



Rooks County Farm Service Agency

January 2011

617 S Cedar
Stockton, KS 67669

PH 785-425-6302
FAX 785-425-6308
www.fsa.usda.gov/ks

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Office Staff

James Adams,
County Executive Director
Randy Theil,
Farm Loan Manager
Jeanne Shipley,
Farm Loan Officer
Reesa Brown,
Program Technician
Kacey Johnston,
Program Technician
Kyleigh Stice
Program Technician

County Committee

Steve Cook, Chairman
William McCune, Vice-
Chairman
Betty Bedore, Member

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FSA County Committee Election

Betty Bedore was elected to the County Committee (COC) for the Northeast 1/3 of the county. Thanks to the producers who took the time to vote in the COC election. The COC is your grass roots link to Washington. Steve Cook and Bill McCune are the other COC members. Let them know of your concerns and suggestions for a better local office and State and National policies. We would like to thank Lois Ann Gasper for her years of service and representation for the county as a COC member.

DCP Signup Continues

Signup for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues until June 1, 2011. The June 1, 2011 deadline is mandatory for all participants. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications.

FSA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2011, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. FSA will issue advance direct payments later this month. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price.

Producers eligible for the DCP Program are also able to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program or the Counter-cyclical Program. You may first enroll in the DCP Program, receive advance direct payments and then later modify your enrollment to the ACRE program or you may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time in spring 2011.

2009 SURE Disaster

Signup for the SURE Program for 2009 crop losses will begin January 10, 2011, and end **July 29, 2011**. Counties that are contiguous are Phillips and Smith. If you have land in those counties you may be eligible if you had a 10% loss on a crop due to a disaster. If you don't have farm land in those counties then individual producers may be eligible if the actual production on the farm is less than 50% of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. If you have questions contact your service center.

Report Failed and Prevented Acres to FSA

Crop acreage that fails or is significantly Damaged by adverse or weather related Conditions should be reported to FSA Within 15 days of the disaster event, or When the loss is apparent, and definitely before any failed crop is grazed, hayed, silage, destroyed or abandoned. And, when weather does not permit crops from being timely planted, "prevented planting" provisions may apply. Any prevented planting acreage must be Reported within 15 days from the final planting dates set for crop insurance or NAP (non-insurable crops). Late filing fees must be charged for field inspections if the reporting deadlines are past.

Report 2011 Small Grains

Some farm operators have already reported their 2011-crop planted wheat acres. We encourage timely and accurate acreage reports that match with crop insurance records. Please call (785) 425-6302 to make your appointment to file your report. **JUNE 1, 2011**, is the final date to report acreages of wheat, oats, barley, and triticale.

Foreign Investors Reporting Rule

Foreign owners of U. S. agricultural land are required by law to report their land holdings, acquisitions, leases of 10 years or more and land use changes within 90 days to the local FSA office. Failure to report these changes can result in a civil penalty of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of their interest in the agricultural land.

Reasonable Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call the FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.

REPORT FSA FARM RECORD CHANGES

Report record changes such as the sale of any acreage, operator change (for either fall or spring crops), estate or other entity formation or dissolution now. All changes must be reported to the county office within 30 days of the change.

Loan Program for Conservation Practices

The Conservation Loan (CL) program provides access to credit to implement conservation practices that will conserve natural resources. CL funds can be used to implement conservation practices approved by NRCS such as installation of conservation structures, installation of water conservation measures, establishment or improvement of pastures, implementation of manure management, and the adaptation or other emerging or existing conservation practices, techniques, or technologies. For more information, contact the FSA Office or your Farm Loan team in Hill City, 785-421-2115.

2011 NAP Application for Coverage Deadlines Approaching

As it seems disaster events are inevitable, it is important to remember that all crops must be insured in order to maintain eligibility for SURE disaster benefits. Equitable relief waivers may not be available in future years, so please be sure to protect your eligibility for future program benefits.

Approaching deadlines for NAP are January 1st (Apples and Pears) and March 15th (coarse grains, vegetable and melon crops plus, Amaranth, Chestnuts, Cotton, Pecans, Pumpkins, Safflower, Sesame, Squash, and Walnuts).

Note: *Crops eligible for NAP benefits are limited to those not insurable in the county and are produced for food or fiber. Included as eligible crops are floricultural, ornamental nursery, Christmas trees, turf grass sod, industrial crops, seed crops, aquaculture (including ornamental fish), and forage crops for livestock (mechanically harvested or grazed).*

CHANGING BANKS

Payments made electronically using Direct Deposit has cut down on the number of missing or late payments. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. To keep the system running smoothly, it is critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions. If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

Dates to Remember

Jan 30	Deadline for LIP Application for Payment
Feb. 21	Office closed for Presidents Day
Mar. 31	Deadline for Commodity Loan on Small Grains and Honey
May. 30	Office closed for Memorial Day
May. 31	Deadline for Commodity Loan for Feed Grains and Certifying Acreage for small Grains.
Jun. 1	Final sign-up date for 2011 DCP/ACRE