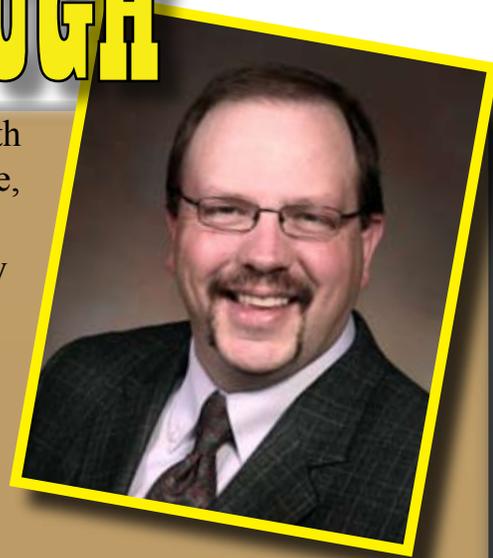


# Introduction

# JASON FEARNEYHOUGH



The future of the agriculture industry is bright. I can say this with more confidence now after participating in AgriFuture 2011 in Laramie, Wyoming. As many of you know, AgriFuture started as a dream of mine after years of discussions with young people, agriculture industry folks and others throughout the world and I couldn't be happier with how this idea has materialized over the last two years. Like the first conference in Evanston, the main goal of AgriFuture 2011 was to bring people together. This year, attendance was up and we brought numerous young people, producers, industry members, and decision makers together to discuss and map the future of our industry. This group brought remarkable ideas and insight on how we can collectively get through some of the challenges we all face today in order to reach the immense potential of agriculture. Through incredible speakers, productive brainstorming sessions, a beautiful setting in Laramie, and meaningful conversations, we took a positive and important step toward the future and health of our industry.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those involved with putting this conference together. Their hard work made AgriFuture an event to remember and provided an great stepping stone to the possibilities we all know are out there. I would also like to thank the speakers for taking the time to come and present during the conference. They offered all in attendance some new ways to look at the industry challenges and provided innovative ideas that could be taken home, implemented and built on. And finally, I would like to thank those who attended AgriFuture . Like last year, the interaction between heads of agencies, industry and students was something I was very excited to see. Along with this, the breakout sessions provided a forum for equal footing and valuable input from everyone participating. This type of dialog doesn't happen on often and it helped move the discussions forward in a constructive and impactful way through unique perspectives.

All in all, I am proud to say that AgriFuture 2011 was a success. I think it is safe to say that all who attended benefited from the conference in one way or another. Hopefully we can all take the valuable information gathered from the conference and start moving agriculture toward the bright future ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Fearneyhough".

Jason Fearneyhough  
Director, Wyoming Department of Agriculture

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

## Wednesday: Oct. 12, 2011

5:00 - 8 p.m.

Reception

Cash bar and Hors d'oeuvres

## Thursday: Oct. 13, 2011

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast Provided

8:30 - 8:45 a.m.

Jason Fearneyhough - Welcome & Intro

Tom Buchanan - Welcome to Laramie

8:45 - 9 a.m.

Rep. Cynthia Lummis - U.S. House of Representatives - Wyoming (At Large)

9 - 10 a.m.

Dr. Lowell Catlett - Keynote Speaker

How we can ensure a Bright Future for American Ag

10 - 10:30 a.m. - BREAK

10:30 - 11 a.m.

Looking back and moving forward  
brainstorming session

11 - Noon

Challenge breakouts

Noon - 1 p.m.

Lunch speaker Kevin Edberg,  
(Cooperative Development Services of  
St. Paul, Minnesota)

1 - 1:45 p.m.

Dallas Tonsager

USDA Undersecretary for  
Rural Development

## Thursday: Oct. 13, 2011 Continued

1:45 - 5:30 p.m.

Breakout Sessions, Innovations in  
Agriculture - Two Sessions

Session One: 1:45 - 3:30 p.m.

David Bell and Gregory Hanes - Local/Global:  
Feeding the neighbors and the world

Don Collins - Western Research Institute  
Milt Geiger - UW Cooperative Extension  
Energy in Agriculture - Back to the Future

Margaret Fogarty - Farm Credit Services  
The Media and Ag... Wait, that's not what I said

Kim Cullen, Troy Randall and Patrick  
Zimmerer

You graduated with an Ag degree... Now what?

3:30 - 3:45 p.m. - BREAK

Session Two : 3:45 - 5:30 p.m.

Repeat Breakout Session Presentations

## Friday: Oct. 14, 2011

7:30 - 8:30 a.m. - Breakfast

8:30 - 8:45 a.m.

Jason Fearneyhough - Review the day

8:45 - 10 a.m.

Break out session - Bring it all together

10:00 - 10:15 a.m. - BREAK

10:15 - Noon

Report Out: Agricultural Opportunities  
for the Future

12 p.m.

Jason Fearneyhough, Closing and adjourn