

Sreedhar Upendram

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
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EDUCATION

- 2009 Ph.D., Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS
Dissertation Title: [Irrigation Scheduling, Crop Choices, and Impact of an Irrigation Technology Upgrade on the Kansas High Plains Aquifer](#)
- 2000 B.S. Agriculture, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University,
Hyderabad, India

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023-Present Associate Professor (Appointment: 12 Month – 75% Extension, 25%
Research), Department of Agricultural and Research Economics,
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
- 2017- 2023 Assistant Professor (Appointment: 12 Month - 75% Extension, 25%
Research), Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics,
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
- 2009-2017 Economist, Division of Energy/Division of Water Resources
Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO
- 2007-2009 Planner III, Research Missouri Department of Economic Development
Jefferson City, MO
- 2007-2007
(June – September) Research Analyst III, Current Employment Statistics Program,
Missouri Department of Economic Development, Jefferson City, MO
- 2002-2007 Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Agricultural Economics,
Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INTERESTS

Dr. Upendram's applied research and Extension program focus on community economics, economic development, natural resource economics and regional economics. Specifically, he provides information, decision making tools to assist and train Extension agents, local, community, state and national leaders on five targeted theme areas: rural water infrastructure, rural broadband access, local foods, healthcare, and natural resource stewardship.

AWARDS AND HONORS

1. [J.E. Moss Achievement Award](#) for Extension. 2025. The award recipient is selected by the Dean of University of Tennessee Extension for the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.
2. [Lloyd and Nettie Downen Leadership Enhancement Award](#). 2025. The award recipient is selected by the Dean of University of Tennessee Extension for the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.
3. First Place - Florence Hall Team Award. 2025. National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences.
4. Outstanding Extension Project Team Award. 2025. Southern Agricultural Economics Association. This award is in recognition for article contributions to the Southern Agriculture Today.
5. [Charles and Patricia Goan Excellence in Customer Service Award](#). 2023. The award recipient is selected by the Dean of University of Tennessee Extension for the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.
6. [Ann and Bill Hicks Outstanding New Extension Worker Award](#). 2022. The award recipient is selected by the Dean of University of Tennessee Extension for the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.
7. [Tennessee Association of Agricultural Agents and Specialists \(TAAA&S\) Early Career Award](#) - Eastern Region. 2022. State Specialist
8. Second Place Poster Award, 2022 Tennessee Extension Conference, Chattanooga. C. Carl, **S. Upendram** and I. Baxter. Digital Literacy in Rural Tennessee.
9. [First Place Poster Award](#), College of Communications and Information Symposium. 2022. University of Tennessee. Lerner, M., **S. Upendram** and I. Baxter. Bridging the Digital Divide: Community Programs Targeting Broadband Access and Adoption in Rural Tennessee.
10. [Bonnie Teater Community Development Early Career Achievement Award](#). 2021. The award is in recognition of exception work in the design and delivery of Innovative Extension Programs of Regional and National Significance by the Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University.
11. [Southern Region Distinguished Team Award](#). 2021. This award is in recognition of the 4-H Tech Changemakers Program by Epsilon Sigma Phi. The multi-state team that developed curriculum and delivered training was led by Kasey Bozeman. Other members of the team include Arch Smith, Melanie Biersmith, Sue Chapman, Neil Vines, Gail Huycke, Monica Babine, Roberto Gallardo, Kenneth Sherin, **Sreedhar Upendram**, Rachel Welborn and Terrence Wolfork.
12. Southern Regional Winner for Educational Materials Team Award and National Runner-up for Educational materials Team Award. 2020. These awards are in recognition of educational curricula by the National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals. The multi-state team that developed 4-H Tech Changemakers guidebook includes: Kasey Bozeman, Arch Smith, Melanie Biersmith, Sue Chapman, Neil Vines, Gail Huycke, Monica Babine, Roberto Gallardo, Kenneth Sherin, **Sreedhar Upendram**, Rachel Welborn and Terrence Wolfork.

13. Faculty Development Fellow. 2018. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture. I was selected to participate in a year-long AgResearch Faculty Development Fellows program that included monthly training, group learning sessions, leadership development, and interaction with State and Federal agencies. The sessions described policies, procedures, facilities, faculty expectations, tenure/promotion process and to be successful as a faculty member.
14. Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Mentorship Program. 2014-2015. I was selected to participate in a year-long mentorship program and paired with a faculty mentor. The program included training, workshops, networking opportunities with faculty across land-grant universities.
15. Leadership Ladder Management Training Program, Missouri Department of Natural Resources. 2013-2014. I was selected to participate in a year-long training program that included personality assessment, legislative rule-making, ethics and accountability, strategic planning, succession planning, emotional intelligence, media training, financial management, merit system, business writing and presentation skills.
16. [Award for Excellence in Data Collection and Dissemination Effort for the Missouri Green Jobs Report](#), Council for Community and Economic Research, 2010. This award recognized the contribution of research activities to the success of local, regional or state economic development initiatives. The purpose of this award is to increase the quality of economic development research by identifying meritorious projects and promotion the diffusion of creative ideas for research activities. The results from this report played a critical role in the application of several competitive American Recovery and Reinvestment Act green jobs training grants for the state of Missouri. The team that developed the report includes: Tony Brite, Mary Bruton, Mike Muin, Tom Reichart, Sonal Hate, Lindsey Peters, **Sreedhar Upendram** and Maggie Lear.
17. Timothy R. Donoghue Graduate Leadership Fellowship, Graduate School, Kansas State University, 2005-2006. The Fellowship was in recognition of my work as a Secretary to the Graduate Student Council.

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

[Notes: ¹ supervised graduate student; ² graduate student committee; *corresponding author]

1. Williams, H., **S. Upendram**, J.C. Mingie and S-H. Cho. “Assessing the Targeting Efficiency of Clean Water Subsidies under Uncertainty” 2026. *Environmental Management* forthcoming.
2. De Koff, J.P., K. Brant, J. Green, P. Kelly, K. Curtis, **S. Upendram** and G. Mangoni.” Identifying Practitioner Needs Related to Rural Population Changes Using Whiteboard-Enhanced, Online Listening Sessions” 2026. *Journal of Extension* forthcoming.
3. Cho, S-H, J.C. Mingie and **S. Upendram**. 2024. “Identifying optimal funding allocations for public water infrastructure improvements under uncertainty” *Water Resources and Economics* 48, 100253. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wre.2024.100253>
4. Cho, S-H., J. Mingie and **S. Upendram**. 2024. “How risk-diversification for conservation investment is affected by the COVID-19 real estate market shock” *Applied Economics* Vol. 56, No. 38, 4632-4647 <https://doi.org/10.1080/00036846.2023.2212972>

5. Sneed, C. T., **Upendram, S.**, Cummings, C., & Fox, J. E. 2023. “Skill Up Tennessee: Job training that works” *The Journal of Extension*, 61(2), Article 5.
<https://doi.org/10.34068/joe.61.02.05>
6. **Upendram, S.***, H.P. Regmi, S-H. Cho, J. Mingie, and C.D. Clark. 2023. “Climate change adaptations: Challenges Faced by Smallholder Rice Producers in Chitwan, Nepal” *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems* 6:1016404.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fsufs.2022.1016404>
7. Marks, M.L.¹, J. Thompson, **S. Upendram**, and T.E. Yu. 2022. “Sick Meat: The Global Trade Costs of a Human Pandemic.” *Western Economics Forum* 20 (2).
8. Jarvandi, S., P. Roberson, J. Greig, **S. Upendram** and J. Giron. 2022. “Effectiveness of Diabetes Education Interventions in Rural America: A Systematic Review” *Health Education Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/her/cyac039>
9. Washburn, L.T., K.L. Franck, **S. Upendram**, and J.N. Yenerall. 2022. “Cooperative Extension Professionals’ Knowledge and Attitudes Toward the Opioid Epidemic: Implications for Capacity Development and Outreach” *Frontiers in Psychiatry – Addictive Disorders* 13. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyt.2022.958335>
10. Regmi, H.P.¹, **S. Upendram***, S-H. Cho, and C.D. Clark. 2022. “Examining Complementarity Relationships among Climate Change Adaptation Practices of Rice Producers in Chitwan, Nepal” *Climate and Development*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/17565529.2022.2107980>.
11. Jensen, K.L., K.L. DeLong, **S. Upendram**, and E.A. Eckelkamp. 2022. “[Consumer Preferences for “Made with Tennessee Milk” Processed Dairy Products](#)” *Journal of Food Distribution Research*. 53 (2), 76-91.
12. Cho, S-H., J.C. Mingie, N. Kang, G. Zhu, and **S. Upendram**. 2022. “Understanding the Differences Between Single- and Multi-Objective Optimization for the Conservation of Multiple Species” *Natural Resource Modeling*, e12356.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/nrm.12356>
13. Gallardo, R., B. Whitacre, I. Kumar, and **S. Upendram**. 2021. “Digital inclusion and job productivity: A look at county-level data” *The Annals of Regional Science* 66 (161-184).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00168-020-01015-0>
14. Gill, M.², K. Jensen, D. Lambert, **S. Upendram**, B.C. English, N. Labbé, S. Jackson, and J. Menard. 2020 “[Consumer Preferences for Eco-friendly attributes in Disposable Dinnerware](#)” *Resources, Conservation and Recycling*, Vol. 161.
15. DeLong, K.L., K.L. Jensen, **S. Upendram**, and E.A. Eckelkamp. 2020. “Consumer Preferences for Tennessee Milk” *Journal of Food Distribution Research* 51(2): 111-130.
<https://www.fdrsinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/JFDR51.2.pdf>.
16. **Upendram, S.***, D.W. Hughes, and V. Campbell. 2020 “[The impact of demographic changes on Cooperative Extension Programs across the United States](#)” *Choices*, Quarter 4.
17. Gill, M.², K. L. Jensen, **S. Upendram**, N. Labbé, B.C. English, D.M. Lambert, S. Jackson, and J. Menard. 2020 “Consumer Willingness to Pay for Disposable Dinnerware Molded from Wheat Straw” *Journal of Food Distribution Research* 51 (2): 19-39.
18. N’Guessan, Y., A. Featherstone, O. Odeh, and **S. Upendram**. 2016. “Choice of the Empirical Definition of Zero in the Translog Multiproduct Cost Functional Form” *Applied Economics Letters* 24 (15): 1112–1120.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13504851.2016.1259735>

