



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
EXTENSION



***Rural Route 2:
A Response to Economic Stress
In the Illinois Agricultural Industry***

Twenty-four hours a day, Illinois agricultural producers and their families facing stress related to low prices can turn to a service of University of Illinois Extension for help. ***Rural Route 2*** is a toll-free, telephone hotline at **800-468-1834**

Callers reaching the number between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays will speak to a trained professional who will listen to their problem and direct them to sources of assistance. For producers, this may mean one-on-one financial advice from a member of Extension's farm business team. Those calling after business hours can leave a message which will be returned promptly.

Rural Route 2 provides referrals for farm business and family financial advising, local social service agencies, and the Farm Resource Center. Also available is information on working through stress, assistance through the Illinois Farm Development Authority, and key USDA programs.

Direct access to a variety of information related to stress in the Illinois agricultural industry can be found at a new web site <http://www.extension.uiuc.edu/ruralroute> . This web site will be updated as new information becomes available.

The bottom line is that U of I Extension is on hand to help farm families in their time of need.

If you or someone you know could use help dealing with the present economics of agricultural production, please call ***Rural Route 2*** at **800-468-1834**.