



**Laclede,
Camden, Pulaski
County
FSA Office**

1242 Deadra Dr
Lebanon Mo. 65536

417-532-5741 phone
417-533-3689 fax

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 am -4:30 pm

January 2011

COUNTY STAFF

Darrel McCann
County Executive
Director

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Program Technician

Visit our Website at:
www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

SURE Signup

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) begins Jan. 10, 2011. SURE provides benefits for 2008 - 2011 crop year farm revenue losses due to natural disasters.

A farm enrolled in SURE is eligible when either:

- a portion of the farm is located in a county covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration (USDA Secretarial Declarations only) or a contiguous county; or,
- actual production is less than 50% of the normal production.
- Contact the local office for more information. Requirements include crop insurance, NAP or a waiver due to socially disadvantaged, limited resource or beginning farmer status.

**Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance
Program (NAP)**

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) is a federally-funded program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed. These benefits are only available for crops for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is not available. Application for coverage must be filed by the applicable crop's application closing date. **NAP coverage is a requirement for many disaster programs.**

Production records for all crops must be reported to FSA no later than the application closing date for the crop for the following year. FSA requires that any production reported in a loss year be verifiable according to Agency specifications. *NAP losses must be reported within 15 days of loss.*

**County Committee Election
Results**

Congratulations to Warren Hoffman! Warren was Re-elected to represent farmers from Laclede on the county committee.

Berniece Hamilton was appointed as the minority advisor.

FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

Bank Account Changes

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA county office if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

Farming Operation Changes

If you have bought or sold land, or if you have added or dropped rented land from your operation, make sure you report the changes to the office as soon as possible. You need to provide a copy of your deed or recorded land contract for purchased property. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and penalties. Making the record changes now will save you time in the spring. Producers are reminded to contact the office of a change in operations on a farm so that records can be kept current and accurate.

Livestock Indemnity Program

LIP is an ongoing program to compensate producers for Livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather. There are no Disaster designations & no insurance requirements to be eligible for LIP – payments will be based on a producer’s eligible loss due to adverse weather conditions which include lightning, ice storms, flooding, wildfire, blizzard, tornado, extreme heat or cold etc documented by the FSA county committee. Producers will need to file a notice of loss within 30 days of when a loss is apparent. Payment rates per head will be 75% of the market value of livestock, by kind, type & weight range, to be determined by CCC.



Highly Erodible Land and Wetland

Conservation Compliance

Landowners and operators are reminded that in order to receive payments from USDA, compliance with Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions are required. Farmers with HEL determined soils are reminded of tillage, crop residue, and rotation requirements as specified per their conservation plan. Producers are to notify the USDA Farm Service Agency prior to conducting land clearing or drainage projects to insure compliance. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these situations can result in the loss of eligibility and all Federal payments.

Appeal Process

After an FSA official makes a decision on your request for USDA services or application, you will be sent a letter informing you of the decision and options you can pursue if you disagree.

Generally, program participants have three choices — an informal review with the original agency decision-maker, an opportunity for mediation and finally an appeal to the next level of authority within the agency.

DCP Signup & Advance Payments

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2011. Advance payments of 22% on the 2011 DCP program will be available starting December 1, 2010. The remaining 78% of your DCP payment will be issued after October 1, 2011.

Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. DCP contract signatures for enrollment are due by the signup deadline of June 1, 2011. For more information producers can contact their local FSA office.

Power of Attorney

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office or any Farm Service Agency office near you for more information.

FSA Signature Policy

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

There are exceptions to the rule, where spouses may not sign on behalf of each other for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities.

Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents.

For more clarification on spousal signature authority, feel free to contact your local FSA office.

IRS Form 1099-G

Producers annually receive CCC-1099-Gs detailing payments producers have received from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on CCC-1099-Gs is a service intended to help our customers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the producers' responsibilities to report income to IRS. FSA staff cannot interpret IRS regulations or advise producers about which payments to report on their income tax returns. However, county office staff can review payments for accuracy.

Notice to Customers Presenting Checks

Conversion of Checks: When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When we use information from your check to make an electronic funds transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day you make your payment. **Insufficient Funds:** The electronic funds transfer from your account can occur faster than a check is normally processed. Do not present a check to the cashier unless there are sufficient funds available in your checking account. If the electronic funds transfer cannot be completed because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer up to two more times. **Authorization:** By presenting your check to the cashier you authorize the conversion of your check into an electronic funds transfer. If the electronic funds transfer cannot be processed for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy of your original check.

Controlled Substance

Any person who is convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium, poppies and other drug producing plants.

Dates to Remember	
January 31	Final availability date for 2010 crop year MAL & LDP for wool, mohair and pelts
February 21	George Washington's Birthday observed – FSA offices closed
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program
February 18	NRCS's EQIP energy signup deadline
March 4	NRCS'S EQIP organic and high tunnel application deadline
March 15	Deadline for pasture and forage NAP policies
March 25	NRCS'S EQIP soil quality initiative application deadline

Darrel's Notes

If you want FSA to give aerial photos of your farm to others (appraisers, real estate agents, family, fertilizer spreaders etc.) they need a signed statement from you authorizing FSA to release aerial photos with acreages. These statements must have an expiration date. If you need photos come by the office,

If your farm suffers a weather related disaster, contact my office to discuss ECP. ECP is Emergency Conservation Program. ECP can remove debris from tornadoes, ice storms etc. Some of these storms may be isolated and I won't receive information in time to get our counties eligible for benefits without your assistance. Insurable items such as machinery and building are not covered and damages must exceed \$2500.

Farm Service Agency
1242 Deadra Dr.
Lebanon Mo. 65536



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