19. **Upendram, S.** and J.M. Peterson.2007. “Irrigation Technology and Water Conservation in the High Plains Aquifer” *Journal of Contemporary Water Research and Education*, 137: 40-46. <https://doi:10.1111/j.1936-704X.2007.mp137001005.x>
20. **Upendram, S.** and D. L. Darling. 2004. “Monitoring and Analyzing Retail Trade: A Case Study of Kansas” *Applied Research in Economic Development*, 2(1): 22–38.

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Muhammad, A., A. P. Griffith, C. Martinez, R. J. Menard, S. A. Smith, **S. Upendram**, and T. E. Yu. 2025. “Tennessee's Agricultural and Forest Industries and Rural Economy”. [Economic Report to the Governor of the State of Tennessee](#), Section 2.5. January 2025. Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research.
2. Muhammad, A., R. J. Menard, A. P. Griffith, D. W. Hughes, S. A. Smith, **S. Upendram**, and T. E. Yu. 2024. “Tennessee's Agricultural and Forest Industries and Rural Economy”. [Economic Report to the Governor of the State of Tennessee](#), Section 2.5. January 2024. Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research.
3. Muhammad, A., R. J. Menard, A. P. Griffith, D. W. Hughes, S. A. Smith, **S. Upendram**, and T. E. Yu. 2023. “Tennessee's Agricultural and Forest Industries and Rural Economy”. [Economic Report to the Governor of the State of Tennessee](#), Section 2.5. January 2023. Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research.
4. **Upendram, S.**, R. Madhosingh-Hector, L. Seals, P. LaChapelle, H. Gibson, and D. Kahl. 2023. “Role of Co-operative Extension in Community Economic Development in the United States” Book Chapter in *Connectedness, Resilience and Empowerment: Perspectives on Community Development and Well-Being*. In: Muia, D., Phillips, R. (eds) *Connectedness, Resilience and Empowerment. Community Quality-of-Life and Well-Being*. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-35744-2_7
5. Muhammad, A., R. J. Menard, A. P. Griffith, D. W. Hughes, S. A. Smith, **S. Upendram**, and T. E. Yu. 2022. “Tennessee's Agricultural and Forest Industries and Rural Economy”. [Economic Report to the Governor of the State of Tennessee](#), Section 2.5. January 2022. Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research.
6. **Upendram, S.**, K. Bozeman, and K. Spiering. 2019 “[Responsible Behavior Guidelines for the Internet](#)” National 4-H Council, Washington, D.C.

PEER-REVIEWED EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

¹denotes supervised graduate/undergraduate student

1. Langford, G., **S. Upendram**, H. Goodman, J. Green, D. Kahl, C. French, S. McCullough, P. Schmitt, J.R. Walker, R. Carter, N. Peterson, K. Salazar and D. Kay. 2025. “Community Development for Practitioners and Extension Professionals” Southern Rural Development Center Publication.
2. Sneed, C.T., **S. Upendram**, C. Cummings, J.E. Fox and S. Barnes, 2025. “[Skill Up Tennessee: 2023 Job Training Economic Impacts](#)” University of Extension Publications W-1296.
3. **Upendram, S.**, C.T. Sneed, C. Cummings, J.E. Fox and H. Williams¹. 2024. “[Skill Up Tennessee: 2022 Job Training Program Economic Impacts](#)” University of Extension Publications W-1226.

4. Brant, K., P. Kelly, D. Rhubart, G. Mangoni, J. Green, K. Curtis, **S. Upendram**, J. de Koff, and E. Green. 2024. "[Future Directions for Rural Population Research: Findings from Rural Population Research Network's Listening Sessions](#)" Rural Population Research Network Research Brief 2024-3.
5. **Upendram, S.** and J. Mingie. 2023. "[Oklahoma Retail Trade Analysis](#)" CREATE BRIDGES Extension Publications 23-5, Southern Rural Development Center.
6. **Upendram, S.** and J. Mingie. 2023. "[New Mexico Retail Trade Analysis](#)" CREATE BRIDGES Extension Publications 23-4, Southern Rural Development Center.
7. **Upendram, S.** and J. Mingie. 2023. "[Kentucky Retail Trade Analysis](#)" CREATE BRIDGES Extension Publications 23-3, Southern Rural Development Center.
8. **Upendram, S.** and J. Mingie. 2023. "[Illinois Retail Trade Analysis](#)" CREATE BRIDGES Extension Publications 23-2, Southern Rural Development Center.
9. **Upendram, S.** and J. Mingie. 2023. "[Arkansas Retail Trade Analysis](#)" CREATE BRIDGES Extension Publications 23-1, Southern Rural Development Center.
10. **Upendram, S.,** M. Lerner, J. Mingie, K.L. Jensen and I. Baxter. 2023. "[Challenges and Opportunities for Digital Divide in Rural Tennessee](#)" University of Tennessee Extension Publications W 1173.
11. Baxter, I. and **S. Upendram.** 2022. "[Broadband Impact on Education and Workforce during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)" Broadband Issues Brief 2022-3, Southern Rural Development Center.
12. Berry, A.A., C.T. Sneed, B. Metzger, **S. Upendram** and C. Cummings. 2022. "[Applying for a Job: Completing the Job Application](#)" University of Tennessee Extension Publications W 1102-A.
13. Berry, A.A., C.T. Sneed, B. Metzger, **S. Upendram** and C. Cummings. 2022. "[Applying for a Job: The Cover Letter](#)" University of Tennessee Extension Publications W 1102-B.
14. **Upendram, S.,** A.A. Berry, C.T. Sneed, B. Metzger and C. Cummings. 2022. "[Applying for a Job: The Job Interview](#)" University of Tennessee Extension Publications W 1102-C.
15. Sneed, C.T., A.A. Berry, C. Cummings, B. Metzger and **S. Upendram.** 2022. "[Applying for a Job: Preparing Your Resumé](#)" University of Tennessee Extension Publications W 1102-D.
16. Cummings, C., C.T. Sneed, A.A. Berry, B. Metzger and **S. Upendram.** 2022. "[Applying for a Job: Soft Skills](#)" University of Tennessee Extension Publications W 1102-E.
17. Metzger, B., C.T. Sneed, A.A. Berry, **S. Upendram** and C. Cummings. 2022. "[Applying for a Job: Where to Find a Job](#)" University of Tennessee Extension Publications W 1102-F.
18. Sneed, C.T. A.A. Berry, B. Metzger, C. Cummings and **S. Upendram.** 2022. "[Applying for a Job: Building on Your Past](#)" University of Tennessee Extension Publications W 1102-G.
19. Sneed, C.T., **S. Upendram,** C. Cummings, and B. Metzger. 2022. "[Skill Up Tennessee: Impacting Tennessee Families and Communities 2021 Program Impacts](#)" University of Tennessee Extension Publications W 1088.
20. **Upendram, S.,** C.T. Sneed, C. Cummings, and J.E. Fox. 2021. "[Skill Up Tennessee: Job Training that Makes a Difference](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publications W 1028.
21. Kourvelas, J., J. Tourville, and **S. Upendram.** 2021. "[Broadband Expansion](#)" SMART Policy Briefs, University of Tennessee publication.

