Upcoming Opportunities!!

24TH Annual Farm Forum

This event has been around for many years and has become known for excellent materials presented covering many topics of interest concerning agriculture. This is a co-sponsored event with First International Bank and Trust along with the FBM program. Topics this year will include: Estate Transfer/Planning, Tax Planning Tips, Farm Enterprise Economics, Farm Bill Updates and more along with a great lunch provided at no charge!

Ag Outlook & Visions Day

The FBM program will partner with Mid Central Savings Bank-Wadena, Staples, Long Prairie to bring you another opportunity on 1/15/13 at the HUB Supper Club near Burtrum for a day of fine presentations on a variety of subjects. This day will feature: Agronomy Topics for 2013, Dairy Robotics/Farmer Panel, Legal Issues facing Farmers Today, Bio Diesel/Ag Center Research, Tax Strategies for 2013 and more. Again, a great lunch will be served at no charge to attendees!

3rd Annual Ag & Energy EXPO

Our Energy and Ag EXPO has met with great interest the last two years and we hope to continue that with a great line-up of exhibitors and speakers. We are working at allowing more time this year for interaction with the vendors and break-out sessions in response to last years suggestions. We will have a more complete agenda in upcoming issues but wanted to get the word out so you can plan to attend on 2/9/13 at the Staples Campus of CLC. This is again a partnership between the Ag & Energy Center, MCF and the FBM program.
Explore the FREE Discovery Alley Trade Show.

Dissect your dairy skills in the FREE educational sessions.

Examine your luck at the MDX Gala featuring our scholarship auction, banquet dinner, awards ceremony and CASINO night.

Uncover NEW ideas with fellow producers and industry partners

Website:: mmpa@mnmilk.org

River’s Edge Convention Center

10 Fourth Avenue South - St. Cloud, MN 56301

REPEAT:

Financial Aid Reminder:
Using your 2011 Tax Return, go online at: www.fafsa.ed.gov and complete your 2012-13 application to see if you qualify for FA. This can help reduce your tuition bill by close to 50%!!!

Our school code is: 002339. Look for an EFC of 00000 after submission as this would indicate potential full aid eligible.

Milk Production Declines –RRFN
— Nationwide, milk production declined 0.5 percent in September. Compared to one year ago, milk production per cow declined seven pounds. Cow numbers are also significantly lower, down 27,000 head in just one month. Minnesota milk output increased 0.8 percent. California was down nearly four percent. Wisconsin milk production increased almost three percent. During the past quarter, South Dakota milk production increased six percent. North Dakota milk production was up two percent.

Note: I ran this article last year and thought you would like to see how it stacks up with what is actually happening now. It’s pretty amazing!

April 11/11 (Bloomberg)

— “All the soybeans in Iowa won’t be enough to meet the anticipated surge in China’s imports over the next four years as the nation feeds a record pig herd and drives bean prices to an all-time high.

China, which doubled meat consumption in the past two decades, may boost international soybean purchases 33 percent to 66.9 million metric tons by 2014, a 16.6 million-ton increase that is more than Iowa, the largest U.S. grower, produced last year, government data show. U.S. farmers are cutting back on planting, meaning prices will rise 21 percent to $16.80 a bushel by Dec. 31, a Bloomberg survey of 20 analysts shows.

Almost half the world’s pork comes from China, which has 689 million pigs and will be responsible for all of this year’s increase in global supply, the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates. That’s adding to China’s dependence on raw-material imports from Brazil to Australia to the U.S., making it vulnerable to inflation that Premier Wen Jiabao has pledged to combat without derailing economic growth.

“China is building a livestock and meat industry in five years that took the United States 50 years,” said Michael Swanson, the senior agricultural economist in Minneapolis for San Francisco-based Wells Fargo & Co. “U.S. farm trade with China may double in the next five years.”

Tax Estimate Season Upon Us:

Keith will be receiving software available to complete early tax estimates for those who would like to get an early start on this process. At this point, your tax estimate will take place on your normal six-week cycle unless we hear from you in regard to scheduling earlier. With the nice yields and historic prices being reported this year, tax planning is essential to know how much grain you may wish to market for the remainder of 2012. Call Keith or I to schedule a tax appointment if you would like to complete an early estimate. However, remember your records must be current for us to conduct an accurate tax estimate!
November Web Page Highlight: U of M Land Rental Rates by County

As we close the 2012 crop year out we automatically focus on 2013 and the promise it holds. Many of you are in process of considering more land or certainly reviewing past rates as landlords determine their market share. This site from the University provides data by county for you to guide land rental decisions.

As you look at the chart below from this web page you will see columns showing data from the last five years as well as the top and bottom rates for 2011.

Furthermore, the data is derived from the FINBIN data collected across the state in FBM and the last column is from NASS which is a Federal Perspective on land rates for comparison purposes.

You will note a steady rise in rates over these years as you study this page. This rise will continue into 2013.

At our Farm Forum we will be looking at corn input costs going forward. This will provide some insight on what makes sense to pay for land rent and yet remain profitable.

The web address is:  http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/businessmanagement/M1195.html

The chart to the left indicates percent change by region. This is also quite valuable in determining appropriate rate increases.

With land values escalating it is important to put perspective on your land costs!
Morrison County Farm Service Agency  
16776 Heron Road  
Little Falls, MN 56345  

Contact: Darrell Larsen  
Telephone 320-632-5477 Fax 320-632-1089  
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Release No: 14-2012  

Market Assistance Loans (CCC grain) Available From FSA  

Little Falls, MN, October 23, 2012 – Morrison County Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds area farmers that Marketing Assistance Loans, also widely known as CCC Commodity Loans, are available for producers who share in the risk of producing the crop.  

Several grain marketers are full to capacity this fall, and if producers were planning on grain sales to generate cash flow and now are unable to market that grain, they might consider putting that grain under a 9-month CCC loan to generate cash. The Morrison County loan rate is $4.84 for corn, $1.83 for soybeans, $10.06 for sunflowers, and $2.93 for spring wheat.  

Loans are for up to 9 months, but can be paid back at any time. The current interest rate is 1.125%. Commodity loan eligibility requires compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements, beneficial interest requirements, acreage reporting and ensuring that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan. The crop must be harvested and in storable condition.  

Producers do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter Cyclical or ACRE program to be eligible for commodity loans. “While FSA loan rates are much lower than current market prices per bushel, CCC loans can still be a valuable tool for farmers to generate cash to pay fall expenses” said Darrell Larsen, Morrison FSA Executive Director.  

For more information, contact the Morrison County FSA at 16776 Heron Road, Little Falls, or the agency’s web site, [http://www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov), or call at 320-632-5477.  

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To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (v)