

## **USDA RURL DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, D.C.**

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### **USDA APPOINTS JAMES BARR TO HEAD RURAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN NEBRASKA**

WASHINGTON, March 30, 2001 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture today appointed M. James Barr as the Nebraska State Director for USDA Rural Development.

Barr, from York, Nebr., is the Chief Executive Officer of Lockridge Farms, Inc, and an agriculture and natural resource coordinator for U.S. Representative Doug Bereuter. Prior to joining Congressman Bereuter's staff in 1979, Barr spent nearly ten years working on natural resource planning and development issues for the state of Nebraska.

Barr received his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Agricultural Economics from the University of Nebraska, and served in the United States Air Force from 1962 to 1965. He is the past president of the York Lions Club and belongs to the Soil and Water Conservation Society, Nebraska Angus Association, Nebraska Cattlemen, American Agricultural Economics Association, Nebraska State Historical Society, and the Society of Range Management.

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead federal entity for rural development needs, and administers program assistance through three agencies: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business - Cooperative Service, and Rural Utilities Service. Further information on USDA Rural Development programs can be obtained by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

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