

February 1, 2010

Dear Texas Farmer or Rancher,

Holistic Management-Texas invites you to attend a 2010 Drought Mitigation Workshop that is near you. This workshop series is a collaborative effort involving FarmAid, HMI Texas, Sustainable Food Network, Lutheran Social Services, TOFGA, and the Texas Mexico Border Coalition.

Holistic Management is a decision-making framework that requires landowners to plan far in advance for events that affect their land and agricultural operation. Holistic managers **expect and plan for** drought, so they are able to prepare for and manage through it, and sustain themselves while recovering from it.

You can expect to learn the details that define drought: what causes it and the long term effects on the land in your region. Traditional farmers and ranchers will learn new ways to stay in business during challenging times without compromising programs they have spent many years developing. Each workshop will be tailored specifically for the region in which it is presented so land stewards are encouraged to attend near home , as the materials will be designed just for you.

Presenter Walt Davis has years of experience to share with his audience. His practical first hand knowledge of dealing with drought will give you the tools you need to overcome stress on your land and your financial bottom line, all while keeping his presentation engaging and humorous. If you would like to know about Walt, his website is [www.ranchingschoolofhardknocks.com](http://www.ranchingschoolofhardknocks.com)

**For specific dates and locations, please see the enclosed flyer. Feel free to make copies and post them in your community. We want to thank Farm Aid for their commitment to keeping producers on the land and supporting this event with their generous financial support, including tuition stipends for those producers who qualify. Please call our office to ask about a tuition scholarship or travel stipend. Scholarships are available for the first 12 qualified participants who call.**

**Best Regards,**

**Amy Normand  
Executive Director  
HMI Texas  
830/868-2427**