22. Eckelkamp, E., C. Zaring, **S. Upendram**, E.A. Paskewitz, H. Sedges, K. Johnson. 2021. "[Tennessee Consumer Perceptions of Milk: Purchase Considerations, Safety and Price](#)". University of Tennessee Extension publications W 1012.
23. Kourvelas, J., K. Cahill, C. Myers, J. Tourville, and **S. Upendram**. 2021. "[Better Broadband for Better Health](#)" SMART Policy Briefs, University of Tennessee publication.
24. Rihn, A., **S. Upendram**, and K.L. Jensen. 2021. "[Paycheck Protection Program Loans in Tennessee's Landscape Services Industry, April 3 – August 8, 2020](#)". University of Tennessee Extension publication W975.
25. **Upendram, S.**, K.L. Jensen, A. Rihn, J. Yenerall, and E. Loveday. 2020. "[Paycheck Protection Program Participation by Tennessee's Food and Beverage Industry, April 3– June 30, 2020](#)". University of Tennessee Extension publication W958.
26. **Upendram, S.**, B. Wilson, and I. Baxter. 2020. "[Digital Divide: County Broadband Access in Tennessee](#)". University of Tennessee Extension publication W 952.
27. **Upendram, S.**, K. Ferguson, and I. Cui. 2020. "Chapter 1: Why Succession Planning?" in *Farmland Legacy*. University of Tennessee Extension publication SP 822–A.
28. **Upendram, S.**, and I. Baxter. 2020. "[Responsible Behavior Guidelines for the Internet](#)" University of Tennessee 4–H Lesson Plan Extension publication W 675.
29. Sneed, C.T., A.A. Berry, **S. Upendram**, B. Metzger and C. Cummings. 2020. "[Finding Work: Introduction](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publication W 936–A.
30. Sneed, C.T., A.A. Berry, **S. Upendram**, B. Metzger and C. Cummings. 2020. "[Finding Work: Career Change Building on Your Past](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publication W 936–B.
31. Sneed, C.T., A.A. Berry, C. Cummings, B. Metzger, and **S. Upendram**. 2020. "[Finding Work: Preparing Your Resume](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publication W 936–C.
32. Metzger, B., C.T. Sneed, A.A. Berry, **S. Upendram**, and C. Cummings. 2020. "[Finding Work: Where to Find a Job](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publication W 936–D.
33. Berry, A.A., C.T. Sneed, B. Metzger, **S. Upendram**, and C. Cummings. 2020. "[Finding Work: Applying for a Job](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publication W 936–E.
34. **Upendram, S.**, A.A. Berry, C.T. Sneed, B. Metzger, and C. Cummings. 2020. "[Finding Work: The Job Interview](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publication W 936–F.
35. Cummings, C., C.T. Sneed, A.A. Berry, B. Metzger, and **S. Upendram**. 2020. "[Finding Work: Soft Skills](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publication W 936–G.
36. **Upendram, S.**, K.L. Jensen, K. Delong, J. Menard, and E.A. Eckelkamp. 2019. "[Consumer Dairy Product Expenditures and Preferences for Dairy Products made with Tennessee Milk](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publication W851.
37. **Upendram, S.**, K.L. Jensen, K. Delong, J. Menard, and E.A. Eckelkamp. 2019. "[Consumer Milk Expenditures and Preferences for Tennessee Milk](#)" University of Tennessee Extension publication W 842.
38. M. Babine, M. Biersmith, K. Bozeman, S. Chapman, J. DePasquale, H. Elliott, R. Gallardo, J. Golden, G. Huycke, D. Phelps, K. Sherin, Y. Thomas, **S. Upendram**, N. Vines, K. Spiering, R. Welborn, and T. Wolfork. 2019. "[4-H Tech Changemakers Guidebook](#)" National 4-H Council.

39. Hughes, D., H. Wright, **S. Upendram**, J. Menard, S.A. Smith, B.C. English, and K.L. Jensen. 2018 “[Contribution of agriculture to the regional economy](#)” University of Tennessee Extension publication W 549 – W 643 (**95 publications**).

EXTENSION FACT SHEETS AND TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

1. Barthel, C., S. Upendram and M. Albro. “E-mail” University of Tennessee Extension Publication D-238. September 2024.
<https://utia.tennessee.edu/publications/wp-content/uploads/sites/269/2025/02/D238.pdf>
2. Barthel, C., S. Upendram and M. Albro. “Foundation Skills for Digital Literacy” University of Tennessee Extension Publication D-230. July 2024.
<https://utia.tennessee.edu/publications/wp-content/uploads/sites/269/2024/07/D230.pdf>
3. Barthel, C., S. Upendram and M. Albro. “Information and Media Literacy” University of Tennessee Extension Publication D-231. July 2024.
<https://utia.tennessee.edu/publications/wp-content/uploads/sites/269/2024/07/D231.pdf>
4. Barthel, C., S. Upendram and M. Albro. “Online Communication and Social Media” University of Tennessee Extension Publication D-232. July 2024.
<https://utia.tennessee.edu/publications/wp-content/uploads/sites/269/2024/07/D232.pdf>
5. Barthel, C., S. Upendram and M. Albro. “Digital Safety and Security” University of Tennessee Extension Publication D-233. July 2024.
<https://utia.tennessee.edu/publications/wp-content/uploads/sites/269/2024/06/D233.pdf>
6. Hoskins, L.F., C. Barthel, S. Upendram and M. Albro. “Telehealth” University of Tennessee Extension Publication D-243. October 2024.
<https://utia.tennessee.edu/publications/wp-content/uploads/sites/269/2024/10/D243.pdf>
7. Baxter, I. and S. Upendram. 2022. “[Broadband Impact on Education and Workforce during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)” Broadband Issues Brief 2022-3, Southern Rural Development Center.

ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS REPORTS

1. **Upendram, S.**, “Parks, Soils and Water Conservation Economic Impacts”, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, June 2016.
2. **Upendram, S.**, “Economic Impacts of Little Otter Creek Reservoir Construction and Operations”, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, June 2016
3. **Upendram, S.**, “Economic Impacts of East Locust Creek Reservoir and Water Rates Analysis, Missouri Department of Natural Resources”, July 2015.
4. **Upendram, S.**, “[Economic Impacts of Renewable Energy Standards Policy](#)”, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, October 2010.
5. **Upendram, S.**, A. Spell, S. Glossmeyer and M. Lear. “[Regional Pattern Analysis](#)”, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, November 2009.
6. **Upendram, S.**, “Economic Impacts of Public Broadcasting Companies in Missouri”, Missouri Economic Impact Brief, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, February 2008
7. **Upendram, S.**, “Economic Profile of Sawmills in Southeast Missouri”, Missouri Economic Impact Brief, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, January 2008.

8. **Upendram, S.**, “[Economic Impacts of Forest Products on the State of Missouri](#)”, Missouri Economic Impact Brief, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, August 2007.
9. **Upendram, S.**, “[Economic Impacts of Agricultural Sector and Agricultural Exports on the Economy of Kansas](#)”, Southern Agricultural Economics Association, Little Rock, February 2005.
10. Darling, D.L. and S. Upendram, Economic Impacts of Auger’s Cosmic Ray Project on the Economy of Hamilton and Stanton Counties, Community Development Study Report 228, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University August 2004.
11. Darling, D.L. and S. Upendram. Role of BET Farms on the Edwards County Economy, Community Development Study Report 220, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University December 2003.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

1. Bruton, M., T. Brite, T. Reichart, M. Muin, **S. Upendram**, S. Haté and L. Peters. [Missouri Green Jobs Report](#), (with) Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, November 2009.
2. **Upendram, S.**, [Recessionary Employment Effects on Gender and Age](#) (2007–2008), Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, October 2009.
3. **Upendram, S.**, [E-Commerce Industries](#), Economic Brief, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, June 2009.
4. **Upendram, S.**, [Farms and Agribusiness](#), Economic Brief, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, March 2009.
5. **Upendram, S.**, [Missouri Retail Trade Analysis 2000-2007](#), Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, September 2008.
6. **Upendram, S.**, [Manufacturing Industries in Missouri](#), Economic Impact Brief, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, March 2008.
7. **Upendram, S.** and T. Reichart, [United States Department of Defense Spending](#), Missouri Economic Impact Brief, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, January 2008.
8. **Upendram, S.** and T. Reichart, [Life Science Industries in Missouri](#), Economic Profile, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, Missouri Department of Economic Development, February 2008.
9. [Tourism Location Quotient: A Measure of Economic Activity based on Tourism](#), Community Development Study Report 236, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University, April 2005.
10. [Kansas County Clusters by Urban Influence Code](#), Community Development Study Report 233, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University, February 2005.
11. [Journey to Work Patterns in Kansas, Community Development Study Report 231](#), K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University, January 2005.

