

NEWS COLUMN

Jeff Lounsbery, Extension Educator/Livestock

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Written Land Lease Meetings Scheduled

As we look toward the fall, farmers and landowners will be faced with many decisions. One of these decisions involves the land they lease or lease out. Oral farm leases will automatically renew for the 2011 growing season on September 1st unless written notice of intent to terminate or modify the existing lease is given before that date. Many people may want to use written leases instead of oral agreements, but find the idea of a written lease intimidating and inconvenient.

In response to the upcoming deadline and the calls for written leases, a program called “Management of Written and Oral Leases” will be held. The date and location for this program is Wednesday August 11th at First English Lutheran Church, Lennox. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will last approximately one hour.

The program will start with a discussion on important items to include in a written lease such as noxious weeds, fences, and who will take care of each item. The presentation will then move into an explanation of the different types of written leases that are available on cropland and pasture land with examples available. Some options include a flexible cash lease based on yield, share crop leases, and several different types of pasture leases. Finally, the program will end with a brief discussion on determining a fair rent for both the land owner and renter. The program will have information on written leases for both tenants and landlords. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. The program is free of charge and refreshments will be provided.

The program is sponsored by the SDSU Cooperative Extension Service and will be presented by Jack Davis, SDSU Farm Business Specialist, and Jeff Lounsbery, Lincoln County Extension Educator. For more information, contact Jeff Lounsbery at the Lincoln County Extension Office at 764-2756.