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**Letter from the
Editorial Committee Chair**

Donald Fisher, ARA

Dear ASFMRA Members and Friends of Agriculture:

We received over two dozen manuscript submissions to review for the *2009 Journal of the ASFMRA* – the largest number of papers that have been reviewed in recent years.

As a result, this year's Journal contains twenty-one articles that cover a wide variety of topics, theories and methodologies – with something for everyone. Keep reading – there are many new things for you to consider in the following papers.

The 2009 Journal contains the most up-to-date collection of agricultural consulting, farm management and rural appraisal topics available in the world. In the following pages you will find cutting-edge manuscripts documenting research, field studies, practices and methodologies proposed by the leading academic, appraisal, consulting and management leaders of agriculture. This edition of the Journal continues to provide our membership and the agri-business community with topics on newly evolved issues and concepts for your review and consideration.

The Editorial Committee worked with the authors to ensure that each article was informative, clear and precise in the presentation of data and conclusions, and consistent with ASFMRA goals.

The Journal is laid out with all of the article abstracts up-front so that you can quickly scan through the topics and link to the ones that peak your interest and curiosity. You will find papers in the general categories of case studies, professional forum, and research. The case studies include some real-life examples that might prove useful in your own professional assignments, while the latter two include a variety of observations, research and opinions.

We have topics on land price factors, impacts of farm income, no-till and grazing activities, numerous crop issues ranging from wheat to rice, valuing damaged timber, production forecasts, livestock concepts and computerizing the dairy industry.

Our authors include university professors and students, practicing appraisers and farm managers, and experienced agricultural consultants. Several of these papers were submitted by ASFMRA members.

The Editorial Committee continues its challenge to all readers to join our highly acclaimed group of published authors. Share some of your experiences and wisdom! Most of us have encountered at least one unusual problem or situation that required original and innovative thinking to develop workable solutions. If it was new for you, chances are it will be interesting and usable by others. ASFMRA members also earn CEUs for being published! Any member of the ASFMRA will receive up to 10 CEUs for each article published in the Journal.

Ask the 2008 Gold Quill Award winners, Phillip Eberle and Russ Wallace, about their paper on recreational leases – something many of us have encountered in one form or another. It is worth the time to follow their lead and get published!!!

The Editorial Committee thanks you for your continued interest in the ASFMRA, agriculture, and the entire agricultural community.

Donald A. Fisher, ARA
Editorial Committee Chair

**Thank you to the 2009
Editorial Committee**

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