12. [County Trade Pull Factors: An Annual report for FY 2004](#), Community Development Study Report 230, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University, October 2004.
13. [Manhattan Area Retail Trade Analysis](#), Community Development Study Report 229, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University, October 2004.
14. [Kansas County Clusters by Urban Influence Codes](#), Community Development Study Report 225, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University July 2004.
15. [Analysis of Covered Wages across Kansas using Rural Urban Continuum Codes](#), Community Development Study Report 224, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University May 2004.
16. [2002-2003 Strength Index: A Measure of Prosperity of Kansans](#), Community Development Study Report 221, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University April 2004.
17. Retail Strength of Kansas for Fiscal Year 2002, Community Development Study Report 222, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University April, 2004.
18. [A Study of Retail Trade in First Class Cities across Kansas](#), Community Development Study Report 223, K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University March 2004.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

1. **Upendram, S.**, J.C. Mingie, S-H. Cho and D. Manning. “Ability to Pay Index” Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. 2025-2030. **\$1,000,000**. AREC Funds: \$1,000,000.
2. **Upendram, S.**, H. Goodman, G. Langford, C. French, P. Schmitt, D. Kahl, K. Salazar and D. Kay. “Community Development: Concepts and Applications” National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, 2025. **\$30,000**. AREC Funds: \$1,500.
3. Varol, S., C. Mix, **S. Upendram**, J.C. Mingie, and S. Catma. “Tempo Spatial Analysis of Rural Gentrification in Tennessee” University of Tennessee Grand Challenges, 2024. **\$82,905**. AREC Funds: 22,329
4. **Upendram, S.**, J. Harris, L. Middleton and A. Spurling. “2024 Tennessee 4-H Tech Changemakers” National 4-H Council. **\$66,000**. AREC Funds: \$33,000
5. Schwartz, J.S., S. W.H. Hoagland, Q. He, **S. Upendram**, T. Datta and L. Moore. “Statewide University-Utility Partnerships for Technical, Managerial and Financial Assistance to Wastewater Systems in Rural Tennessee”, US Environmental Protection Agency 2023-2026. **\$1,042,991**. AREC Funds: \$238,362.
6. **Upendram, S.** and J.C. Mingie. “Southern Dairy Growth Opportunities” Dairy Alliance 2023. **\$15,000**. AREC Funds: \$15,000.
7. **Upendram, S.** “Rural Tennessee Digital Literacy Training” AT&T Foundation 2023. **\$100,000**. AREC Funds: \$100,000.
8. Collins, D., **S. Upendram**, J. Crowe, L. Middleton, A. Hall and J. Harris. “2023 Tennessee 4-H Tech Changemakers” National 4-H Council. 2023-2024. **\$152,000**. AREC Funds: \$10,777.
9. **Upendram, S.** , S-H. Cho, and A. Shrestha. “The Economic Impacts of Labor Migration on Climate Change Adaptation, Technology Adoption and Agricultural Productivity in Nepal during the COVID-19 Pandemic” 2022 Harley and Juanita Travel Award, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. **\$4,750**. AREC Funds: 4,750

10. **Upendram, S.**, N. Poudyal, and A. Shrestha. “The Economic Impacts of Labor Migration on Climate Change Adaptation, Technology Adoption and Agricultural Productivity in Nepal during the COVID-19 Pandemic” Smith Center for International Sustainable Agriculture - University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Faculty Global Seed Grant 2022. **\$2,000**. AREC Funds: \$2,000.
11. Collins, D.P., **S. Upendram**, S. Brawner, J. Crowe, and J. Harris. “Tennessee 4-H Tech Changemakers – Teens in Action” National 4-H Council. 2022-2023. **\$200,000**. AREC Funds: 10,351.
12. Eckelkamp, E., S. Stearns, W. Pepper, S. Jean-Philippe, Charles Martinez, C. Stephens , J. Shanks, H. Wright, D. Bilderback , **S. Upendram**, K. Ferguson, K. Jensen, A. Rihn, R. Holland, M. Leffew, M. Childs, J. Lim, C. Sneed, T. Woods, S. Zhao, E. Spencer, K. Burdine, J. Pierce, S. Ward, A. Weaver, N. Wolf, C. Hollifield, B. Whitmire, J. Hickerson, H. H. Barlow, and B. Lackey. "Southeast Dairy Business Innovation Initiative" USDA NIFA Agricultural Marketing Service, 2021-2024. **\$6,133,333**. AREC Funds: \$399,613.
13. Beck, M, O. Kilic, **S. Upendram**, J.D. Everett, C.M. Cronley. “Equitable and Ubiquitous Converged Data and Transportation Services for Underserved Communities” National Science Foundation – Smart and Connected Communities, 2021-2022. **\$150,000**. AREC Funds: \$28,750.
14. Broyles, T., **S. Upendram**, and I. Baxter. “Tech Change Makers 3.0” National 4-H Council, 2021-2022. **\$91,500**. AREC Funds: \$10,000
15. Pepper, H.H., R. Holland, E. Eckelkamp, H. Wright, D. Bilderback, D. Hughes, C. Stephens, **S. Upendram**, K.L. Jensen, M. Morgan, M. Leffew, J. Bruhin, C. Sneed, N. Miller, P. Dugger, K. Ferguson, and C. Martinez. “Dairy Business Innovation Initiative”, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, 2020-2023. **\$6,109,487**. AREC Funds: \$55,100.
16. **Upendram, S.**, B.C. English, C.D. Clark, K. L. Jensen, R.J. Menard, D.W. Hughes, and J. Buchanan. “Drinking Water and Wastewater Rate Study”, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation/Environmental Protection Agency Region 4, 2020–2024, **\$180,000**. AREC Funds: \$180,000
17. Baxter, I., and **S. Upendram**. “Digital Literacy in Tennessee”. One UT Collaboration and Innovation Grant. 2020-2022. **\$50,000**. AREC Funds: 18,000
18. **Upendram, S.** and I. Baxter. “Bridging the Digital Divide in Rural Tennessee: Expanding a Library Mobile Hotspot Lending Program”, University of Tennessee Community Engaged Seed Grant, 2020-2021. **\$15,000**. AREC Funds: 15,000
19. Roberson, P, J. Greig, **S. Upendram**, and S. Jarvandi. “An innovative Communication Initiative to Improve Diabetes Education for Rural Appalachian Families” University of Tennessee Interdisciplinary Research Seed Grant, 2020-2022. **\$80,000**. AREC Funds: 8,250.
20. Rials, T., B.C. English, T. Yu, N. Labbé, J. Carrier, N. Abdoulmoumine, K.L. Jensen, J. Thompson, J.A. Larson, D.W. Hughes, **S. Upendram**, C. Trejo-Pech, C. Boyer, C.D. Clark, and D.G. Hodges. “Project 001(E) Alternative Jet Fuel Supply Chain Analysis” Federal Aviation Administration, 2020-2022, **\$250,000**. AREC Funds: \$105,000.
21. Jagadamma, S., F. Walker, L. Duncan, M. McClure, and **S. Upendram**. “Demonstrating the impacts of cover crops for soil health and farm profitability in Tennessee”, Tennessee Department of Agriculture, 2019-2023. **\$341,493**. AREC funds: \$600.

