

**29 FEB 2008**

**USDA Announces Chief Economist**

Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer today announced the selection of Joseph Glauber, Ph.D., as U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) chief economist. Glauber has served as acting chief economist since the Jan. 3, 2008, retirement of Keith Collins, Ph.D.

"I am pleased that Joe Glauber's thoughtful contributions will continue to guide USDA's informed decision-making for the continued betterment of American agriculture," said Schafer. "Joe is highly regarded for his thorough analysis and insight and well-prepared for the demands of this post through 15 years of demonstrated strength in agricultural economics as USDA deputy chief economist."

As chief economist, Glauber is responsible for USDA's agricultural forecasts and projections and for advising the secretary of agriculture on economic implications of alternative programs, regulations and legislative proposals. His responsibilities include the Office of the Chief Economist, the World Agricultural Outlook Board, the Office of Risk Assessment and Cost-Benefit analysis, the Global Change Program Office and the Office of Energy Policy and New Uses.