



Introduction

Farmplan: Financial and Production Planning Software for Farmers and Lenders.

Farmplan version 2.0 was released in January 2002. It is an enhancement over the previous version 1.04 released November 2000. We have taken the suggestions made by farmers, lenders and our staff and have made many improvements to the program to provide you with better information.

Farmplan is a farm financial and production planning tool, written in *Microsoft Excel* '97, useful to farmers and lenders, and available for free download from the Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives web site at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture>

From hobby farmers to large commercial enterprises, agricultural producers can use Farmplan computer software as a tool to help make farm management decisions.

Farmplan software generates documents such as the debt servicing worksheet, a pro-forma net worth statement, monthly cash flow, and cash and accrual farm income statements and space for five years of history. The plan addresses viability issues, shows producers the direction in which their farm is going and more importantly, where they will be financially at the end of the plan.

This program will be useful to farmers who are used to doing farm planning and filling out annual lines of credit for their financial institution. It shows producers if their plan will make money, and it also provides financial institutions with all the information they need in support of their lending activity.

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives has developed this program primarily for its staff to use in assisting farmers with financial and production planning. We are not in the business of developing farm software. However, we know that our departmental software is also useful directly by producers, lenders and others outside the department. Therefore, we are making it available to the public through our web site in the interest of all Manitoba farmers.

Farmers who want to receive a copy of the program, but do not have Internet access, are asked to bring a diskette to their local GO office. We would encourage farmers to make arrangements with the GO staff for assistance in using the program and interpreting the results.

Contact:

Peter Blawat, P.Ag.

Policy Analyst

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Winnipeg, MB Ph. (204)945-3502, email peter.blawat@gov.mb.ca