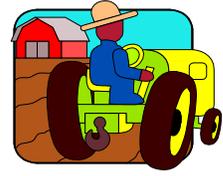




ATCHISON COUNTY FSA BULLETIN JULY 2007



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County Committee Meetings: 2nd Friday of each month

UPCOMING DEADLINES

August 1st – Acreage Reporting – Last day to report planted acreage of corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, alfalfa, hay, and other cropland acreage. Acreage reports are required for participation in the CRP, DCP, and for LDPs or marketing assistance loans.

August 3rd -- DCP Contract Signatures --
All owner and operator signatures on the CCC-509 Contract to Participate in the DCP program, for 2007 must be received by close of business on August 3rd to be considered filed timely. Signatures can be accepted after August 3rd and through September 30th with the payment of a late-filed fee at the rate of \$100 per farm.



NOMINATE FOR COUNTY COMMITTEE BY AUGUST 1st

The annual process of electing a county committee member is underway with nominations being accepted through August 1st. In order to hold office as a county committee member you must be of legal voting age, and reside in the local administrative area (LAA) of the county where the election is being held. In Atchison County, this years election is being held in LAA #3 which takes in all of Shannon, Mt Pleasant, and Walnut townships. Individuals may nominate themselves, or others as a candidate. Nomination forms are available at local FSA offices, and online at: www.fsa.usda.gov. The election will begin on November 3rd and end on December 2nd. The current county committee members are Eric Noll (LAA#1), Doug Schrader (LAA#2), and James Hale (LAA#3). The next county committee term will begin on January 1, 2008.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers looking to build or upgrade grain storage facilities should check out the Farm Storage Facility Loan Program. To be eligible, farmers must have a need for increased storage capacity, must have a satisfactory credit history, no delinquent Federal debt and must demonstrate an ability to repay the debt. Other eligibility requirements apply so check with your FSA county office. Eligible facilities must have a useful life of at least 10 years and include the following:

- New conventional-type cribs or bins for whole grain storage.
- New and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures for whole grain structures.
- New structures that are upright, bunker-type, horizontal, or open silo structures designed for either whole grain or other than whole grain storage.
- Permanently affixed grain handling and grain drying equipment determined by FSA to be needed.
- Existing storage renovated according to FSA regulations without an increase in storage.
- New flat-type storage structures for which the primary use is to store whole grain.

Storage structures for commercial purposes are ineligible along with portable handling or drying equipment and any type of weigh scales. The maximum loan amount is 85 percent of the net cost of the applicant's needed storage or handling equipment not to exceed \$100,000 for each borrower. Applicants must pay a down payment of the difference between the net cost of the storage facility and the loan amount to the supplier or contractor before the loan is disbursed.

FARM RECORDS CHANGES

Changes to your farming operation can affect your eligibility for program benefits. It is crucial that operation changes be reported to the FSA office as soon as practical to avoid eligibility problems. Reports of purchased, or sold property should be accompanied by a copy of the land deed. Other changes that need reporting include increases in cropland, changes of shares, changes of operator or tenant, changes to your bank or bank account, etc.

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM

CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses from natural disasters and related conditions that occurred in 2005 and 2006 and for 2007 crops if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 2007, or in the case of prevented plantings would have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to receive benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple crops as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be

eligible for CDP. The payment rate is set at 42 percent of the established price. The payment quantity for quality losses will be equal to the lesser of: (1) the actual production of the crop affected by a quality loss; or (2) the quantity of expected production of the crop affected by a quality loss. The quality loss must be at least 25 percent of the value that all affected production of the crop would have had if the crop had not suffered a quality loss. Assistance, together with any crop insurance or NAP payment received for the same crop and including the value of the crop production not lost, must not exceed 95 percent of the total value of the crop absent the disaster. USDA will soon announce the signup period.

REMINDERS:

- August 1 is the deadline to report corn, grain sorghum, soybeans and other cropland besides small grains. The late-file fee is \$46 per farm to report after this deadline.
- Spouses can sign FSA forms on behalf of each other unless a written denial has been placed on file with the office.
- Foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land, must report such holdings to FSA within 90 days of purchase to avoid penalties of up to 25% of the fair market value of the property.
- FSA programs are available to everyone. People with disabilities that require special accommodations at the FSA office should contact Rick Abel, CED, at 913-833-5460.

FSA Website -- For FSA forms, and the latest on FSA programs, try www.fsa.usda.gov.

