



# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF **AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY**

## Gustav and Ike Damage Recovery Program



Paul Rainwater, Executive Director

MIKE STRAIN DVM, COMMISSIONER



# Multi-purpose plan

Helps farmers plant crops for the 2009 season

Helps vital agribusinesses survive

Helps retain a vital poultry freezing and shipping facility at the Port of New Orleans





# How is need assessed?

**Damages to production and agribusiness during the 2008 storms**

**Agriculture producers & agribusinesses in all 64 parishes are eligible to apply**

**Disaster funds allocated in 8 regions based on each region's proportion of total Louisiana crop damage**



# Checks and balances



**Program is designed to ensure there are no disaster relief duplication issues**

**Farm and agribusiness programs will be administered through LAFA and LDAF at LDAF district offices**

**Numerous outreach, orientation and application workshops for producers & agribusiness officials are planned**



# Louisiana Farm Loan & Grant Program



- \$31.5 in funds available
  - Must pay down existing crop loans, or
  - Direct crops costs (preparation, planting, management and 2009 harvesting)
  - For producers with financial loss greater than \$10,000
  - A grant/loan program: 80% loan, 20% grant
    - Interest 1½%, payback 5 – 10 years
    - Assistance from \$10,000 to \$100,000
    - 30 day application period





# Agribusiness Loan Program



- **\$10 million funding**
  - Operating expenses and inventory
  - Refinance more expensive business-related debt/improve cash flow





# Agribusiness Loan Program



- Suffered losses greater than \$10,000
- Assistance only in form of loan – no grants
  - 1 ½ % loan; payback 5 -10 years
  - loans of \$10,000 to \$250,000
  - 30 day application period
- Agribusiness must be related to ag production, i.e., custom harvesting, aerial applicators, ag management consultants, storage, ginning





# Louisiana Critical Farm Infrastructure Grant Program



- Provides a matching grant to Port of New Orleans
- Funding: \$10 million
- Port establishes a new cold storage warehouse to handle Louisiana poultry
- Existing facility will close when MRGO is closed



# For Assistance

LDAF headquarters  
in Baton Rouge

225-922-1277

[www.ldaf.state.la.us](http://www.ldaf.state.la.us)