



McPherson FSA Highlights

Farm Service Agency



March 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS (SURE)

SURE is a program for those who suffered crop production losses during the 2008 crop year. A signup deadline has not yet been announced.

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payment to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. For SURE purposes, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

The following items are necessary to remain eligible for benefits:

- McPherson County is contiguous to an Ag Secretary declared primary disaster county for 2008 so a participant with an interest in a *crop of economic significance only has to suffer a 10 percent production loss.*
- *Each participant must meet the risk management purchase requirement* by obtaining a Federal Crop plan of insurance or NAP coverage through FSA for all economically significant crops. A socially disadvantaged, beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit the county office or the FSA website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

MCPHERSON FARM SERVICE AGENCY

200 S Centennial Drive
McPherson, KS 67460
Tele: (620) 241-1836
FAX: (620) 241-6311

HOURS

Monday-Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

COUNTY COMMITTEE

Dixie Mattas, Chairperson
Michael Patrick, Vice-Chairperson
William Ridge, Member
COC meets the 2nd Wed. of each month.

STAFF

Michael Westerman, Jan Hake, Kathy Meacham, Pat Regier, Kristy Nattier, Jennifer Wells and Audrey Miller.

CONSENT TO DISCLOSE TAX INFORMATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 15th!

Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) programs are subject to average adjusted gross income (AGI) compliance. *Written consent is required from each producer* to allow the IRS the ability to compare AGI's certified with FSA. All producers **MUST** submit a CCC-927 (for individuals) or a CCC-928 (for entities) to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) within 120 days of being signed, and **no later than June 15, 2010**. Failure to file these documents may result in a refund of the 2009 and/or 2010 program payments.

SUBMIT FORMS DIRECTLY TO:
Internal Revenue Service-USDA
P.O. Box 24033
Fresno, CA 93779

Remember to complete all of the items on these forms, the name & address matches the taxpayer ID number, and must not contain pencil or 'white-out' (i.e. Liquid Paper). Forms may be obtained from this USDA Service Center or on-line at www.fsa.usda.gov/ks.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY EXPIRED CRP LAND???????????

DATES TO REMEMBER

ONGOING

Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) Signup for 2008 Losses

MARCH 31

Commodity Loan & LDP Deadline for Small Grains, and Honey

MAY 31

Memorial Day (Office Closed)
Deadline to certify Small Grains
Commodity Loan & LDP Deadline for Upland Cotton, Soybeans & Minor Oilseeds and Feed Grains

JUNE 1

Signup Deadline for 2010 DCP or ACRE

JUNE 15

Final Date to provide income verifications forms to IRS

JULY 5

Independence Day (Office Closed)

AUGUST 15

Acreage Certification Deadline for Spring Seeded Crops including CRP

SEPTEMBER 6

Labor Day (Office Closed)

OCTOBER 11

Columbus Day (Office Closed)

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day (Office Closed)

NOVEMBER 25

Thanksgiving (Office Closed)

DECEMBER 24

Christmas (Office Closed)

DECEMBER 31

New Years (Office Closed)

CRP land that has expired or will be expiring remains eligible for future CRP enrollment (General & Continuous) as long as it is offered within 6 months of the expiration date (June 1st). CRP contracts that expired October 1, 2009, the land will retain eligibility until June 1, 2010.



GENERAL CRP – Secretary Vilsack announced a general CRP signup will be conducted by FSA this summer with a specific signup date being announced later.

CONTINUOUS CRP – Signup for Continuous CRP practices is available on a ongoing basis. Landowners or operators may enroll in a wide variety of practices (buffers, filter strips, terrace tops, etc) that provide the flexibility to meet your wildlife and conservation needs. In addition to the normal CRP payments, practice and signing incentive payments are available on a number of these practices that can add up to an additional \$100 per acre.

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

NAP coverage is available on all noninsurable crops to be eligible for supplemental disaster assistance programs. Eligible producers must apply for coverage and pay the applicable service fees by the application closing date.

Application Closing Dates:

September 1 - aquaculture, barley, canola, Christmas trees, nursery crops, rye, speltz, triticale, turf grass sod, and wheat.



December 1 - all grasses, alfalfa, apricots, asparagus, blueberries, caneberries, cherries, clover, grapes, lespedeza, honey, mixed forage, nectarines, oats, peaches, plums, strawberries, and vetch.

January 1 - apples and pears.

March 15 - coarse grains, vegetable and melon crops, amaranth, chestnuts, cotton, pecans, pumpkins, safflower, sesame, squash, and walnuts.

NAP Service Fees (\$250 per crop; \$750 per county; \$1,875 per producer for all counties)

CONTACT US TO SCHEDULE YOUR FARM PROGRAM APPOINTMENT

We are currently taking appointments to complete DCP or ACRE signup, payment eligibility forms and report small grain acreage. A number of operators still need to schedule an appointment so please contact us immediately.

DCP/ACRE (Direct & Counter-cyclical Program/Average Crop Revenue Election) signup is taking place now through the established June 1, 2010 deadline. To basically qualify for DCP, operators and owners must share in the risk of producing an eligible crop on FSA farm base acres enrolled and be entitled to a marketing share from the crop. Producers are encouraged to contact our office soon to perform their DCP/ACRE signup activities and are solely responsible for ensuring that enrollment occurs timely and properly. There are no late filing provisions allowed after June 1st.

WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAM
Tuesday's at 7:25 a.m.
KBBE 96.7 FM

ACREAGE REPORTING for 2010 small grain crops (wheat, oats, barley, speltz and triticale) is to be completed by May 31, 2010, to avoid paying a late file fee of \$46 per farm. Producers are reminded that acreage reports are required to receive payments from FSA programs. These programs include but are not limited to: Price Support Loans, Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP). You will also need planting dates when you report.

PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY forms are required to be reviewed and updated to earn USDA benefits. Form CCC-926 - Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Statement is taken on an annual basis for any person earning USDA benefits.

CRP MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

CRP MAINTENANCE is the responsibility of all CRP Participants. When you signed the 10-15 year contract you agreed to maintain these acres according to the program guidelines. That means attaining a stand of grass, controlling noxious weeds, controlling brush and trees, and taking any other actions needed to adequately maintain the CRP cover.

LIVESTOCK & EMERGENCY PROGRAM DATES

LIP (Livestock Indemnity Program) provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather. Producers who suffer a loss should submit a Notice of Loss within 30 days of when the loss was apparent.

ELAP (Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-Raised Fish Program) covers losses from disaster such as adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires not adequately covered by any other disaster program. A Notice of Loss must be filed within 30 days of when the loss was apparent.

For both LIP and ELAP, the Application for Payment is to be submitted by no later than January 30 of the year following the calendar year when the loss occurred.

FARM LOAN PROGRAMS – March 2010 Rates

Real Estate (Farm Ownership) Loans: FSA is currently offering **fixed interest rate loans as low as 1.5% for 20 years** for beginning or socially disadvantaged (minority) farmers. Eligible established and beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers may qualify for up to **40 year fixed interest rate of 5%** for a participation loan or **5.125%** for non-participation loans.

Operating (Farm Operating) Loans: FSA is currently offering **3% fixed interest rate loans for up to 7 years** to finance machinery, equipment, livestock, modest real estate improvements or production expenses with repayment terms corresponding to the type of security offered.

FSA Youth Loans: Youth loans to youth 10-20 years of age to establish income producing projects in conjunction with 4-H, FFA or a similar program. The youth loan program is designed to help individuals earn a profit while learning business and financial management skills.

FSA Guaranteed Loans: Guaranteed farm ownership (real estate) and operating loans administered by FSA are available through commercial lenders. The "interest assistance" program allows FSA to pay 4% of the interest expense on guaranteed operating loans on behalf of eligible farmers.

Additional program information, loan applications and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center, or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

McPherson County producers are serviced by the Farm Loan Programs office located in the Saline County USDA Service Center in Salina, Kansas, phone number 785-825-8269.