INSTRUCTION MANUAL

1. Sign up to participate by filling out the Show-Me Market Showdown online registration form.

2. Join the CommodityChallenge.com network
   Go to www.CommodityChallenge.com and click “JOIN”. To join the network you’ll need to establish your personal log-in information and password.

3. (OPTIONAL) Change your “profile handle” (i.e. player name) to a fictitious name so that you can play the game anonymously.
   Each player has the option to compete anonymously in the game. This means that you can choose to display a fictitious name instead of your true name on the game’s leaderboard. This feature may be desirable if you don’t want other players to know your personal performance in the game. A player can change his or her “profile handle” at any time during the game.
   To change your profile handle, log into your CommodityChallenge.com account and click on TOOLBOX. Then, click SETTINGS. A webpage will be displayed that contains a text box where you can type your chosen “profile handle”. Once you change your profile handle it will be displayed on the leaderboard instead of your first name and last initial.

4. Join the Show-Me Market Showdown game on CommodityChallenge.com using the PASSWORD: “protectprofits”
   (NOTE: YOU WON’T BE ABLE TO JOIN THE SHOW-ME MARKET SHOWDOWN GAME ON COMMODITYCHALLENGE.COM UNTIL 8:30 AM, MONDAY, JULY 14TH.)
   Once you have established your account on CommodityChallenge.com. You can log in to the website using your e-mail address and password. To join the MU Extension Show-Me Market Showdown game, log into your account and click “FIND A GAME”. Then, on the list of games, select “MU Extension Show-Me Market Showdown”. Enter the password, “protectprofits” when requested.

5. Review the game’s production/marketing scenario.
   Each player has the following crops to market: 40,000 bu. of corn, 25,000 bu. of soybeans, and 7,000 bu. of wheat. It is assumed that corn will be harvested on Sept 15th, soybeans on Oct 1st, and wheat was harvested June 30th. Players cannot sell corn or soybeans in the spot cash market until each crop’s respective harvest date. The wheat crop is assumed to be in storage. The corn crop can be stored after harvest.
   The cost to store any commodity is $0.05/bu/mo; this charge is prorated on a daily basis. The website will automatically track your storage costs and adjust your account balance as necessary.
   The following sales/pricing methods are allowed: spot cash sales (allowed after the harvest date of each crop), forward contracts, futures contracts, and options contracts. The forward contracts available for each crop are as follows: corn (Oct 2014), soybeans (Nov 2014), and wheat (Dec 2014). The commission cost on all futures and options contracts is $50 per contract.
(That’s $25 per side of each contract; $25 to enter the contract, $25 to exit.) Any incurred commission or storage fees are deducted from the player’s account balance.

6. **Begin placing sales and market orders.**

Log into your CommodityChallenge.com account. Click “PLAY” on your profile page (next to the “MU Extension Show-Me Market Showdown” under MY GAMES). Upon clicking PLAY, you will be directed to your personal game dashboard. From your dashboard, you can view your current market position and grain balances. To place a market order, use the CASH, FORWARD, FUTURES, and OPTIONS buttons near the top of the dashboard. Upon clicking one of the sale/trade choices, you will be directed to enter sale/trade information (crop, order type, etc). Once one of your forward, futures, or options orders is executed, you will receive a confirmation e-mail from the website. The website will track all of your sales/trades and their outcomes.

7. **Monitor your positions and rank in the game**

The table in the middle of your game dashboard displays a summary of your current “sold” and “unsold” bushels. The table also shows your cumulative futures and options profits as well as the net value of your account. Click on the tabs across the top of the table to view your cumulative cash and futures “positions”, your “open orders”, and your “transactions” by crop. To view your current rank in the game, click on the button labeled “More” under the box entitled “LEADERBOARD”. Your rank in the game is determined by your current account balance.

You can download the Commodity Challenge Help Manual by clicking on HELP at the top of your game dashboard.