



December 2009

Riley/Geary News



Riley/Geary County
USDA Service Center

Riley/Geary County FSA
3705 Miller Parkway
Manhattan, KS 66503
785-776-7582 (phone)
785-539-2733 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/ks
tamie.buckley@ks.usda.gov

Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Closed on Federal
Holidays

County Committee
Michael Steinfort
Wendell Anderson
David Cederberg
Jeffrey Schurle
Marjorie Wahle

The County Committee
meets on the 4th Thursday
of each month at 8:00 a.m.
at the Riley/Geary FSA
Office.

FSA Staff
Karla Butler
Suzanne Larson
Debra Marston
Susan Rusch
Tamie L Buckley, CED

PROGRAM PAYMENT LIMITATIONS

For wheat, corn, cotton,
grain sorghum, barley,
oats, soybeans, and mi-
nor oilseeds:

Direct - \$40,000
Counter-Cyclical-\$65,000
ACRE - \$65,000 plus any
Direct payment reduction
**Loan Deficiency Pay-
ments & Marketing
Gains:**

No Limit on 2010 com-
modities

**Conservation Reserve
Program:** \$50,000

**Noninsured Crop Disas-
ter Assistance Program:**
\$100,000

**SURE, LIP, LFP, &
Emergency Assistance
for Livestock, Honey
Bees & Farm-Raised
Fish:** \$100,000

**Tree Assistance Pro-
gram:** \$100,000

**DON'T FORGET: WE
OFFER 9 MONTH LOW
INTEREST LOANS ON
BOTH FARM AND
WAREHOUSE
STORED GRAIN!**

2010 SIGNUP & CERTIFICATION UNDERWAY: WATCH FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT CARD!

Signup for the 2010 Direct and Counter-
cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop
Revenue Election (ACRE) programs are
underway as well as 2010 wheat certifica-
tion. This year, the Riley/Geary office is
sending postcards to all farm operators in
the county to set up appointment times for
DCP/ACRE signup and crop certification.

All cropland acres must be certified with the
FSA office on an annual basis to remain eli-
gible for farm programs. Wheat and other
small grains must be certified by May 31st.

You must sign a new contract each year for
the DCP and ACRE programs. For 2010,
the signup deadline for these programs is
June 1st. Advance payments of 22% may
be requested as early as December and fi-
nal payments will be made in October.

If you would like to set up an appointment
prior to receiving your appointment card,
feel free to contact the office at 785-776-
7582. When you receive your appointment
card, check to make sure the assigned time
will work for you, and if you will be unable to
keep the appointment please call to resche-
dule.

Don't forget to bring your planting dates with
you to the appointment!

Acreage Spot Check Determinations and Notification

Each year the Farm Service Agency com-
pletes spot checks of acreage reports. Acreage
reports are an integral part of farm
program participation. Acreage spot checks
are completed to ensure accurate acreage
reports are used in farm program computa-
tions.

FSA will conduct spot checks on a selected
number of farms in each state. All acreage
determinations will be completed using the
FSA Geographic Information System official
acres.

After farms are spot checked, a Notice of
Determined Acreage will be sent to the farm
operator. Producer notifications will be is-
sued by FSA as spot checks are completed.
Questions concerning determined acres
should be directed to your local FSA office
for further explanation.

*Happy Holidays from all of us at
the Riley/Geary FSA Office!*



FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS NOW AVAILABLE FOR GRAIN BINS & HAY SHEDS

Seven, ten, or twelve year low-interest Farm
Storage Facility Loans are available to pur-
chase and install eligible hay and grain stor-
age facilities. Besides the structure itself, the
loan can include permanently affixing drying or
handling equipment, safety equipment or re-
modeling existing facilities. Real estate liens
are required for loans that exceed \$50,000.
Loans are secured with a promissory note and
security agreement. The maximum amount
that may be borrowed is 85% of the net cost,
up to \$500,000 for each borrower. A 15%
down payment is required. For more informa-
tion, contact Tamie Buckley or Suzanne Lar-
son at the Riley/Geary FSA Office.

FARM PAYMENTS CAN BE JEOPARDIZED BY PLANTING CERTAIN COVER CROPS

We are aware that agronomy experts are en-
couraging producers to plant crops that fix ni-
trogen to improve soil quality or as alternative
forage crops. While these may be excellent
practices for your operation, be sure to first
understand how it will impact your farm pro-
gram payments. Turnips, beets, certain varie-
ties of cowpeas, winter peas, canola, and
other legumes, **are considered Fruits and
Vegetables by FSA. Planting a fruit or
vegetable on base acres is a violation of
your DCP and/or ACRE contract.** Some
farms have 'free' acres that do not carry base,
so planting these crops may not be a problem
on small acreages on certain farms. Also, if
planted as a subsequent crop, after wheat for
example, this would not be a violation. If this
type of crop is planted on base acres and is
not going to be harvested as a fruit or vegeta-
ble, producers can pay for a field visit by the
FSA office to verify that the crop is being used
as green manure or livestock forage and not
as a fruit or vegetable. However, this must be
discussed with FSA personnel prior to plant-
ing. Please contact the FSA office if you have
any questions regarding this matter to ensure
your payments will not be jeopardized.

ANNUAL FOREIGN INVESTORS DISCLOSURE ACT

Foreign investors who buy, sell, or hold a di-
rect or indirect interest in agricultural lands in
the United States are required under the Agri-
cultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act to
report their holdings and transactions to the
U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary of
Agriculture has delegated the responsibility for
collecting this information to the Farm Service
Agency. Contact your local FSA office for
more details.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Jan. 1 - NAP application closing date for certain crops

Jan. 30 - Final date to file notice of loss and application for payment under Livestock Indemnity Program for losses after July 14, 2009.

Jan. 30 - Final date to request Loan Deficiency Payments on 2009 wool, mohair or unshorn pelts.

March 15 - NAP application closing date for certain crops.

May 31 - Final date to certify small grain acreage.

June 1 - Final date to return all signatures for 2010 DCP and ACRE contracts.

Continuous:

Direct and Guaranteed Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loans
Farm Storage Facility Loans

Continuous Conservation Reserve program

WEBSITES

FSA - www.fsa.usda.gov

Kansas FSA -
www.fsa.usda.gov/ks

USDA - www.usda.gov

Obtain a Level 2
e-Authentication Account -
www.eauth.egov.usda.gov

Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create five new disaster programs, referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. These programs include:

Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for **all insurable crops** and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops on their farm under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.

In the 2008 Farm Bill; the term "farm" means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer. In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers that meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher, do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement to qualify for the disaster programs.

Women Managing the Farm Conference

Another year of wonderful keynote speakers, informative breakout sessions and great networking is planned for the 2010 Women Managing the Farm Conference on Feb. 5-6, 2010 at Hyatt Regency, Wichita, Kansas. Watch for more information at www.togpartners.com/wmf.

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**IF YOU HAVE RECENTLY CHANGED
BANKS, BE SURE TO STOP IN AND
UPDATE YOUR DIRECT DEPOSIT FORM!**

Livestock Deaths

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather. A list of normal mortality rates for Kansas can be obtained at your local FSA county office.

Applicants must provide adequate documentation to prove that the eligible livestock deaths occurred as a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. LIP payments are calculated by multiplying the national payment rate for each livestock category by the number of eligible livestock in each category. National payment rates are found on the LIP Fact Sheet at www.fsa.usda.gov. A Notice of Loss must be filed within 30 days after the death is apparent. The final date to submit an Application for Payment is Jan. 30 of the following year.

Wool and Mohair Loans and LDP's

Wool and mohair producers are reminded that the final date to apply for nonrecourse marketing assistance loans or loan deficiency payments (LDP) is January 31, 2010 for their 2009 wool and mohair. This final deadline also applies to LDP's for unshorn pelts from unshorn lambs slaughtered in 2009.

Producers that do not retain the wool or mohair on the farm when sheared may lose beneficial interest and should have filed a form CCC-633EZ Page 1 before shearing. Producers must file a CCC-633EZ Page 1 before they lose beneficial interest in the commodity and then file a CCC-633EZ Page 4 to apply for the LDP payment before the January 31 deadline.



Farm Changes

If you are making any changes to your farming operation, be sure to let the FSA office know as soon as possible. This would include: buying or selling land, taking on new farms to share or cash lease, or giving up farm ground that you had previously leased. We need to ensure all DCP and ACRE contracts have correct owner/operator information on them PRIOR to the June 1st signup deadline!

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