22. Pepper, H.H., N. Miller, P. Dugger, E. Eckelkamp, H. Wright, D. Bilderback, D. Hughes, M. Morgan, **S. Upendram**, and K. Ferguson. “Diversifying Income and Adding Value by Manufacturing Dairy Products”, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, 2019-2022. **\$454,392**. AREC Funds: \$6,930.
23. Washburn, L., **S. Upendram**, J. Yenerall, and L. Kennedy. “Preventing Rural Opioid Misuse through Partnerships and Training (TN PROMPT)”, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Rural Health and Safety Education, 2019-2021. **\$324,841**. AREC Funds: \$44,008
24. **Upendram, S.**, B.C. English, C.D. Clark, K. L. Jensen, R.J. Menard, D.W. Hughes, and J. Buchanan. “Ability to Pay Index”, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation/Environmental Protection Agency Region 4, 2019–2024, **\$350,000**. AREC Funds: 338,200
25. **Upendram, S** and J.C. Rains. “Pikeville Downtown Wi-Fi Project”, Appalachian Regional Commission, 2019–2021, **\$60,000**. AREC Funds: \$60,000
26. **Upendram, S.**, L. Eckelkamp, C. Boyer, and D. Bilderback. “Risk Management Strategies for Tennessee’s Dairy Producers”, USDA NIFA Agricultural Risk Management Education Competitive Grant, 2019. **\$5,000** AREC Funds: \$5,000.
27. **Upendram, S.** “Digital Literacy Training”, Southern Rural Development Center, 2019, **\$2,000**. AREC Funds: \$2,000.
28. **Upendram, S.** “Does mobile hotspot internet access impact rural lifestyle, education, and businesses? Evidence from distressed communities in rural Tennessee” University of Tennessee Engagement and Outreach Mini Grant, 2018, **\$1,000**. AREC Funds: \$1,000.
29. **Upendram, S.** “Travel to 2018 Regional Science Association International Congress Meeting.” UT AgResearch Travel Support to present a Paper at a Professional Meeting with Abstract. 04/2018. **\$1,200**. AREC Funds: \$1,200.
30. **Upendram, S.** “Travel funds to build collaborations with Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research.” UT Faculty International Catalyst Fund. 04/2018. Total Funds: **\$1,000**. AREC Funds: \$1,000.
31. **Upendram, S.**, L. Eckelkamp (PI), “Understanding dairy consumer perspectives in Tennessee” University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Grant, 2018, Total Funds: **\$5,000**. AREC Funds: \$5,000.
32. Jensen, K.M., M. Velandia, J. Menard, B. Wilson, B. English, and **S. Upendram**. “Economic Impacts of and Opportunities of Value-Added Agriculture and Forest Products Industry Development” Hatch Protect TEN00574. 2020-2025.
33. Jensen, K., M. Velandia, J. Menard, B. Wilson, D. Lambert, B. English, and **S. Upendram**. “Economic Impacts of and Opportunities for Value-Added Agriculture and Forest Products Industry Development” Hatch Project TEN 00484. 2015-2020.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS/ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS IN CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS (102 Presentations)

Notes: *presenter; ¹denotes supervised graduate/undergraduate student

1. **Upendram, S.** , S. Varol, S. Catma, C. Mix and J.C. Mingie. “Tempo-Spatial Analysis of Rural Gentrification” University of Tennessee Grand Challenges Summit, Murfreesboro, TN, February 2025. (Participants = 56).

2. **Upendram, S.**, W. Brondos and J.C. Mingie. “A Comparison of Affordability Methodology for Intra-County and Intra-City Jurisdictions” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Louisville, KY, February 2025. (Participants =25)
3. **Upendram, S.** and C. Morris. “Eastern Region Value Added Producer Group Workshop.” Clinton, TN, February 2025. (Participants = 12)
4. **Upendram, S.**, L. Humpal and C. Morris. “Western Region Value Added Producer Group Workshop.” Clinton, TN, February 2025. (Participants = 27)
5. **Upendram, S.** and C. Morris. “Eastern Region Value Added Producer Group Workshop.” Clinton, TN, February 2025. (Participants = 12)
6. H. Goodman, **S. Upendram**, C. French, P. Schmitt. “Community Development for Extension Professionals: Frameworks and Foundations” National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Virtual Presentation, January 2025 (Participants =42)
7. Upendram, S., Fox, J., Berry, A., Franck., K., Jarvandi, S., Johnson, K., Sedges, H., Stokes, A., **Upendram, S.** (2024). Navigating the Future: A Strategic Approach for Family and Consumer Sciences to Thrive. International Federation for Home Economics World Congress. Oral Presentation. Galway, Ireland.
8. Johnson, K., Berry, A., Sedges, H., Franck., K., Fox, J., **Upendram, S.** (2024) Planning for a Brighter Future: Five-Year Strategic Plan for Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Programs in the Southeastern United States. International Federation for Home Economics World Congress. Oral Symposium. Galway, Ireland.
9. Johnson, K., Berry, A., Sedges, H., Franck, K., Fox, J., **Upendram, S.** (2024). Evaluating the Perceptions, Skills, Spatial, and Program Impacts on the Future of a Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Program in the Southeastern United States. International Federation for Home Economics World Congress. Poster Presentation. Galway, Ireland.
10. Kelly, P., D. Rhubarb, J. Green, K. Curtis, J. de Koff and **S. Upendram**. “Future Directions for Rural Population Research: Findings from Rural Population Research Network’s Listening Sessions” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Madison, WI, July 27, 2024 (Participants =48).
11. **Upendram, S.**, H. Goodman, J. Rae-Walker and V. Jauregui. “Community Development 101” Pre-conference Workshop, National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Meeting, Houston, TX, June 17, 2024 (Participants = 54).
12. Mingie, J.C. **S. Upendram** and S-H. Cho. “How cost assumptions affect conservation decisions” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Atlanta, GA, February 2024 (Participants =25).
13. Willams, H.E¹., **S. Upendram**, S-H. Cho and J.C. Mingie. “Water affordability in Tennessee: Applying modern portfolio theory to determine efficient allocation of Clean Water Act funds” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Atlanta, GA, February 2024 (Participants =30).
14. **Upendram, S.**, D. Kahl, H. Goodman, P. Schmitt, J.Rae-Walker, and R. Welborn. “Community Development for Extension Professionals – Frameworks, Case Studies and Where to Get Started ” Virtual Meeting, April 11, 2024 (Participants = 72).
15. **Upendram, S.** and S. Hoagland. Technical, Managerial and Financial Assistance to Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems, Murfreesboro, TN, October 29, 2024 (Participants = 29)

16. **Upendram, S.** and S. Hoagland. “Eastern Region Asset Management and Financial Sufficiency Training” Technical, Managerial and Financial Assistance to Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems, Knoxville, TN, October 18, 2024 (Participants = 14)
17. **Upendram, S.** and S. Hoagland. “Western Region Asset Management and Financial Sufficiency Training” Technical, Managerial and Financial Assistance to Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems, Lexington, TN, October 16, 2024 (Participants = 8)
18. **Upendram, S.,** M. Albro and C. Barthel. “Central Region Digital Literacy Training” Murfreesboro, TN, May 29, 2024 (Participants =11).
19. **Upendram, S.** and M. Albro “Union County Digital Literacy and Cybersecurity” Maynardville, TN, May 16, 2024 (Participants =22).
20. **Upendram, S.,** M. Albro and C. Barthel. “Eastern Region Digital Literacy Training” Knoxville, TN, May 15, 2024 (Participants =12).
21. Mingie, J.M. and **S. Upendram.** “Encouraging Participant in Water Utility Assistance Programs” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Oklahoma City, OK, February 2023 (25)
22. Williams, H. ¹ and **S. Upendram.** “Beneficial Social Impacts of Urban Green Spaces in Knox County” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Oklahoma City, OK, February 2023 (37)
23. Mingie, J.M. and **S. Upendram.** “How Risk Diversification for Conservation Investment is Affected by the COVID-19 Real Estate Market Shock” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Oklahoma City, OK, February 2023 (37)
24. Shrestha, A. ¹ and **S. Upendram.** “Economic Impacts of Labor Migration on Climate Change Adaptation, Technology Adoption and Agricultural Profitability in Nepal” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Oklahoma City, OK, February 2023 (42)
25. **Upendram, S.** and D.W. Hughes. “Rural Energy for America Program” Virtual Workshop with USDA-Rural Development, February 2023 (47)
26. Emery, M., S. Chazdon, M. Dougherty, and **S. Upendram***. “[Reinvigorating the Community Capitals Framework to frame and document our work](#)” National Association for Community Development Extension Professionals, Indianapolis, IN, June 2022.
27. Lerner, M.*¹, **S. Upendram,** and I. Baxter. “[Bridging the Digital Divide: Community Programs Targeting Broadband Access and Adoption in Rural Tennessee](#)” College of Communication and Information Research Symposium, Knoxville, TN, February 2022. **First Place Award for Student Poster.**
28. Jensen, K.L., K.L. DeLong*, **S. Upendram,** E.A. Eckelkamp, and S. Gerloff. “[How Far is Local? Tennessee Consumer Perceptions about Travel Distance for Milk and Dairy Products](#)” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, February 2022.
29. **Upendram, S.*** “[Tennessee Energy Funding Opportunities](#)” Rural Energy for America Program virtual workshop, February 2022.
30. Marks, M.L.*¹, **S. Upendram,** J.M. Thompson, and T.E. Yu. “[Comparison of Affordability Indices for Water Infrastructure Upgrades in Tennessee](#)” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, February 2022.
31. Marks, M.L. *¹, J.M. Thompson, **S. Upendram,** and T.E. Yu. “[Sick Meat: The Global Trade Costs of a Human Pandemic](#)” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, February 2022.

