

Ag Risk Management Dashboard: Puts Five Categories of Farm Risk in One Place

RightRisk is handing farmers and ranchers the keys to a better-managed business with the announcement of its robust Risk Controls resource directory, now available at RightRisk.org/controls. Unlike standard educational pages, this directory serves as a curated information filing cabinet, providing direct, real-time links to the data streams producers need to make informed decisions every day.

In the world of agriculture, risk is simply the uncertainty of outcomes that matter to your operation. While many things, like cattle market swings or a sudden summer drought, are outside of a manager's direct influence, how a producer prepares for them is not. The Risk Controls directory is built to help managers move from simply accepting risk to actively controlling it by staying better informed.



Navigating the Five Pillars of Risk

The directory at RightRisk.org/controls is organized into five critical areas that impact every farm and ranch operation. Rather than providing internal software, this page connects users to the authoritative public data sources.

Market Risk: This section focuses on the uncertainty of prices for both inputs and outputs. A major highlight is the extensive list of [Hay Prices](#), providing direct links to *USDA Agricultural Marketing Service Direct Hay Reports* and *Weekly Summaries* for states including Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, and many more. It also features livestock price resources, such as the *USDA Agricultural Marketing Service Cattle Reports* and *Auction Summaries*, to help producers track regional trends.

Production Risk: This area provides controls for managing the wild cards of nature. It features a dedicated [Irrigation Risk](#) category with links to *NRCS Water Supply Forecasts*, *Reservoir Status Reports*, and *SNOTEL* data. Furthermore, it offers a [Drought Risk](#) section, connecting users to the *US Drought Monitor*, the *National Drought Mitigation Center*, and *USDA Grass-Cast* productivity forecasts.

Institutional/Legal Risk: Producers can find links to stay ahead of shifting government regulations, statutory compliance issues, and tax requirements. The directory groups federal agency homepages, including *EPA*, *USDA FSA*, *NRCS*, *RMA*, *Forest Service*, *BLM*, *OSHA*, and the *IRS*, alongside the *USDA Laws and Regulations* listing, the *American Agricultural Law Association*, the *National Agricultural Law Center*, and *Rural Tax Education* for plain-language guidance.

Human Risk: Because an operation is only as strong as its people, this section centers on labor, succession, family business communication, and the health and safety of those who run the operation. Featured resources include *AG LEGACY* for farm and ranch succession planning, the *AgriStress Helpline* for 24/7 mental health support, *AgriSafe Network* for occupational health, and *US Department of Labor* resources covering wages, safety, and agricultural employment.

How Much Risk is Right for You?

Financial Risk: This directory points toward essential resources for managing debt, credit, and overall financial position. It connects users to the *Farm Credit System*, *USDA FSA Farm Loan Programs*, and the *SBA* on the credit side, plus the *Federal Reserve's Kansas City Center for Agriculture and the Economy* and *Minneapolis Agriculture & Farming* portal for tracking broader ag credit and economic conditions.

Real-World Application: A Cow-Calf Producer's Drought Response

To see how a producer might use this page, consider a cow-calf operator who relies on native rangeland for summer grazing and irrigated alfalfa to grow winter feed.

Midway through the summer, they are deciding whether to sell their calves early or retain ownership, but they are worried about a developing drought.

Instead of relying on rumors or a gut feeling, the producer visits the [Risk Controls](#) page to gather hard data.

First, they check the [Production Risk](#) section. By looking at the *US Drought Monitor* and the *USDA Grass-Cast* productivity forecasts, they can see exactly how the local rangeland is trending. They then look at the [Irrigation Risk](#) links, specifically the *NRCS Water Supply Forecasts* and *Reservoir Status Reports*, to see if they will have enough water to finish their hay crop.

Realizing that native grass is drying up and irrigation water will be shut off early, they know they will be short on feed. Next, they move to the [Market Risk](#) section. They click on the *USDA Direct Hay Report* for their state to see what it will cost to buy supplemental alfalfa, and they check the *USDA Weekly Cattle Auction Summary* to see what their calves are currently bringing.

By combining irrigation forecasts, drought maps, real-time hay costs, and cattle prices, the producer moves from guessing to making a data-driven choice. They have effectively controlled their risk by reducing uncertainty through better information.

A Time-Saver for Busy Managers

"The goal of this directory is to save producers time," says the RightRisk team. "Instead of searching through dozens of government websites or news feeds, we've placed some of the most important risk controls in one spot."

Navigating the Directory

When visiting the site, producers should look for these key layouts to help them navigate:

Resource Tab Header: Look under the Resources tab at the top of the RightRisk.org home page; Risk Controls is listed clearly there.

Categorized Link List: Scan the bold headers at the top of the page listing the five sources of risk (Market, Production, Institutional/Legal, Human, and Financial), making it easy to scan and find exactly the report you need.

External Report Pages: Read the descriptions to help you understand exactly what information you will find, such as state-specific hay and cattle summaries, water supply forecasts, or drought maps, before you even click a link.

Producers are encouraged to bookmark RightRisk.org/controls and check it weekly as part of their regular management routine.



Marketing & Price Risks



Production Risks



Financial Risks

RISK



Institutional Risks



Human Risks