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Letter from the Editorial Committee Chair

Donald Fisher, ARA

Dear ASFMRA Members and Friends of Agriculture:

The ASFMRA Editorial Committee is proud to present the Society's 2015 Journal. More than a dozen papers were submitted to the ASFMRA Editorial Committee for consideration of publication in our 2015 Journal. This collection of papers provided our Committee with a wide assortment of topics to review and evaluate for your reading pleasure.

You will find topics on most of the appraisal, management, and agricultural consulting issues that we frequently see and/or experience in our respective professions. These papers include research and case studies illustrating new, reformed and/or revised ideas and techniques.

Examples of the many topics included in the *2015 Journal of ASFMRA* are:

- Crops including cotton and sugarbeets
- Farmland investment risk levels
- Machinery costs and net farm income ratios
- Financing and banking regulations
- Land value trends
- Forage wrapping

The 2015 Journal contains the most up-to-date collection of rural appraisal, agricultural consulting and farm management 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. Our authors include practicing appraisers and farm managers, experienced agricultural consultants, and university professors and students. About half 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.

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 2014-15 Editorial Committee

Chair

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