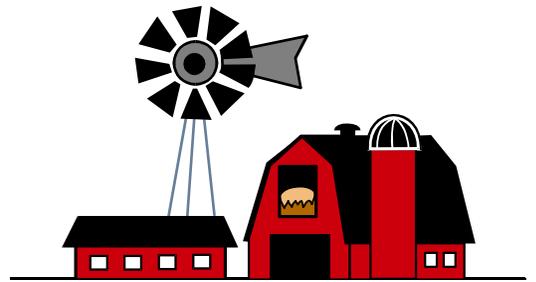




" PLAINS " TALK



PHILLIPS COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

1717 HIGHWAY 183
PHILLIPSBURG, KS 67661

Ronald L Wyckoff
County Executive Director

OFFICE HOURS 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
TELE: 785-543-2732 FAX 785-543-6324

COUNTY COMMITTEE:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Warren Kelly | CHAIRPERSON |
| Kenneth D Johnson | VICE-CHAIRPERSON |
| Kenneth Stockman | MEMBER |
| Kay Rose | ADVISOR |

REGULAR MEETING DATE SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 9:00 A.M. except Meetings will be at 10:00 A.M. in March and April

February 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SURE) SIGNUP IS UNDERWAY FOR 2008 CROP LOSSES

SURE covers crop production losses due to an eligible disaster event.

To be eligible for these programs, producers must have crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for all non-insurable crops of economic significance they produce. A crop of economic significance would be one which is expected to have a value of at least five percent of a farms total crop value from all crops. A farm is defined as the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that a producer has an interest in.

Phillips County is eligible for SURE for crop year 2008 as the county is contiguous to counties which have a Secretarial Disaster Designation.

SURE Program payments will be issued to an eligible producer in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the disaster assistance program guarantee and total farm revenue.

A signup is underway at this time for 2008 crop losses. If you had crop losses on your 2008 crops and want to signup please call the FSA office for an appointment.

2010 NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

For 2010 the NAP fee is \$250 per crop not to exceed \$750 per county.

Deadlines to purchase NAP coverage for 2010:

March 15, 2010 - forage sorghum cane for grazing or forage, or other spring planted crops.

Remember you must have NAP coverage on all non-insurable crops of economic significance you plant in order to be eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) included in the Farm Bill.

NAP crop production must be reported to FSA if you have a policy, even if you do not file a notice of loss.

Now would be a good time to report your production. **Accurate and detailed crop production records are a must, and need to be kept for the current year and the prior 3 years.**

2010 Farm Program Options DCP, Direct and Counter Cyclical Program, or ACRE, Average Crop Revenue Election Program

Signup has begun for DCP and ACRE and will continue through June 1, 2010. Advance direct payments of 22% may be requested for any month through September 2010.

DCP will continue as in the past with guaranteed direct payments and possible counter cyclical payments calculated on a farm's base acres.

ACRE will have counter cyclical type payments calculated on actual planted acres, direct payments will be reduced by 20%, and marketing assistance loan rates will be reduced by 30%. Production reporting is required for this program.

Producers may come in now to sign up for 2010 DCP or ACRE and to REPORT WHEAT, OATS, OTHER SMALL GRAINS AND ALSO PASTURE ACREAGES.

SODBUSTING PURCHASED LAND, NEWLY RENTED ACREAGE, OR EXPIRED CRP

Prior to sodbusting any acreage including expired Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreages and before planting a crop on newly purchased or rented acreage, check the Conservation Plan of Operation (CPO). Planting a crop on sodbusted acreage or newly acquired land that does not have a fully implemented CPO will cause the loss of all USDA benefits on all acreage owned and operated. Form AD-1026 must be approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) prior to breaking any acreage or planting a crop on acreage that does not have a completed CPO.

REPORT FSA FARM RECORD CHANGES

Report record changes such as the sale of any acreage, operator change (for either fall or spring crops), estate or other entity formation or dissolution now. All changes must be reported to the county office within 30 days of the change. Failure to report changes may cause the loss of program benefits. Farm ownership changes will require a copy of a recorded deed or signed real estate sales contract. Ensure the sales agreement or contract addresses all CRP contracts and other FSA payments.

County Committee Election

Warren Kelly was re-elected to a 3 year term on the Phillips County FSA Committee. Warren will represent producers in LAA-1, which consists of Long Island, Granite, Prairie View, Dayton, Beaver, Mound, Logan, and Towanda townships.

Congratulations to Warren, and thanks to all producers who returned their ballots in the election. The County Committee is an important part of the county FSA operation and represents Phillips County on numerous issues dealing with the programs FSA administers.

Acreage Reports

June 1, 2010 - final date for acreage reports for **Wheat, Oats, Barley**. For Producers with NAP coverage on pastures they need to be reported by April 15, or 15 days prior to the onset of grazing.

Stop in now to report your acres. Planting dates are needed to complete an acreage report.

Complete acreage reports are required to earn most program benefits.

Late filed acreage reports require a fee of \$46 per farm.

LIVESTOCK DISASTER PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP) - Covers livestock deaths due to natural disasters that occurred between January 1 and December 31 of each applicable year.

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM (LCP) – Covers grazing loss due to drought conditions. Must have NAP or RMA coverage to qualify.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR LIVESTOCK, HONEY BEES, AND FARM-RAISED FISH PROGRAM (ELAP) – Covers other livestock losses including purchased or harvested feed losses due to a natural disaster.

Contact the FSA office for more details on any of the above programs.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS AVAILABLE

Farm Storage Facility Loans are available to build new commodity storage structures for grain, silage, or hay storage. Upgrades to existing facilities may be available in certain instances. Loans are available for up to \$500,000. Call or visit the office for loan details and requirements.