



Prairie Lakes Coop

---

Starbuck Main Office  
PO Box 580  
Starbuck, MN 56381

320-239-2226  
Fax 320-239-2227  
[prairielakescoop.com](http://prairielakescoop.com)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information,  
Contact: Mandy Fischer  
320-760-8938

[mandy.fischer@chsinc.com](mailto:mandy.fischer@chsinc.com)

Or

Lani Jordan, CHS  
(651) 355-4946

[lanijordan@chsinc.com](mailto:lanijordan@chsinc.com)

## Patrons of Prairie Lakes Coop share in record \$1.8 million cash distribution

STARBUCK, Minn. (February 23, 2009) – About 1470 eligible patrons of Prairie Lakes Coop will share in a record distribution \$1.8 million in cash patronage and equity redemptions during 2009 based on business they've conducted with the company.

"We're extremely proud that Prairie Lakes Coop can provide this size of a return to our member owners," said Brad Manderchied, general manager. "The ability to provide a return on their investment, as well as reinvest in the future of a business they own, is one of the great advantages of being associated with a cooperative like Prairie Lakes Coop on the local level, as well as the CHS Inc. system."

During 2009, Prairie Lakes Coop will allocate a total \$4.7 million in patronage dividends to its eligible customers based on business done Sept. 1, 2007 – Aug. 31, 2008, of which \$1.8 million will be distributed in cash in the month of February.

CHS expects to return up to \$343 million during 2009 in cash patronage, equity redemptions and preferred stock to 1,200 eligible companies and more than 35,000 producers in 48 states. This will mark the largest distribution to owners ever made by a U.S. cooperative and a fifth consecutive record by CHS. CHS net income for its fiscal year ending Aug. 31, 2008, was \$803 million. Patronage is based on business done with CHS during fiscal 2008, while equity redemptions and preferred stock represent retirement of ownership in CHS earned in past years.

If they have not already done so, Individuals who have reached age 70 and representatives of the estates of deceased members are encouraged to contact Darla Schwendwmann at 320-239-2226 and request redemption of their equity. CHS makes equity redemptions to eligible individual direct members throughout the year, based on attaining age 70 or estate retirements, but potentially eligible individuals must initiate contact.

Prairie Lakes Coop ([prairielakescoop.com](http://prairielakescoop.com)), a division of CHS,

Cyrus • Elrosa • Glenwood • Hoffman  
Long Prairie • Lowry • Park Rapids • Starbuck

provides products and services in the agronomy, energy, and grain markets to meet the needs of its patrons. Prairie Lakes Coop has locations in the communities of Cyrus, Hoffman, Elrosa, Lowry, Long Prairie, Park Rapids, Glenwood and Starbuck creating relationships with customers in agronomy inputs, propane, fuel, and grain marketing.

CHS Inc. ([www.chsinc.com](http://www.chsinc.com)) is a diversified energy, grains and foods company committed to providing the essential resources that enrich lives around the world. A Fortune 200 company, CHS is owned by farmers, ranchers and cooperatives, along with thousands of preferred stockholders across the United States. CHS supplies energy, crop nutrients, grain, livestock feed, food and food ingredients, along with business solutions including insurance, financial and risk management services. The company operates petroleum refineries/pipelines and manufactures, markets and distributes Cenex® brand refined fuels, lubricants, propane and renewable energy products. CHS is listed on the NASDAQ at CHSCP.

- # # # # -

This document contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that are based on management's current expectations and assumptions. These forwardlooking

statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the potential results discussed in the forward-looking statements. The company undertakes no obligations to publicly revise any forward-looking statements to reflect future events or circumstances.

For a discussion of additional factors that may materially affect management's estimates and predictions, please view the CHS Inc. annual report filed on Form 10-K for the year ended Aug. 31, 2008, which can be found on the Securities and Exchange Commission web site ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)) or on the CHS web site [www.chsinc.com](http://www.chsinc.com).