



November 2010

Voting for County Committee Begins

Oregon County FSA Office

Route 2 Box 2924
Alton, MO 65606

417-778-7561: phone
417-778-6719: fax

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00am – 4:30pm

County Office Staff,
Dennis Johnson
County Executive
Director

Amy Peiter,
Farm Loan Manager

Martha Henderson,
Bonnie Williams
Program Technicians

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

Ballots for this year’s county committee election were mailed to eligible voters on November 5, 2010. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on December 6, 2010. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 6.

Eligible voters in a local administrative area one (1) who have not received a ballot should contact the FSA county office staff.

Voter Requirements Persons meeting requirements in **1 or 2, plus 3**, below, is eligible to vote:

1. Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either of the following: an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper, *or* a partner in a general partnership or member of a joint venture that has an interest in a farm as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper; *or*
2. Not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm; *and*
3. Eligible to participate in any FSA program that is provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

Discrimination Prohibited No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

you did not obtain a Non Insured Crop Disaster Assistance (NAP) grazing policy.

Definitions:

BF: Has not operated a farm for more than 10 years

SD: Member of group whose members have been subject to prejudice

LR: In both the previous 2 years - 1) gross farm sales not more than \$146,400 and 2) adjusted household income less than \$22,050 as entered on IRS Form 1040

2010 payment rates are: Adult beef-\$70.74, Non Adult Beef-\$53.06, Adult Dairy-\$183.94 Non Adult Dairy- \$53.06, Sheep & Goats-\$17.68

Livestock Forage Program

Drought Disaster Assistance Available

If you are an Oregon County livestock producer and meet the definition of either, a Limited Resource (LR), Socially Disadvantaged (SD) or Beginning Farmer or Rancher (BF) you may qualify for LFP disaster assistance even though

On November 9, 2010 the U.S. Drought monitor had part of Oregon County as a D3 “Extreme Drought” and is the beginning date of the qualifying drought. Eligible livestock are livestock owned on that date or mitigated. Mitigated Livestock are livestock that were sold or otherwise disposed of because of a qualifying drought during the current production year. Proof of sale for mitigated livestock will be required.

Please contact the county Office at 778-7561 for an appointment to apply or if you have questions about eligibility. Application deadline is January 30, 2011.

To be eligible for LFP producers must obtain a NAP grazing policy or meet the definition of SD, LR or BF. NAP policies for the 2011 grazing year must be obtained by March 15, 2011.



NAP Deadline

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to FCIC catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT insurance is not available.

Producers who already have coverage on 2010 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2011, if the applicable service fee is submitted by Nov. 20, 2010. A new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops.

Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee. The service fee is \$250 per crop per county or \$750 per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$1875 per producer with farming interest in multiple counties.

NAP coverage is only available for crops not covered under the Federal Crop Insurance program. Producers are reminded about the need for insurance coverage on crops in order to remain eligible for the agency's Disaster Assistance Programs such as SURE, LFP, TAP, and ELAP.

Producers must purchase at least catastrophic (CAT) level of insurance for all insurable crops and producers must apply for coverage before a disaster strikes.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to

complete the following to remain eligible for NAP benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.
- File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, so the loss can be appraised and production counted before the crop is put to another use, abandoned or destroyed.

For more information on NAP coverage, please contact your local FSA office.

CCC-927 or CCC-928 Must Be Sent To IRS

Producers who participated in 2009 or 2010 programs subject to adjusted gross income limitations (AGI) had to certify compliance with AGI rules. The average AGI verification process for 2009 and 2010 payment eligibility requires all program participants to provide written consent to IRS for the disclosure of certain information to FSA.

On October 6, 2010, a letter was mailed to producers who have not submitted:

- CCC-927: "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-Individual Form"
- CCC-928: "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-Legal Entity form"

Individuals and legal entities, including members of legal entities, that certified to average AGI compliance for 2009 and/or 2010 payment eligibility must submit a completed CCC-927 or CCC-928 to IRS regardless of whether they received program benefits directly or as a member of a joint operation or entity. These forms must be submitted to IRS in order to avoid a demand for refund of program payments and benefits received.

