



FARM CREDIT WEST

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News Release

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Farm Credit West Announces President and Chief Executive Officer

Adam Firestone, Chairman of the Farm Credit West Board of Directors announced that Mark D. Littlefield will succeed Kenneth E. Graff as President and Chief Executive Officer upon Mr. Graff's retirement.

Mr. Littlefield will continue in his current role as Executive Vice President-Risk Management for Farm Credit West for the remainder of the year while working closely with Mr. Graff on transition issues. He will assume full responsibility for the President/CEO position on January 1, 2011 at which time Mr. Graff will assume an advisory role to the new CEO-Elect and the Board until his retirement effective March 31, 2011.

Mark has been a member of the Farm Credit West team since 1986, and has been employed in the Farm Credit System since 1984. In his current position, Mark is responsible for Farm Credit West's Risk Management functions, including Portfolio Management, Capital Markets, Special Assets, Technology and Appraisal Services. He has been instrumental in developing risk management and economic capital modeling processes that are now in use in many Farm Credit System associations. Mark continues to be active in Farm Credit System initiatives involving risk management, economic capital and other capital issues. Mark is currently the chairman of the Financial Partners, Inc. Enhancement Prioritization Committee.

Farm Credit West is a lending institution of the Farm Credit System. The Farm Credit System is a nationwide network of borrower-owned lending institutions and specialized service organizations created by Congress in 1916. The System provides loans, leases, and related services to farmers, ranchers, rural homeowners, agribusinesses and agricultural and rural utility cooperatives nationwide.