32. **Upendram, S.*** “Government Programs” Haywood County Landownership and Estate Planning Workshop, Brownsville, TN August 2021.
33. Davis, K., and **S. Upendram***. “Seniors Gaining Ground in Learning Computer Literacy Skills” FCS Reimagined: The 2021 Family & Consumer Sciences Professional Development Conference, August 2021.
34. **Upendram, S.***, L. Washburn, J. Yenerall, K. Sergeant, and K. Franck. “Preventing Rural Opioid Misuse through Partnerships and Training” 2021 Community Development Society Virtual Conference, July 2021.
35. **Upendram, S.*** “[Bridging the Digital Divide in Rural Tennessee: A Library Mobile Hotspot Lending Program](#)” Virtual World Community Development Conference, June 2021.
36. **Upendram, S.*** “Succession Planning and Land Values” Haywood County Land Estate Planning Virtual Workshop, April 2021
37. Aza, O.F. ^{*.1}, **S. Upendram**, M. Velandia, and C.O. Trejo-Pech. “[Factors Influencing the Long-Term Sustainability of Dairy Cooperatives: The Case of Dairy Associations in Cumbal, Colombia](#)” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Virtual Annual Meeting, February 2021.
38. Marks, M.L. ^{*.1}, **S. Upendram**, and J. Thompson. “[Factors Determining Affordability of Water Infrastructure Upgrades in Tennessee](#)” Selected Poster, Southern Agricultural Economics Association Virtual Annual Meeting, February 2021.
39. Marks, M.L. ^{*.1}, J. Thompson, and **S. Upendram**. “[Human Health Event Effects on Protein Trade](#)” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Virtual Annual Meeting, February 2021.
40. **Upendram, S.*** “[Tennessee Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resources](#)” Rural Energy for America Program virtual workshop, February 2021.
41. **Upendram, S.*** and I. Baxter. “[Rural Broadband and Digital Divide in Tennessee](#)” University of Tennessee Engagement and Outreach Conference, Knoxville, TN October 2020.
42. Regmi, H.P. ^{*.1}, **S. Upendram**, K. Jensen, and K.L. DeLong. “[Consumer Preferences for Dairy Products Logoed as Made with Tennessee Milk](#).” Selected Poster, Agricultural and Applied Economics Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference due to Covid-19. August 10-11, 2020.
43. **Upendram, S.**, K.L. Jensen, and K.L. DeLong*. “[Consumer Milk Expenditures and Preferences for Tennessee Milk](#)” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY February 2020.
44. Regmi, H.P. ^{*.1} and **S. Upendram**. “[Determining Community’s Financial Capability to Pay for Water Infrastructure Upgrades in Tennessee](#)” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY February 2020.
45. **Upendram, S.*** “Survey of Broadband Access in Bradley County” Bradley County Commission Meeting, Cleveland, TN December 2019.
46. **Upendram, S.*** “Survey of Broadband Access in Bradley County” Bradley County School Board Meeting, Cleveland, TN December 2019.
47. **Upendram, S.*** “Dairy Consumer Perceptions and Willingness to Pay for Tennessee Milk” Farm Management Workshop, Murfreesboro, TN December 2019.

48. **Upendram, S.*** “Consumer Perceptions and Willingness to Pay for Milk and Dairy Products” Tennessee Department of Agriculture Business Development Division and Center for Profitable Agriculture, Franklin, TN November 2019.
49. **Upendram, S.*** “Digital Divide and Mobile Library Internet Hotspot Lending Program” Market Outlook Update In-Service Training, Jackson, TN November 2019.
50. **Upendram, S.*** “Digital Divide and Mobile Library Internet Hotspot Lending Program” Market Outlook Update In-Service Training, Murfreesboro, TN November 2019.
51. **Upendram, S.*** “Digital Divide and Mobile Library Internet Hotspot Lending Program” Market Outlook Update In-Service Training, Knoxville, TN November 2019.
52. **Upendram, S.*** “Milk Marketing Orders” Master Dairy meeting, Paris, TN November 2019.
53. **Upendram, S.*** “Milk Marketing Orders” Master Dairy meeting, Springfield, TN November 2019.
54. **Upendram, S.*** “Milk Marketing Orders” Master Dairy meeting, Greenville, TN October 2019.
55. **Upendram, S.*** “Milk Marketing Orders” Master Dairy meeting, Athens, TN October 2019.
56. **Upendram, S.*** “Milk Marketing Orders” Master Dairy meeting, McMinnville, TN October 2019.
57. **Upendram, S.*** “Milk Marketing Orders” Master Dairy meeting, Lewisburg, TN October 2019.
58. **Upendram, S.*** “Development of Communities’ Financial Capability for Infrastructure upgrades” Engagement and Outreach Conference, Knoxville, TN, October 2019
59. Mackenzie, G. ^{*1}, K. Jensen, **S. Upendram**, B.C. English, N. Labbé, D. Lambert, and S. Jackson. “[Consumer Preferences for Environmental Attributes in Disposable Dinnerware](#)” Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Meeting, Atlanta, GA, July 2019.
60. **Upendram, S.*** “Rural Library Hotspot Lending in Tennessee” Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Meeting, Atlanta, GA, July 2019.
61. **Upendram, S.*** and Dan Kahl. “[Building a Regional Coalition for Natural Resource Conservation](#)” [Community Development Society Meeting](#), Columbia, MO, July 2019
62. Mackenzie, G. ^{*1}, K. Jensen, **S. Upendram**, B.C. English, N. Labbé, D. Lambert, and S. Jackson. “[Consumer’s Willingness to Pay for Disposable Dinnerware Molded from Wheat Straw](#)” Western Agricultural Economics Association Meeting, Coeur d’ Alene, ID, July 2019.
63. **Upendram, S.***, J. Huff, R. Sero, and P. Lachapelle. “[Innovative practices and applications of evaluation for community and economic development](#)” World Community Development Conference, Dundee, Scotland, June 2019.
64. Eckelkamp, E.A. ^{*}, E.A. Paskewitz, H.S. Wallace, K.B. Johnson, and **S. Upendram**. “Consumer perceptions and willingness to pay for milk in Tennessee” American Dairy Science Association Meeting, Cincinnati, OH, June 2019.
65. **Upendram, S.*** “Dairy Consumer Perceptions and Risk faced by Producers” Farm Management Workshop, Murfreesboro, TN, May 2019.
66. Gallardo, R., **S. Upendram***, and N. Vines. “Broadband and Rural Development 101”, 4-H Tech Changemakers, National 4-H Council Workshop, Chicago, IL, March 2019.

67. **Upendram, S.*** “Does internet access impact rural lifestyle, education, and businesses? Evidence from rural Tennessee.” 4-H Computer Science Pathway In-Service Training, Columbia, TN, February 2019.
68. **Upendram, S.*** “How to start a library wireless hotspot lending program?” 4-H Computer Science Pathway In-Service Training, Columbia, TN, February 2019.
69. Gallardo, R., **S. Upendram***, and N. Vines. “Broadband and Rural Development 101”, 4-H Tech Changemakers, National 4-H Council Workshop, Washington, D.C. January 2019.
70. Hughes, D.W. and **S. Upendram***. “Understanding the numbers in County Level Impact Reports” Farm Management Workshop, Murfreesboro, TN December 2018.
71. **Upendram, S.*** and Dan Kahl. “Working together to improve the region” Riverlands Alliance Workshop, Dover, TN. November 2018.
72. **Upendram, S.** and Nate Yates*¹. “Does internet access impact rural lifestyle, education, and businesses? Evidence from distressed communities in rural Tennessee” Community Engagement and Outreach Conference, Knoxville, TN. October 2018.
73. **Upendram, S.***. “Technical Assistance and Community Development Resources for Tennessee” Tennessee Main Street Program Managers’ Quarterly Meeting, Kingsport, TN. September 2018.
74. Hughes, D.W. and **S. Upendram***. “Understanding County Level Impacts on Agriculture and Forestry” Eastern Region Agricultural Agents Training, Knoxville, TN September 2018.
75. **Upendram, S.*** “Tennessee Workforce Trends and Development” Family and Consumer Sciences Professional Development Conference, Nashville, TN. August 2018.
76. Leuci, M., and **S. Upendram***. “The Renaissance of Community Development Evaluation: Brainstorming the Most Innovative Approaches for a New Era” 49th Annual International Conference of the Community Development Society, Detroit, MI. July 2018.
77. **Upendram, S.*** “Does internet access impact rural lifestyle, education, and businesses? Evidence from rural Tennessee” 49th Annual International Conference of the Community Development Society, Detroit, MI. July 2018.
78. **Upendram, S.***, L. Hirschvogel, and B. Das. “Assessing the affordability threshold of communities to comply with water regulations: A regional approach” Forty under Forty, 12th World Congress of the Regional Science Association International, Goa, India. May 2018.
79. **Upendram, S.*** and Y. N’Guessan. “Clarence Cannon Conundrum: relinquish storage or not?” Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Jacksonville, FL. February 2018.
80. **Upendram, S.*** and B. Wilson. “Understanding population shifts in Tennessee; A 100–year analysis”, poster presented at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meeting, Jacksonville, FL. February 2018.
81. Menard, J., **S. Upendram***, B.C. English, and K. Jensen. “Economic Contribution of Agriculture and Forestry in Tennessee,” poster presented at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meeting, Jacksonville, FL. February 2018.
82. Sharma, A.*, W. Ambrose, M.R. Bayan, and **S. Upendram**. “Glade Community Responses following eight years of restoration treatments in Central Missouri,” Ecological Society of America, Portland, OR. August 2017.