Changing Banks

If you have changed banks and not notified FSA, your payment could be delayed. Payments are electronically transferred into your bank account, if we are not aware of changes to your account and routing numbers, there could be problems. In order to make timely payments, you need to notify the office if you close your account or if another financial institution purchases your bank. It is important that any changes in producer's account

such as type account, bank mergers, routing number or account numbers, be provided to the county office promptly to avoid possible payment delay.

FSA Conservation Loan Program

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and guarantees conservation loans on farms to help conserve our natural resources. The Conservation Loan (CL) Program provides farmers with the credit necessary to implement conservation measures on their land.

The direct CLs loan limit is up to \$300,000 and guaranteed CLs up to \$1,119,000 (amount adjusted for inflation), may be available by applying with lenders working with FSA to obtain a guarantee.

Applicants will work with Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) Staff to develop a conservation plan. Conservation practices must be approved by NRCS before FSA can provide financing. Examples of conservation practices include installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; transitioning to organic production; manure management, including manure digestion systems; etc.

For more information on the Conservation Loan program, contact your local FSA office to setup an appointment with a Loan Approval Official. Or visit the Missouri FSA website at: www.fsa.usda.gov/mo and select the “County Offices” link to locate the nearest FSA office.

Farm Loan Year End Reviews

Producers who have a farm loan with FSA are reminded they must provide data for their Year-End Analysis (YEA) to their loan officer each year. Borrowers are urged to provide this information timely so that their files can be maintained. The office will contact you for the data you will need to provide us.

Applications for FSA Farm Loan Assistance

Farmers and ranchers who intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Failure to apply early may result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications. Contact your local FSA Farm Loan representative for more details and assistance in applying.

| Selected Interest Rates for November 2010 | |
|---|--------|
| 90-Day Treasury Bill | 0.125% |
| Farm Operating Loans — Direct | 2.000% |
| Farm Ownership and Conservation Loans — Direct | 4.125% |
| Limited Resource Loans | 5.000% |
| Farm Ownership Loans —Beginning Farmer Down Payment | 1.500% |
| Emergency Loans | 3.750% |
| Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 7 year | 1.875% |
| Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 10 year | 2.500% |
| Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 12 year | 2.750% |
| Commodity Loans 1996-Present | 1.250% |

New Financial Management Webpage

Producers who have level 2 e-authentication access can use the new Public Financial Management Information web page. The website allows producers to generate reports that show both current and historical financial information. This resource will allow users to view details on payments, collections and outstanding debt. The website is a great tool for producers to conveniently access financial information at any time. To view the Financial Management Information web page, visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/fmi>. Please contact your county office if you have any questions regarding the web page. **Note: Website use requires level 2 e-authentication access. Follow the steps below to obtain level 2 access...**

1. Go to www.eauth.egov.usda.gov, complete a customer profile and submit it online.
2. After submitting your customer profile, you will receive a confirmation email, and you must respond to it within 7 days to activate your account
3. Then you must complete the “Identity Proofing” process by visiting a local USDA Service Center and presenting a photo ID, such as your driver’s license

Continuous CRP

The Continuous Conservation Reserve Program is a private lands environmental improvement program that allows participants the opportunity to enroll environmentally sensitive acreages in conservation

practices that will reduce soil erosion, improve water and soil quality and provide wildlife habitat and food sources.

The Continuous CRP program is a voluntary enrollment program. Eligible landowners enter into contracts that range from 10 to 15 years in length. In return, the landowners will receive annual rental and maintenance payments, incentive payments for certain activities, and cost share for establishment.

To be eligible for enrollment in the Continuous CRP, participants and acreage must meet certain requirements. Provided the eligibility requirements are met, FSA will automatically accept enrollments of acreage into Continuous CRP. Landowners may enroll in the program at any time during the year.

For more information on Continuous CRP enrollments, please contact your local FSA office.

Dates to Remember

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| Nov. 25 | Thanksgiving Day Holiday. FSA Offices Closed. |
| Dec. 1 | NAP application sales closing date for honey |
| Dec. 6 | Last day to return voted Ballots in county committee election. |
| Dec 24 | Office Closed for Christmas Holiday |
| Continues | Farm Storage Facility Loan Program. |
| Continues | Continuous Conservation Reserve program. |

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

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