ADRIAN SMITH
THIRD DISTRICT, NEBRASKA

http://adriansmith.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, AND POULTRY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CONSERVATION, CREDIT, ENERGY, AND
RESEARCH

COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION
RANKING MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WATER AND POWER

September 24, 2009

The Honorable Mike McIntyre
Chairman
Subcommittee on Rural Development,
Biotechnology, Specialty Crops, and Foreign Agriculture
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman McIntyre:

Thank you for your leadership as Chairman of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Rural Development, Biotechnology, Specialty Crops, and Foreign Agriculture. Like many members of the Agriculture Committee, I have organized a number of meetings with farmers and ranchers to discuss the delicate state of the agriculture economy. Now more than ever, our products must be as competitive as possible in the world market. With that in mind, I respectfully request you hold a hearing on this matter as soon as possible.

With so much uncertainty coming from Washington, producers are feeling extremely strained and uneasy. Whether it is new environmental regulations or volatile energy prices, the cost of doing business is on the rise. According to a recently released report by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, U.S. agriculture producers will need to reach more and more foreign customers in order to restore profits.

As you know, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agriculture Service is directed to foster economic opportunity for American agriculture products abroad. Since exports are imperative for U.S. producers, I would welcome the opportunity to listen to testimony and examine expert witnesses from the Foreign Agriculture Service on their mission and overseas operations. Such a hearing would provide a valuable forum to discuss steps toward long-term stability for our producers.

Opening new export markets has long been a priority of mine, and I will continue to help Nebraska's producers meet global marketplace demands. As a member of the House Agriculture Committee, I appreciate your leadership, and thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Adrian Smith

ADRIAN SMITH
Member of Congress

416 VALLEY VIEW DRIVE
SUITE 600
SCOTTSBLUFF, NE 69361
(308) 633-6333
FAX: (308) 633-6335

503 CANNON HOB
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6435
FAX: (202) 225-0207

1811 WEST SECOND STREET
SUITE 105
GRAND ISLAND, NE 68803
(308) 384-3900
FAX: (308) 384-3902

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER