Welcome

Irvin T. Omtvedt
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
WELCOME:

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The University of Nebraska is pleased to serve as a co-host for this 10th Great Plains Wildlife Damage Control Workshop. We congratulate the planning committee for arranging an excellent program that covers a wide range of important issues and problems relative to wildlife damage management.

During the past three years, the University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources has been actively involved in an intensive strategic planning process and this workshop is symbolic of several of our goals. First of all, we are relying on developing new linkages to better serve our clientele and fulfill our role and mission. This involves working with other institutions, agencies and the general public. This workshop is a result of a joint effort involving many groups and relies on the close cooperation and coordination among all entities to address priority problems. We also recognize that many of the issues facing us are complex and involve the inputs of several disciplines and groups. I am particularly pleased to see the wide range of presenters and participants involved in this workshop.

As the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources developed its areas for increased emphasis, natural resources, water and environment, and agricultural profitability and sustainability were all identified as needing increased emphasis. It is obvious that wildlife damage management has a direct impact on each of these priority areas, and our staff welcomes this opportunity to work and interact with professionals from other areas to better address these important needs.

I wish to take this opportunity to personally welcome each of you to Lincoln and hope you will have an opportunity to visit the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus to get a first hand look at some of the programs and activities under way in our teaching, research, extension, and service programs related to agriculture and natural resources. We are confident that this conference will provide each of you with valuable information and insights relative to the enhancement of wildlife damage management in the Great Plains region.