



Sumner County FSA News



FEBRUARY 2010

Sumner County FSA

320 North Jefferson
Wellington, KS 67152
TEL: (620) 326-2269
FAX: (620) 326-7971

Service Center Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Marlene Rieckenberg, Chairperson
Duane Nulik, Vice-Chairperson
Marcia Waugh, Member

COC meets the 2nd Thurs. of the month @ 9:00 a.m.

Employee Information

Michele Wisnefski, CED
Debbie Haines, Program Technician
Susan Rinehart, Program Technician
Andi Bacon, Program Technician
Penny Troutman, Program Technician
Lynn Reed, Field Assistant
Limual Vinson, Farm Loan Manager
Amy Theurer, Farm Loan Officer
Glenda Wright, Program Technician
Julie Wolf, Program Technician

Farm Service Agency online



FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov

Public Meeting for FSA Farm Bill Programs

Farmers and ranchers are encouraged to attend the Farm Bill Informational meeting on **February 17, 2010** at 2:00 pm at the Raymond Frye Complex Auditorium. Meeting topics will include the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment (SURE) program and payment eligibility changes.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Michele Wisnefski, CED at (620) 326-2269 or e-mail michele.wisnefski@ks.usda.gov by February 10, 2010.

Area Committee Election Results Announced

Voters in Local Administrative Area (LAA) #2 re-elected Marcia Waugh to serve a three year term on the Sumner County Committee. Votes received were:

Marcia Waugh	155
Joshua J Ast	2
Dennis Langlois	2
Martin Scott Ternes	2
Morris G Meeker	1

The county office would like to take this time to thank each and every person for participating in the election and especially to those elected who are willing to make time in their very busy schedule for the benefit of area farmers and ranchers. Local committee members as well as advisors are an important part of the administration of federal farm programs at the county level and provide many hours of their time to ensure all programs are administered fairly and equitably to all area producers.

LOAN RATES

COMMODITY	2009
Wheat	\$2.67/bu
Corn	\$2.13/bu
Soybeans	\$4.96/bu
Oats	\$1.37/bu
Gr. Sorghum	\$3.52/cwt
Sunflowers	\$9.45/cwt
Barley	\$1.80/bu

RECORD CHANGES

Farm record changes such as **land purchases, land sales, addition or removal of rented land, deceased individuals, etc.** must be reported to the FSA Office within 30 days from the occurrence. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in could lead to possible *ineligibility* for USDA benefits.

In the Spotlight

February 15 Office closed for Washington's Birthday

May 25 Office closed for Memorial Day

May 31 Final date to certify small grain acres

June 1 Final date to sign-up for the 2010 DCP & ACRE programs

August 1 Final date to certify spring seeded crops and CRP

SURE Sign-up for Crop Production Loss

Sign-up for the 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) began on January 4, 2010. SURE 2008 is for those who suffered crop production losses during crop year 2008.

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

Producers with a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary must have suffered *at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance*. Producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

If there is no Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is *less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm* due to a natural disaster. For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

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

Timely Filing of Loss

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss is used to report production or grazing losses, failed acreage, and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required on ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES. For losses on crops covered by the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), you must file a CCC-576 (notice of loss) in the FSA County Office within *15 calendar days* of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. **You are responsible for promptly notifying the FSA County Office of any losses.**

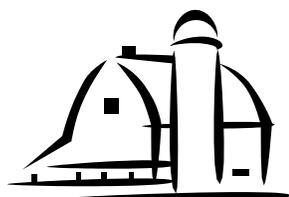
If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within *15 calendar days* of the final planting date for the crop.

Acreage Reporting Requirements

To avoid a late file fee of \$46 per farm, all 2010 small grain crops must be reported by May 31, 2010. 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 need planting dates when you report.

Foreign Investors

Foreign investors who buy, sell, or hold a direct interest in U.S. agricultural land must report their holdings to the FSA office in the county where the land is located. Those buying or selling must report the transaction *within 90 days* of the date of the transaction.



2010 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) Sign-Up

The Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) signup for 2010 began Oct. 1, 2009 and will *end June 1, 2010*. The June 1st deadline is mandatory for all participants and USDA will not accept any late filed applications. For 2010, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. The 2010 DCP direct payment will be based on 83.3 % of the covered commodity's base acres times the payment yield times the payment rate times the producers share of the covered commodity. Final DCP direct payments will be made after October 1, 2010.

ACRE Election

The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) component of the 2008 Farm Bill serves as a safety net that protects against crop revenue shortfall resulting from price and/or production declines at state and farm level. Producers may participate in the ACRE program on a farm by farm basis. Once a farm is elected for the ACRE program it will remain in the program for the duration of the Farm Bill (through 2012), regardless of any ownership or operator changes. In order to elect a farm into ACRE, each producer with documented association with that farm must agree and sign the election.

Producers considering participation need to take into consideration that farms elected for ACRE:

- Will be assessed 20% reduction in Direct Payments
- Will no longer be eligible for counter-cyclical payments
- Will be assessed 30% reduction in Marketing Assistance Loan Rates

Non-Insured Crop Coverage (NAP)

The NAP program resembles crop insurance and is designed to reduce financial losses on non-insurable crops resulting from weather-related crop disasters. The cost is \$250/crop/producer with a \$750 cap per county.

NAP participants are reminded that to be covered for eligible losses, the following steps must be completed:

- Coverage must be purchased by application deadline.
- Acreage Reports must be filed timely.
- Losses must be reported *before* destruction of the crop and within 15 days of the disaster. Not later than 15 days after normal harvest date.
- Production records must be submitted for all mechanically harvested production.

CRP Maintenance

Participants in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) agreed when signing their 10-15 year contract to maintain these acres according to the program guidelines. That means attaining a stand of grass, controlling weeds, controlling brush and trees, and taking any other actions needed to adequately maintain the CRP cover.

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA County Office staff, and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are necessary.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."