Marion County FSA Office

1100 E. Center St.
Marion, OH 43302

740-387-1315 phone
740-383-3427 fax

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 am- 4:30 pm

November 2012

County Office Staff
Molly Brock,
County Executive Director

Greg Koerner,
Farm Loan Manager

Dawn Crum,
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Gary Hite,
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Visit our Website at:
www.fsa.usda.gov/oh

2012 CRP Emergency Grazing Ends Nov. 30

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) emergency grazing deadline is Nov. 30, 2012. Producers who took advantage of the emergency grazing extension must remove all livestock from CRP acres by the Nov. 30th deadline. Producers must also provide ending acreage and producer usage report certifications to the Marion County FSA office.

For questions regarding CRP emergency grazing, contact your local FSA office.

2013 Reporting of Fall Seeded Crops

All producers are reminded that the acreage reporting date for fall seeded crops has changed, beginning with the crop planted for 2013 harvest. The new acreage reporting date **is Dec. 15, 2012**. This applies to all fall seeded crops including fall barley, fall wheat and all other fall-seeded small grains. Please call for an appointment to certify your wheat crop.

County Committee Voting Begins

Ballots for this year's county committee election were mailed to eligible voters on Nov. 5, 2012. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on Dec. 3, 2012. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight Dec. 3, 2012.

The candidate in this year's election is Paul Schweinfurth. Schweinfurth is up for re-election in LAA 2, Marion County, to serve again as a committee member.

Eligible voters in a local administrative area 2 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 any of the following:
   - An individual
   - The authorized representative of an entity
   - Both spouses when property is owned jointly
   - Spouses in community property states.
2. Is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm.
3. Participates or cooperates in any FSA program that is provided by law.

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.

Removing CCC Loan Collateral

Producers are reminded, if you have grain under Commodity Credit Corporation loan it cannot be removed or disposed of without prior county office staff authorization or repayment. The county office staff may issue release authorizations based on a telephone or in person request when you are ready to move the grain. A loan violation is subject to monetary and administrative penalties, such as repaying the loan at principal plus interest, liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans and loan deficiency payments.

All commodity loans are subject to spot check. Locking in a market loan repayment rate is not a marketing authorization. If you are planning to move CCC loan grain, call the county office staff, before you HAUL!

NAP Coverage Deadlines

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.

The application and service fee deadline for the 2013 NAP coverage on Apples, Asparagus, Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries, Chestnuts, Forage for Hay and Pasture, Grapes, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Strawberries, Honey and Maple Sap **is Nov. 20, 2012** in Ohio.

Producers who already have coverage on 2013 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2013, if the applicable service fee is submitted by Nov. 20, 2012. 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 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.

Farm Loan Year End Reviews

Producers that 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.

Operating Loan Applications Needed Now

Farmers that plan to apply to the Farm Service Agency for annual operating loan assistance this year are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. The earlier an application for loan assistance is filed, the quicker the FSA staff can process your request. In addition, due to budget constraints, farmers that wait until later in the year to apply, often run the risk of finding out that our funding allocations have been utilized already. Decisions on loans cannot be made until a complete application is received.

Farmers should also contact their local FSA office to setup an appointment with a Farm Loan Official for information as to what is required in order to have a complete loan application on file.

Changes to IRS Forms 1099-G and 1099-Misc for Calendar Year 2012

In past years, IRS Forms 1099-G were issued to show all program payments received from the Farm Service Agency, regardless of the amount. For calendar year 2012, the 1099-G reporting will change.

IRS Form 1099-G (Report of Payments to Producers) will only be issued to producers whose reportable payments total $600 or more for the calendar year. Additionally, if the producer has at least $600 in reportable payments received from multiple FSA offices, only one Form 1099-G will be issued. Producers subject to voluntary withholding or backup (involuntary) withholding will receive the appropriate IRS form, even if combined payments are less than $600.

The same changes will apply to producers and vendors who normally receive IRS Form 1099-MISC from FSA.

