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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: **Christin Kamm**  
**402-471-6856**

**GOVERNOR'S AG CONFERENCE ADDS US TRADE AMBASSADOR DOUD, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESIDENT CARTER TO MARCH 9-10 PROGRAM**

LINCOLN – Today, Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) Director Steve Wellman announced the addition of speakers to an already outstanding program at the Governor's Ag Conference, March 9-10, in Kearney. These new speakers have knowledge and experience in emerging markets and international trade. In addition to these topics, the Governor's Ag Conference gives producers and agri-business leaders in Nebraska an opportunity to discuss how to drive economic growth in the state's number one industry.

New speakers at the Governor's Ag Conference include:

- Gregg Doud, Chief Agricultural Negotiator for the Office of the US Trade Representative. Ambassador Doud will provide an update on international trade efforts during the March 10<sup>th</sup> luncheon.
- Ted Carter, President, University of Nebraska will be the featured speaker at the "Celebrate Nebraska Agriculture" reception on Monday, March 9.
- Annette Wiles, a Nebraska hop and hemp producer will join a panel of speakers discussing new and emerging markets in Nebraska.

"With all of these experts in agriculture discussing a variety of topics, the Governor's Ag Conference will have something for everyone," said NDA Director Wellman. "These additional speakers join an already impressive lineup for a conference that's bound to bring people together for the future of agriculture."

The Governor's Ag Conference is coordinated by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and is co-sponsored by Farm Credit Services of America.

This year the conference is at the Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Kearney. A \$125 early registration fee covers activities and food for the entire conference. After Feb. 24, the conference registration fee increases from \$125 to \$145. Registration and additional information is available online at [nda.nebraska.gov/gov\\_ag/](http://nda.nebraska.gov/gov_ag/), or by calling NDA toll-free at 800-831-0550.

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Note: Members of the media are invited to attend the conference. Please contact Christin Kamm at [christin.kamm@nebraska.gov](mailto:christin.kamm@nebraska.gov) to make arrangements.