



District 8

USDA Service Center
Website Address
www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

Barry County FSA
Cassville, MO 65625
417-847-2862

Barton County FSA
Lamar, MO 64759
417-682-3571

Bates County FSA
Butler, MO 64730
660-679-6112

Cass County FSA
Harrisonville, MO 64701
816-884-4432

Cedar County FSA
Stockton, MO 65785
417-276-4712

Dade County FSA
Greenfield, MO 65661
417-637-5991

Hickory County FSA
Hermitage, MO 65668
417-745-6496

Jackson County FSA
Blue Springs, MO 64015
816-229-5113

Jasper County FSA
Carthage, MO 64836
417-358-8198

Lawrence County FSA
Mount Vernon, MO
65712
417-466-7107

Newton/ McDonald FSA
Neosho, MO 64850
417-451-1007

St. Clair County FSA
Osceola, MO 64776
417-646-8107

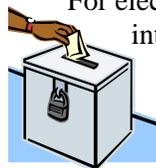
Vernon County FSA
Nevada, MO 64772
417-667-8137

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM (ECP) POSSIBLE FOR JASPER, NEWTON & McDONALD COUNTIES

ECP offers assistance to eligible producers who have lost fencing, conservation structures due to natural disasters. Funds can be used to repair farmland damaged by natural disasters. ECP funding is not “automatic”. Producers aware of a need for this type of assistance should contact their local FSA office immediately. If ECP funding is approved, it is important to submit your request for ECP assistance before beginning reconstructive work. Completing reconstructive work before submitting an ECP request could result in forfeiture of program eligibility. Producers can use ECP funds to remove debris on agricultural lands, restore fences, grade and shape land and repair existing conservation structures damaged by the disaster. Program eligibility is determined by the county committee by conducting on-site inspections that take into account the type and extent of the damage. Conservation problems that existed before the disaster are not eligible for ECP assistance. ECP program participants can receive financial assistance for up to 75 percent of the AVERAGE cost to implement approved emergency conservation practice.

ELECTION NOTIFICATION

USDA and FSA are committed to increasing the participation of all farmers including women, minorities and beginning farmers. Please contact the local FSA office with questions on voter eligibility.



For election purposes, counties are divided into local administrative areas, or LAA’s. Each LAA selects one producer to serve a three-year term on the Farm Service Agency County Committee. Each year, an election is held in an LAA to replace the committee member whose three year term is expiring. A nominating petition is contained on the back page of this newsletter. All interested parties must complete the petition and return to their local office by August 1, 2011. Please contact the local FSA office with questions on voter eligibility.

SEE THE FOLLOWING LISTED COUNTIES:

- Barton-LAA#3** encompassing the southwest 1/3 of the county
- Barry-LAA#2** townships of Clear Creek, Exeter, Monett, Wheaton, & portions of Purdy & Butterfield
- Bates-LAA#3** encompassing the southeast 1/3 of the county
- Cass-LAA #3** encompassing the north 1/3 of the county

- Cedar-LAA#2** townships of Washington, Jefferson, & Madison
- Dade-LAA#3** townships of Grant, Lockwood, Washington, Pilgrim, Smith & South
- Hickory-LAA#3** townships of Cross Timbers, Jordan & Stark
- Jackson-LAA#2** encompassing the Southeast corner
- Jasper-LAA#3** encompassing the eastern 1/3 of the county
- Lawrence-LAA#1** townships of Red Oak, Vineyard, Mount Pleasant, Hoberg, & Freistatt
- Newton-LAA#2** townships of Five Mile, Seneca, Dayton, Buffalo, & West Benton
- St. Clair-LAA#1** townships of Monegaw, Appleton, Butler & Chalk
- Vernon-LAA#3** east 1/3 of the county

Dates to Remember

June 15	County Committee nomination period begins.
June 30	Final date to report small grains.
July 4	Independence Day Holiday. FSA Office Closed.
July 29	Final date to file for 2009 SURE Disaster.
August 1	Final date to report spring planted crops, grass and CRP.
September 1	Final date to provide 2010 production for ACRE farms.
Continuous	Signup for email or text alerts!!

LANDOWNER DESIGNATION

If you are a landowner and you plan to sell a portion of your land, this provision may apply to you. The Designation by Landowner method is the division of bases in the manner agreed to by both the buyer and seller. The land must be owned for 3-years to qualify for this option. This option allows both the seller and buyer the opportunity to choose how the



base acres associated to the farm are divided and both the seller and buyer of the land sign to the agreement (Form FSA-155), unless a memorandum of understanding is

provided. This memorandum must also be signed by both parties outlining how base acres are to be distributed. Anytime land is sold, producers should report the sale to the county office timely. Failure to report sales could result in program payment refunds or penalties on participating program farms.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

SPOUSAL SIGNATURES

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 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.

