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NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release



August 4, 2016
www.nda.nebraska.gov

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HAY & FORAGE HOTLINE BRINGS SELLERS AND BUYERS TOGETHER

LINCOLN – Nebraska Department of Agriculture Director Greg Ibach is encouraging Nebraska producers with hay surpluses and pasture for rent, to register as a seller on the department’s online Hay & Forage Hotline service.

“Last year we had an outstanding alfalfa and prairie hay crop throughout much of Nebraska and early signs indicate another good crop this year,” said Ibach. “With drought conditions worsening in some other livestock producing areas of the country, this would be a good time for producers to register on the Hay & Forage Hotline. Buyers will also be looking for pastureland and corn stock ground to rent.”

According to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska had a 16 percent increase in hay stocks from the previous year. As of May 1 of this year, hay stocks for the state were put at 1.45 million tons. The latest crop condition report rated the current alfalfa condition in the state at 77 percent good to excellent.

The most recent National Drought Monitor indicates extreme drought conditions in parts of northeast Wyoming and southwest South Dakota. Moderate drought and abnormally dry conditions are expanding in that region and now includes much of the Nebraska panhandle.

The Hay & Forage Hotline can be accessed on the Nebraska Department of Agriculture website at www.nda.nebraska.gov. Sellers can register by filling out an online form on the NDA website or by calling 800-422-6692.

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