



United States Department of Agriculture

Farm Service Agency
Minnesota State Office
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September 15, 2008

T0: Livestock Industry Lenders and Consultants

From: Perry Aasness *Perry Aasness*
State Executive Director
USDA Farm Service Agency Minnesota

RE: October 2008 FSA Livestock Lender Workshop

With record commodity prices and input costs in 2008 and similar conditions expected for 2009, many Minnesota producers are being stretched financially. In particular, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) recognizes significant issues exist for livestock producers in Minnesota.

A series of informational meetings are scheduled throughout the state to assure maximum utilization of FSA loan programs to assist Minnesota farmers and ranchers. A variety of useful financial tools will be presented covering many aspects of the FSA loan programs. Topics to be covered include debt structure options, line of credit options, and changes made to FSA loan programs as part of the 2008 Farm Bill. An additional emphasis will be on the opportunities and possibilities of FSA's Guaranteed Loan program to assist livestock producers.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Lenders who finance agricultural operations, Extension Educators, and Farm Business Management Instructors. Local FSA Loan Officials.

WORKSHOP LOCATIONS:

| Monday Oct. 27th | Tuesday, Oct. 28th | Wed., Oct. 29th | Thur., Oct. 30th |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Holiday Inn | Best Western | Radisson | Eagles Club |
| 2365 43rd St NW Owatonna, MN | 1500 E College Drive Marshall, MN | 404 W. St. Germain St. Cloud, MN | 305 Red Lake Blvd Thief River Falls, MN |
| Time: 9:00-12:00 | Time: 9:00-12:00 | Time: 9:00-12:00 | Time: 9:00-12:00 |

SPEAKERS: **Stuart Shelstad**, Farm Loan Program Chief, St Paul, MN.
Tom DeCock, Farm Loan Program Specialist, St. Paul, MN.

Registration: Pre-registration recommended by Monday, October 20th, 2008.
E-mail: anna.parker@mn.usda.gov

Please contact your local FSA County Office if you have any questions.