83. Sharma, A.*, Ambrose, W., Bayan, M.R., and **S. Upendram**. “Missouri glade ecosystem restoration and management: Responses following 8 years of restoration treatments in central Missouri”. 53rd Annual Meeting of the Missouri Academy of Science, St. Charles, MO. April 2017.
84. **Upendram, S.*** “Value of a Water Reservoir: An Economic Assessment of Reservoir Construction and Operations in North–Central Missouri,” Mid–Continent Regional Science Association Meetings, Charlotte, NC. June 2016.
85. **S. Upendram***, L. Divakar, and A. Anandhi. “Vulnerability of Water Resources to Climate Change in Kansas: Impacts and Adaptation Strategies,” American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers 1st Climate Symposium – Adaptation and Mitigation, Chicago, IL. May 2015.
86. Wibowo, R.P.* , **S. Upendram**, and J.M. Peterson. “[Irrigation Technology Upgrades and Waters Savings on the Kansas High Plains Aquifer](#)”, Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Atlanta, GA. February 2015.
87. **Upendram, S.***, R.P. Wibowo, and O. Odeh. “[Spatial Analysis and Implications of Cross–Country Food and Retail Sectors in Virginia](#)”, Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Atlanta, GA. February 2015.
88. **Upendram, S.*** “[Are water–compelled rates still relevant on the Missouri river?](#)”, Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings, Dallas, TX. February 2014.
89. **Upendram, S.*** “Savings and Economic Impacts of Energy Efficiency Programs in Missouri, Regional Economic Models, Inc. User’s Conference, Washington, D.C. October 2012.
90. **Upendram, S.*** “Economic Impacts of Irrigation Scheduling and Technology Upgrade,” International Crops Research Institute for Semi–Arid Tropics, Patancheru, Telangana, India, November 2010.
91. **Upendram, S.*** “Optimal Irrigation and Risk-efficient Crop Choices in Western Kansas,” American Agricultural Economics Association Meeting, Milwaukee, WI. July 2009.
92. **Upendram, S.*** “[A Spatial Econometric Analysis of Retail Trade and Commuting Patterns in Rural Counties of Missouri](#)” Southern Regional Science Association Meeting, San Antonio, TX. April 2009.
93. **Upendram, S.*** “Economic Impacts of Forestry Products on Missouri,” Mid-Continent Regional Science Association Meetings, Colorado Springs. June 2008.
94. **Upendram, S.*** and J.M. Peterson. “[Groundwater Conservation and Impact of an Irrigation Technology Upgrade on the Kansas High Plains Aquifer](#)”, Western Agricultural Economics Association Meeting, Portland. July 2007.
95. Peterson, J.M.* and **S. Upendram**. “Groundwater Irrigation Management at Variable Risk Preferences,” University Council of Water Resources Annual Meeting, Santa Fe, NM. July 2006.
96. **Upendram, S.*** and J.M. Peterson. “[Optimal Irrigation Schedules and Estimation of Corn Yields under Varying Well Capacities and Soil Moisture Levels in Western Kansas](#)”, Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meeting, Orlando. February 2006.
97. **Upendram, S.*** “Farm Level Parametric and Non–parametric Analysis of Measurement Error,” Western Agricultural Economics Association Meeting, San Francisco, July 2005.

98. **Upendram, S.*** “[Economic Impacts of Agricultural Sector and Agricultural Exports on the Economy of Kansas](#)”, Southern Agricultural Economics Association, Little Rock, AR. February 2005.
99. D.L. Darling* and **S. Upendram**. “[What Causes Communities to Prosper?](#)”, Risk and Profit Conference, Manhattan, Kansas. August 2004.
100. **Upendram, S.***, O. Odeh, and B. Subramanyam. “Economic Analysis of Heat Treatment as an Alternative to Methyl Bromide, Western Agricultural Economics Association Meeting,” Honolulu, HI. July 2004.
101. **Upendram, S.*** “Economic Impacts of Production Agriculture on the Local Economy: A Case Study of Western Kansas, Mid-Continental Regional Science Association Meeting,” Madison, WI. June 2004.
102. D. L. Darling* and **S. Upendram**. “The Strength Index: A Measure of Prosperity in Kansas,” Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences, Honolulu, HI. June 2004.
103. **Upendram, S.*** “[Economic Impacts of an Exports Assistance Program on the Arkansas Economy](#)”, Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meeting, Tulsa, OK. February 2004.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS (21 Presentations)

1. **Upendram, S.** and M. Albro. “Does Broadband Access and Digital Literacy Skills Impact Rural Workforce, Education and Businesses? Evidence from Communities in Rural Tennessee” [Digital Access Research Forum](#), Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Kansas City, MO, September 2025.
2. Green, J.J., K. Curtis, K. Brant, **S. Upendram**, P. Kelly. “Future Directions for Rural Population Research to Inform Extension: Findings from Listening Sessions” North Central Regional Center for Rural Development Webinar, February 2025.
3. Lerner, M. ^{*,1}, **S. Upendram**, and I. Baxter. “Bridging the Digital Divide: Community Programs Targeting Broadband Access and Adoption in Rural Tennessee” Tennessee Library Association Annual Conference, Knoxville, TN, April 2022.
4. **Upendram, S.*** “[The Power of Community: Advice for Designing, Implementing and Assessing Community-Engaged Research](#)” College of Communication and Information Research Symposium, Knoxville, TN, February 2022.
5. **Upendram, S.***, J. Greig, D. Socia, M. Owens, and C. Ivey. “Impacting Tennessee Broadband Panel Discussion” Association of County Mayors Annual Meeting, Murfreesboro, TN August 2021.
6. **Upendram, S.*** and R. Gallardo. “Digital Inclusion and Rural 101” 4-H Tech Changemakers Virtual Training Workshop, April 2021.
7. **Upendram, S.*** and V. Jones. “Strategic Initiatives for Small and Disadvantaged Communities” Environmental Protection Agency (Region 4) Virtual Presentation, March 2021.
8. **Upendram, S.*** “[Targeting Investments in Rural Broadband that Enable Rural Economies and Communities](#)” *Invited panelist* at Broadband’s Role in Rural Economic Development Conference, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, Virtual Conference, January 2021.
9. **Upendram, S.*** “Rural Broadband Strategies for Knox County Schools” Knoxville Chamber of Commerce, Knoxville, TN October 2020.

10. **Upendram, S.*** “Assessing Rural–Urban Digital Divide: Broadband Programs in Tennessee” Knox County Education Foundation, Knoxville, TN October 2020.
11. **Upendram, S.*** “Consumer Perceptions and Willingness to Pay for Milk and Dairy Products” Tennessee Department of Agriculture Business Development Division and Center for Profitable Agriculture, Franklin, TN November 2019.
12. Gillespie-Marthaler, L. and **S. Upendram***. “Ability to pay Index for drinking water and wastewater systems in Tennessee” Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 - State Revolving Fund Director’s Meeting, Atlanta, GA, July 2019.
13. **Upendram, S.***. “Farmers’ market data, economic and Impacts” Farmers’ Market Manager Training, Memphis, TN November 2018.
14. **Upendram, S.*** “Farmers’ market data, economic and Impacts” Farmers’ Market Manager Training, Nashville, TN November 2018.
15. **Upendram, S.*** “Community Economic Development in Tennessee” Tennessee Main Street Program Managers’ Quarterly Meeting, Kingsport, TN September 2018.
16. **Upendram, S.*** “Value of Water to the Lower Mississippi River Regional Economy” Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee, Memphis, TN June 2018.
17. **Upendram, S.*** “East Locust Creek Reservoir – Economic Impacts and Water Rates Analysis,” Department of Agricultural Economics – Lunch and Learn Seminar, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. October 2014.
18. **Upendram, S.*** “Retail Trade in Leavenworth County, Forum on Development of Retail and Commercial Sectors in Leavenworth County,” Lansing, KS. November 2009.
19. **Upendram, S.*** “Understanding Regions,” Governor’s Economic Development Conference, St. Louis, MO. September 2009.
20. **Upendram, S.*** “Understanding Missouri’s Economy,” Missouri Employers Committee Meeting, Columbia, MO. May 2009.
21. **Upendram, S.*** “Missouri Retail Trade Pull Factors – Missouri Regional Focus,” Governor’s Economic Development Conference, Kansas City, MO. September 2008.

ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN POPULAR PRESS

1. Thomas, C., A. Lia and **S. Upendram**. “[Nonprofit Organizations and Community Engagement: Bridging Gaps in Local Support](#)” *Southern Ag Today* 5 (30.5). July 2025.
2. **Upendram, S.** and C. Thomas. “[Population Change in Southern United States](#)” *Southern Ag Today*, June 2024.
3. C. Thomas and **S. Upendram**. “[A View of Commercial Banks in Southern Region](#)” *Southern Ag Today*, April 2024.
4. **Upendram, S.** “[Digital Divide in Rural Communities](#)” *Southern Ag Today*, March 2022.
5. **Upendram, S.** “University of Tennessee Initiative Aims to Improve Transportation and Digital Equity” *Around the South Newsletter*, Southern Rural Development Center, February 2022.
6. **Upendram, S.** “Bridging Digital Divide through Community Broadband Initiatives” *Around the South Newsletter*, Southern Rural Development Center, July 2021.
7. **Upendram, S.** “Bridging Tennessee’s Digital Divide through Community Projects” *Mid-South Land Values and Lease Trends Report*, American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, May 2021.

8. Gallardo, R., B. Whitacre, I. Kumar, and **S. Upendram**. “Research Report: Broadband and Job Productivity – What Matters?” *The Daily Yonder*, August 2020.
9. **Upendram, S.** “National Digital Extension Education Team Trains Youth and Adult Leaders in Bridging the Digital Divide” *Around the South Newsletter*, Southern Rural Development Center, April 2019.

SERVICE

- Faculty Senator, University of Tennessee Faculty Senate – 2025-2027.
- Greever Endowed Chair of Agribusiness Faculty Search Committee, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Tennessee, 2025.
- Invited member of Tennessee Broadband Taskforce – 2025 and 2024.
- Program Leadership Committee Representative, Community Resource Development Committee, Southern Region – Program Leadership Network, 2024-2025.
- Nutrition and Health Search Faculty Search Committee, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Tennessee, 2024.
- Community Health Faculty Search Committee, Family and Consumer Sciences, University of Tennessee Extension, 2024.
- University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Leadership Team Member for University of Tennessee Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement, University of Tennessee, 2024.
- Committee Member for Institutional Review Board and Engaged Research, University of Tennessee, 2024.
- Community and Economic Development Faculty Search Committee, Tennessee State University, 2022.
- Chair, Community Resource Development Committee, Southern Region – Program Leadership Network, 2022-2023.
- Vice-Chair, Community Resource Development Committee, Southern Region – Program Leadership Network, 2021-2022.
- Secretary, Community Resource Development Committee, Southern Region – Program Leadership Network, 2020-2021.
- Faculty Secretary, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Tennessee, 2020-2021.
- Technical Operational and Advisory Committee – Southern Rural Development Center, 2019-2021
- Topic Leader and Reviewer, Rural/Community Development Section, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Meeting 2018–2020.
- Co-Chair, Agriculture Day, University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, 2018-2019.
- Quiz Bowl Judge, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Meeting 2017.

REVIEWER

- Grant Reviewer for:
 1. *United States Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Marketing Service Grant Review Panelist* for Farmers Market Promotion Program (grant awards of up to \$500,000) - 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.
 2. *United States Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Marketing Service Grant Review Panelist and Chair* for Value Added Producer Program (grant awards of up to \$500,000) – 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025.
 3. *United States Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Marketing Service Grant Review Panelist* for Local Meat Capacity Equipment Program (grant awards of up to \$250,000) – 2023.
 4. *United States Department of Agriculture-Agriculture and Food Research Institute Grant Review Panelist* for Innovation for Rural Entrepreneurs and Communities Program (grant awards of up to \$500,000) – 2020, 2026.

- Manuscript Reviewer for:
 1. *Journal of Human Sciences and Extension, 2024*
 2. *Mires and Peat, 2023*
 3. *Agricultural Systems, 2021*
 4. *Journal of Rural Social Sciences, 2020*
 5. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 2020*
 6. *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 2019 to present*
 7. *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, 2017 to present*
 8. *Water, 2017 to present.*
 9. *Resources, 2017 to present.*

- Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics Reviewer for Extension publications:
 1. 2024 – 2 manuscripts
 2. 2021 – 2 manuscripts
 3. 2020 – 8 manuscripts
 4. 2019 – 2 manuscripts
 5. 2018 – 1 manuscript
 6. 2017 – 1 manuscript

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES**Major Professor Master of Science (M.S.) Students:**

1. Jonathan Brondos, Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis title: “A comparison of affordability methodology for intra-county and intra-city jurisdictions.” Expected Graduation: Spring 2027.
2. Hannah Williams, Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis title: Water Affordability in Tennessee: Applying Modern Portfolio Theory to Assess the Risk-Return Trade-Off of Clean Water Act Subsidies.” Graduated – Spring 2024.
3. Amrit Shrestha, Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis title: “The Economic Impacts of Labor Migration on Climate Change Adaptation, Technology Adoption and

- Agricultural Profitability in Nepal During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Graduated – Summer 2023.
4. Mary Lynn Marks. Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis title: “Determining Community Financial Capabilities to Improve Water Infrastructure.” Graduated – Spring 2022.
 5. Omar Fuelantala. Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis title: “The Factors Influencing the Leader’s Perceptions of Success of Dairy Associations: The Case of Cumbal – Nariño’s Dairy Associations.” Graduated Summer 2021.
 6. Hari Regmi. Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis title: “Climate Change and Variability: Nepal Rice Farmers’ Perception and Determinants of Adaptation Strategies.” Graduated Summer 2020.

Committee Member for Master of Science (M.S.) Students:

1. Bajagain, Prahlad. Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis title: “Consumer Willingness to Pay for Value-Added Dairy Products.” Graduated – Summer 2025.
2. Haley, Wyatt. Thesis Title: Dairy Revenue Protection: Choice Determinants and Performance Assessment.” Graduated – May 2024.
3. Pate, Lauren. Thesis title: “The Value of Home Charging Infrastructure to Electric Vehicle Adoption.” Graduated – December 2024.
4. Kramer, Amanda. Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science. Thesis title: “Impact of Cover Crop Species Diversity on Soil Nutrient Availability and Farm Profitability.” Graduated – Fall 2022.
5. Gill, Mackenzie. Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis title: “Consumer Preferences for Environmentally Friendly Disposable Dinnerware Alternatives.” Graduated – Spring 2020.
6. Ahles, Amelia. Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis title: “The Economics of Global Saturated Fat Intake and Implications for Public Health.” Graduated - Spring 2020.

Independent Study Instruction

AREC 493 – Special Topics in Agricultural Economics, Undergraduate - 2022, 2020, 2019, 2018.
AREC 593 – Special Topics in Agricultural Economics, Graduate – 2022, 2021, 2020.

Guest Lecture

AREC 570 – Advanced Natural Resource Economics – Fall 2025, Fall 2024.
COSC 494/594 – Cloud and Edge Computing, Undergraduate – 2021.

Extension Internships Supervised

1. Carl, Ciara. Summer 2022. “Digital Literacy Training in Tennessee”
2. Lerner, Makayla. Summer 2021 and Fall 2021. “Broadband Access and Adoption in Tennessee”
3. Sutton, Leeah. Summer 2020. “Tennessee Water Infrastructure Upgrades and Financial Capabilities of Communities”
4. Marks, Mary Lynn. Summer 2019. “Rural Broadband, Affordability of infrastructure upgrades on rural economy”

SOFTWARE SKILLS

Statistical software – SAS, SHAZAM, GAUSS, GAMS, STATA and MATLAB
Input-Output Analysis – IMPLAN, REMI Policy Insight
Risk Analysis – SIMETAR
ArcGIS Desktop Applications
Tableau Data Visualization

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association
Community Development Society
International Association for Community Development
National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals
Southern Agricultural Economics Association
Tennessee Association of Agricultural Agents and Specialists