



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
M. MICHAEL ROUNDS, GOVERNOR

My Fellow South Dakotans:

Here in South Dakota, we are blessed with a wealth of resources that sometimes go unnoticed. We have some of the most productive soils and one of the biggest and best supplies of fresh water. Not to mention, South Dakotans have a work ethic and heritage that can match the best.



To accomplish our agriculture goals, we need to realize our full potential and identify these valuable assets. With abundant natural resources and talented, hard-working people, I know we can accomplish anything.

When we look at our vast wealth of natural resources, we would do well to recall a principle used by the famous architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, who always used what he had when designing buildings. Wright used local material when possible, while others imported expensive trendy items. Two important results followed: he built competitively, and his work complemented surrounding landscapes.

In South Dakota, I believe we really do have everything we need to accomplish our goals. But first, we must identify our resources. The Annual Report on South Dakota Agriculture, compiled by the South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service, helps us do this. The report provides information on the numbers of farms, acres of land and the production levels of our agricultural industry.

South Dakota's resources and production levels are truly impressive. Further improvement is a key component of our state's economic development goals.

I am proud to be your governor and am committed to protecting your efforts. I will continue to find ways to protect this great state and our number one industry, agriculture.

Sincerely,

M. Michael Rounds