Everyone Benefits from Online Learning

COLLEGE STATION, TX– Many people are apprehensive about participating in online learning programs. However, university studies show that everyone can benefit in an online environment regardless of their learning style.

Agriculture education is offered electronically by Extension agents and universities across the nation. Agriculture workshops, training programs, and 4–H clinics are now accessible from home computers. Assistant Research Professor at Mississippi State University, Brian McCann, said, “Online instruction can be just as effective as the more traditional face-to-face instruction that is currently being used within the Extension system.” The programs and courses offered online are as effective as the traditional face-to-face classroom setting, if the program is highly interactive. Tactical, kinetic, and visual learners have the same success rate when learning in an online environment.

It is important that the public is aware of the success rate online courses and training offer. These programs are beneficial, because they offer information on current agricultural topics to users for a lower cost than a seminar. Another benefit of these online programs is that they can be used at the convenience of the user, in the comfort of their own home.
Programs that are user friendly and highly interactive are on university Web sites and the Texas Cooperative Extension Web site at http://extensiononline.tamu.edu/. These courses offer information on agriculture education and are beneficial to everyone regardless of the way they normally learn.