



Eaton County News

Eaton County USDA Service Center

Eaton County FSA
551 Court House Drive
Charlotte, MI 48813
517-543-1512 (phone)
517-543-5962 (FAX)
www.fsa.usda.gov/mi

Hours
Monday – Friday
8:00 – 4:30

County Committee
Jack Holbrook
Wm. Hosey
Duane Smuts
Gerry Holbrook, Advisor

County Committee meets
the 1st Wednesday of
each month.

Staff
Lori Aseltine
Heather Kennedy
Mike McManus
Becky Southern
Claude Smith, Field Asst.
Mark VanBuren, CED



DCP/ACRE Enrollment Extended thru August 14

ACRE is a new program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill that begins in crop year 2009. Through ACRE, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price.

ACRE payments are made when both state- and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates. DCP/ACRE sign-up dates have been extended to **August 14**.

Producers may enroll in ACRE for 2009 even though they have already received advanced DCP payments for 2009. The decision to enroll in ACRE is irrevocable thru the 2012 crop year.

Producer can choose to participate in ACRE, or stay with DCP.

2009 CROP CERTIFICATION

Producers participating in FSA or CCC Programs are required to report all cropland acreage each year. Fall seeded small grain crops (winter wheat) must be reported by **June 30**. All other crops by **July 15**. Please call to schedule an appointment for crop certification.

Request for Soybean Referendum Ends May 29

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that it will offer soybean producers the opportunity to request a referendum on the Soybean Promotion and Research Order (Order), as authorized under the Soybean Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act (Act).

The Request for Referendum will be conducted at county Farm Service Agency offices. To be eligible to participate, producers must certify and provide documentation that shows that they produced soybeans and paid an assessment on the soybeans during the period of Jan. 1, 2007, through Dec. 31, 2008.

Continuing through May 29, 2009, producers may obtain a request form by mail, fax, or in person from the Farm Service Agency county offices. Forms may also be obtained via the internet at:
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketingprograms>
during the same time period.

Unauthorized Disposition

Loan grain is not to be disposed of through feeding, selling, or any other means without prior written authorization. The financial penalties for this are severe. Always call the office before any loan grain is fed or sold.

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 Charlotte, MI 48813



**PRESORTED STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 LANSING, MI
 PERMIT #19**

**FARM DIVISIONS-
 DESIGNATION OF BASES
 BY LANDOWNER**

The designation by landowner method of dividing crop acreage bases is done by agreement between the parent farm owner and purchaser. When requested, this method allows all parties to agree to the division of the parent farm's crop acreage bases on the resulting farms.

PAYMENT LIMIT

All programs subject to payment limitations require the participant to file a Farm Operating Plan for Payment Limitation Eligibility Review. Payments cannot be made until all payment limitation information is on file. In certain cases the County FSA Committee can initiate a payment limitation determination. Persons found not actively engaged in farming will be ineligible for program payments. members must be reported.

For those farm operations that are entities the names, addressed, and taxpayer ID numbers of all.

All payment limitation information is subject to verification through an end of year review.

Certain changes in a farming operation require the updating of payment limitation information. Changes that may affect a determination include, but are not limited to a change in:

- contract shares or lease arrangements
- size of operation by adding or deleting a farm
- structure of farming operation including changes in member's shares
- contributions of capitol, equipment, labor, or management
- acquisition of farming interests not previously disclosed

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to participate in FSA and CCC programs should contact Mark VanBuren, County Executive Director at (517) 543-1512 or (269)948-8037 or e-mail at mark.vanburen@mi.usda.gov or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-887-8339.

Dates to Remember	
May 18 th	2 nd "Buy In" Deadline for 2008 crops
May 25 th	Offices closed for the Observance of Memorial day
May 29 th	Soybean Referendum Deadline
June 30	Last day to report fall seeded small grain crops
July 3 rd	Offices closed for the Observance of Independence Day
July 15	Last day to report 2009 crops other than wheat
August 14	Final date for DCP & ACRE enrollment
Continues	Continuous CRP & CRP-SAFE
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loan

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program 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, genetic information, political beliefs, 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, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.