A NEBRASKAN’S APPROACH TO DROUGHT
Drought Workshop - Garden City, KS
John Maddux Wauneta, NE
1. Have a plan
2. Hope is not a plan
3. Drought response is study human nature
4. Be proactive get ahead of problem
5. Know your REALISTIC carrying capacity
OUR DROUGHT PLAN

1. March 1 is our critical date. Livestock to liquidate identified and prioritized for April 1 sale.

2. Severe or higher drought on DMI for 1 month stocking rate reduced by 40%. Two or three of these months addtnl 30% reduction.

3. Sept 1- March 1-120 year avg precip is 4.88 inches. The % deviation added or subtracted to destocking in 2.

4. Season long deferment can mitigate reduction.

5. Keep feed inventory, using crop failures as opportunity. Destocking can be overruled by market conditions. Keep feed inventory.

6. Try to sell livestock in a tax friendly manner.
“In preparing for battle, I have always found that plans are useless but planning is indispensable.”

General Dwight D. Eisenhower
DROUGHT PLANNING

• Allows you to get ahead of problem, proactively. You are in charge of decisions not the drought.

• Don’t fall into the trap of waiting for the comeback. True in securities business or ranching.

• Having a written formal plan gives you permission to act without emotion.

• Following your plan is success, not failure.