impacts are different for different farm enterprises

- Potatoes
- Dairies
- Beef Cattle
- Berries
- Silage