Any producer who receives less than $600 in combined payments should consult a tax advisor to determine if these payments must be reported on their tax return.

For more information regarding IRS reporting changes, please contact the Marion County FSA office at 740-387-1315.

Changing Banks

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using direct deposit. To keep the system running smoothly, it's 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 FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

FSA Reminds Producers That All Counties in Ohio Were Designated as Primary or Contiguous Natural Disaster Areas

The Ohio Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers about the U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretarial designation on Sept. 5, 2012. All of Ohio's counties were designated as primary or contiguous agricultural natural disaster areas due to drought and excessive heat that occurred from February 1, 2012 and continuing.

This gives all qualified farm operators in the designated areas the opportunity to file an application for low interest emergency (EM) loans from USDA's FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

USDA FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the emergency loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity. Other programs available to assist farmers include the Emergency Conservation Program and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program.

Interested farmers may contact their local FSA county office for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs.

Selected Interest Rates for November 2012	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	1.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	3.125%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans — Down Payment	1.50%
Emergency Loans	2.125%
Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 7 year	1.125%
Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 10 year	1.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 12 year	2.000%
Sugar Storage Facility	2.250%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.125%

Farm Loans for Socially Disadvantaged

Marion County Executive Director, Molly Brock, reminds interested applicants that FSA offers loans for farmers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, applicants might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources.

FSA makes two different types of loans, direct and guaranteed. Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to $300,000. Guaranteed loans (loans made by a commercial lender where FSA acts as guarantor) can reach a maximum indebtedness of $1,302,000.

Emergency loans are a type of direct loan for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for Socially Disadvantaged Applicants are other types of direct loans also available through FSA.

Socially Disadvantaged Applicants (SDA) are one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of their identity as a member of the group without regard to their individual qualities. SDA groups are Women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Certain FSA loan funds are targeted to beginning farmers and SDA.

For detailed information on loan eligibility or the different loan programs available, contact your local FSA office to setup an appointment with a Loan Approval Official.

Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claims Period

USDA has announced that Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who allege discrimination by the USDA in past decades can file claims until March 25, 2013.

The process offers a voluntary alternative to litigation for each Hispanic or female farmer and rancher who can prove that USDA denied their applications for loan or loan servicing assistance for discriminatory reasons for certain time periods between 1981 and 2000.

As announced in February 2011, the voluntary claims process will make available at least $1.33 billion for cash awards and tax relief payments, plus up to $160

million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers. There are no filing fees to participate in the program.

The Department will continue reaching out to potential Hispanic and female claimants, around the country to get the word out to individuals who may be eligible for this program so they have the opportunity to participate.

Call center representatives can be reached at 1-888-508-4429. Claimants must register for a claims package (by calling the number or visiting the website) and the claims package will be mailed to claimants. All those interested in learning more or receiving information about the claims process and claims packages are encouraged to attend meetings in your communities about the claims process and contact the website or claims telephone number.

- **Website**: www.farmerclaims.gov
- **Phone**: 1-888-508-4429
- **Claims Period: Sept. 24, 2012 - March 25, 2013.**

Independent legal services companies will administer the claims process and adjudicate the claims. Although there are no filing fees to participate and a lawyer is not required to participate in the claims process, persons seeking legal advice may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider.

Dates to Remember	
Nov. 5	County committee ballots mailed to voters.
Nov. 12	Veterans Day Holiday. **FSA Offices Closed.**
Nov. 20	**Last day to apply** for coverage for asparagus, blueberries, caneberries, cherries, chestnuts, forage for hay and pasture, grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, strawberries, honey and maple syrup.
Nov. 22	Thanksgiving Day Holiday. **FSA Offices Closed.**
Dec. 3	**Last day** to return voted Ballots in county committee election.
Dec. 15	**Deadline** to report the 2013 Fall Seeded Crops for fall barley, fall wheat and all other fall-seeded small grains.
Dec. 25	Christmas Day Holiday. **FSA Offices Closed.**
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loan Program.

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

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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."