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PRESS RELEASE

John Baxa Awarded Grassland Management Award

Wabash, 2009: John Baxa has been chosen as the first ever recipient of the Grassland Management Award by the southwest Kansas NRCS office. John is a Halderman Farm Management Representative located in Sidney, Nebraska.

John explains what practices led to him getting the award. "Four years ago when I took over this farm it had 1000 acres of the most overgrazed, yucca infested grassland I had ever seen. We enrolled in a program that gave us cost share funding to drill another water well, build a network of pipelines, along with cross fencing to establish four grazing cells. We now rotate the cattle across four times per year on a May thru October grazing period, with the last grass off in the fall be the first on in spring. This allows a more natural re-growth which results in a vigorous stand, better weed control and a higher weaning weight of our calves. I have been using this program on my mother's grassland in Republic County, Kansas for about ten years. The biggest advantage that I have seen there is the consistency of our 205 day weight of the calves. Regardless of rainfall variability each year, our calves come off the cows weighing the same whether it has been a dry or wet year. In Republic County, this has aided us in control of musk thistle, red cedar and locus trees, which have become our greatest weed issue. In both areas, the cows maintain a much better condition."

Congratulations to John Baxa for earning this honor!

If you have a farm real estate need or question, Halderman Farm Management and Real Estate can provide comprehensive proposals at no charge. Contact the Main Office toll free at 800-424-2324 or via the internet at www.halderman.com.