CIVIL RIGHTS/DISCRIMINATION PROCESS

As a participant or applicant for programs or activities operated by USDA you have a right to be treated fairly. If you believe you have been dis-

criminated against because of your race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability, or marital or familial status, you may file a discrimination complaint. The complaint should be filed with the USDA Office of Civil Rights within 180 days of the date you became aware of the alleged discrimination. To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD), USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

RISK MANAGEMENT

FSA and RMA strive to prevent fraud, waste and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program.



- FSA will assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions during the season.
- FSA will refer all suspect cases of fraud, waste or abuse to FCIC or RMA.
- Producers may report suspect cases of fraud, waste or abuse to FSA, RMA or OIG.
- FSA will assist RMA with auditing claims as necessary.

Risk management also requires the producers be notified of FCIC sales closing dates.

BEGINNING FARMERS & RANCHERS



FSA assists beginning farmers and ranchers in financing agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA

- can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:
- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
 - Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
 - Agrees to participate in any loan assessment and borrower training in financial and production management program sponsored by FSA
 - Does not own a farm greater than 30% of the median size farm in the county.

Additional program information, loan applications and other material are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

Program participants convicted under federal or state law of planting, cultivating, growing, producing, harvesting or storing a controlled substance are ineligible for program payments and benefits in the current year and four succeeding crop years. Affected programs include direct and counter-cyclical payments, price support loans, loan deficiency payments, market loan gains, storage payments, farm facility loans and disaster payments.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital status. (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 202-702-2600 (voice and TDD).

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.

Selected Interest Rates for June 2011

Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.750%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency Loans	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7-year term	2.625%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 10-year term	3.250%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 12-year term	3.500%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.250%

PAYMENT LIMITS & DIRECT ATTRIBUTION

For commodity and disaster programs under the new farm bill, the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) limitation was reduced from \$2.5 million from all sources to a three-year average **non-farm AGI of \$500,000** such that a person or entity shall not be eligible for such programs if the non-farm AGI exceeds \$500,000. Also, under the new regulations, an individual or entity must have a 3-year average AGI less than or equal to \$750,000 per year from farm income in order to qualify for direct payments issued under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program. For conservation programs, the average nonfarm AGI limitation is \$1 million or less for eligibility. However, an individual or entity who has non-farm AGI in excess of \$1 million remains eligible for conservation programs only if 66.66 percent or more of the total AGI is derived from farming, ranching and forestry operations.



Program payments are limited by direct attribution to individuals or entities. A legal entity is defined as an entity created under Federal or State law that owns land or an agricultural commodity, product or livestock. Through direct attribution, payment limitation is based on the total payments received by the individual, both directly and indirectly. Qualifying spouses are eligible to be considered separate persons for payment limitation purposes, rather than being automatically combined under one limitation. Individuals and entities must be "actively engaged in farming" with respect to a farming operation in order to be eligible for specified payments and benefits. To be "actively engaged in farming," the individual or entity must make significant contributions to the farming operation of: (1) capital, equipment, land, or a combination; and (2) personal labor or active personal management, or a combination. Every stockholder or member of a legal entity, such as a corporation, does not have to contribute labor or management if both of the following apply:

- at least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management that altogether qualifies as a significant contribution to the farming operation;
- the total direct payments received, both directly and indirectly, by the legal entity and each of the members does not exceed \$40,000.

FAX SIGNATURES

Certain faxed signatures shall be accepted for all applicable forms or other documents approved for faxed signatures, if all other requirements are met.



FSA-669A (03-31-11) Page 2 Form Approved - OMB No. 0560-0229

FSA-669A
(03-31-11) **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**
Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (<i>Type or Print Nominee's Full Name</i>)	TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE	4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION: <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i>	5. COUNTY 6. LAA 7. STATE	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.</i>	3B. DATE	8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION: <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i> 8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR 8B. DATE <i>(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).</i>
9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE		
VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.		
ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White	GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM		
Complete the form as follows: ITEM 1 Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be: A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election. B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member. C. Willing to serve if elected.		
ITEM 2 Enter the nominee's current address.		
ITEM 3 The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.		
ITEMS 3A & 3B The nominee must sign and date.		
ITEMS 8A & 8B The nominator must sign and date. <i>(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)</i>		
ITEM 9 Completing this item is voluntary.		
ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2011.		
NOTE: <i>The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.</i> <i>According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.</i>		

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. 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).