



**COFFEY COUNTY
FARM SERVICE
AGENCY**

313 Cross Street
Burlington, KS 66839
Phone: (620) 364-2313
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www.fsa.usda.gov

HOURS:

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Office Closed

May 31 - Memorial Day

County Committee

Max Osborn
Bonnie Davies
John Henry Rolf

Meetings- 2nd Wednesday of every month

Staff

Kim Specht, PT
Vicki Fry, PT
Vickie Wolford, PT
Megan Wilson, PT

Loan Manager

Stacy Kull

Executive Director

Marilyn Glissman

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**COFFEY COUNTY
FSA NEWS**

February 2010

**★ Attention ★
Women on the Farm**

The Coffey County Farm Service Agency, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Conservation District and the Eagle Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy are hosting two Women in Agriculture Meetings. They will be held at the Coffey County Library, Burlington Branch on February 24, 2010 at 1:30 pm and 6:30 pm.

Plan to attend one of these informative meetings and have some fun with the local staff. Refreshments and door prizes provided. RSVP is appreciated, but not required. 620-364-2313.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

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.

Crop Reporting

Producers are required to file a FSA-578 Certification (crop report), for the farm by the applicable final reporting date. Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed and prevented planted acres, is essential. If no FSA-578 is filed, it could cause loss of program benefits in DCP, ACRE, SURE Marketing Assistance Loans, LDPs, and CRP. The deadline for small grains is May 31st and August 1st for all other crops.

County Committee Election Results

Elections were recently held for Local Administrative Area #2. We are pleased to announce Max Osborn was re-elected for another term to the local County Committee.

Congratulations Max!



Supplemental Revenue Assistance payments (SURE)

SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster. This program replaces the Crop Disaster Program. For SURE program purposes, a "farm" refers to all acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted to crops that are for sale by the producer. SURE payments are available to producers on farms that are located in a county receiving a USDA Secretarial Declaration, or the actual production is less than 50% of the normal production. SURE will cover losses for 2008 through 2011.

In order to receive payments, the farm must suffer at least a 10% eligible production loss on at least one crop of economic significance. Producers with qualifying losses are eligible to receive 60% of the difference between the SURE Disaster Program Guarantee and the actual Farm Revenue. The guarantee is determined by totaling the calculated guarantee for each crop. For insured crops, the guarantee is based on the level of coverage the producer has elected. Higher levels of coverage will result in higher crop guarantees. For NAP crops, the guarantee is based on a formula that includes the yield, acreage, and price factors.

For a producer to be eligible for SURE, all of the farming operation's commodities that are of economic significance must be covered by either Federal Crop Insurance (CI) or FSA's NAP coverage.

2010 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2010. The county office staff will be mailing appointment postcards.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.



Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE)

The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. For 2010, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2008 and 2009 crop years.

An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. The payment is based on 83.3 percent (85 percent in 2012) of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the State ACRE guarantee and the state revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the state expected yield. The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.

Farm Storage Facility Loans

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

FSA Kids Web Page



www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/kidsapp

Selling Land

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all of the payments you've received to date.

Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.

Changing Banks

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

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.

Protecting FSA Customer Privacy

Section 1619 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill), which took effect on May 22, 2008, prohibits release of information provided to FSA by an agricultural producer or owner of agricultural land in order to participate in a FSA program. In addition, it also prohibits release of information concerning the agricultural operation (including production and marketing of agricultural commodities and livestock), farming or conservation practices, or the land itself. Program participants who intend for their personal records or information to be released to a third-party must consent to release of the specific information, in writing.



REMINDERS

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| February 24 - | Coffey County Women in Ag Meetings |
| March 31 - | Final date to request Marketing Assistance Loan on wheat, barley, and oats |
| May 31 - | Memorial Day - Office Closed |
| May 31 - | Final date to request Marketing Assistance Loan on corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, and other feed grain crops |
| June 1 - | Small grain acreage report deadline |
| June 1 - | Final date for DCP/ACRE enrollment |