



**District 7 - Barber - Clark - Comanche - Edwards - Ford - Gray - Hodgeman - Kiowa
- Ness - Pawnee - Pratt - Stafford
February 2010**

DCP AND ACRE ENROLLMENT DEADLINE
JUNE 1

The deadline to enroll in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program is June 1. The DCP is an annual enrollment, similar to the past years. The ACRE program was created in the 2008 Farm Bill to give producers an option in lieu of traditional counter-cyclical payments. Producers may elect and enroll in ACRE for the 2009 crop year even if they have already accepted advance direct payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program. Producers who elect the ACRE program for a farm agree to: *forgo counter-cyclical payments; * accept a 20-percent reduction of the direct payments; and accept a 30-percent reduction in loan rates for all commodities produced on the farm. For more information on either program or to make an appointment to enroll should contact their local FSA Office.

Foreign Investors 90-day Reporting Rule

Foreign owners of U. S. Agricultural land are required by Law to report their land holdings, acquisitions, leases of 10 years or more, and land use changes within 90 days to the local FSA Office. Failure to report these changes can result in a civil penalty of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of their interest in the agricultural land

Rural Youth Loans

Youth 10 to 20 years old can gain valuable business experience by obtaining a Rural Youth Loan to establish and operate income producing projects in conjunction with participation in 4-H, FFA, or a similar club. Contact the USDA Farm Service Agency at the USDA Service Center for more details.

Acresage Reporting Date

Acresage reports are required for program participation in several programs. The final date to report acresages of wheat, barley, oats, and rye is May 31. The final date to report corn, upland cotton, grain sorghum, forage sorghum, fallow, and CRP is August 1. Since August 1, 2010 falls on Sunday, producers may report on August 2. Producers should contact their local FSA Office for an appointment to certify crop acres.

Committee Meeting Dates

FSA County Committees are a vital part of the delivery of the programs administered by FSA. The District 7 County Committee dates are:

Barber	2 nd Wednesday of the Month at 9:00 AM
Clark	2 nd Tuesday of the Month at 1:30 PM
Edwards	1 st Thursday of the Month at 9:00 AM
Ford	2 nd Thursday of the Month at 9:00 AM
Hodgeman	2 nd Tuesday of the Month at 1:00 PM
Gray	3 rd Wednesday of the Month at 8:00 AM
Kiowa	2 nd Wednesday of the Month at 1:15 PM
Ness	1 st Wednesday of the Month at 9:00 AM
Pawnee	1 st Thursday of the Month at 9:00 AM
Pratt	2 nd Wednesday of the Month at 9:00 AM
Stafford	1 st Tuesday of the Month at 9:00 AM

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

FSA offers low-interest loans to grain and hay producers to build new or upgrade existing storage facilities and related essential, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment. Loan opportunities include: New conventional-type cribs or bins, oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures, flat-type storage structures designed for whole grain storage, new structures suitable for storing hay and biomass built according to acceptable guidelines with a useful life of at least 15 years, and new cold storage buildings. Farm storage facility loans must be approved prior to site preparation, equipment purchase or construction, and must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. Special provisions apply for loans exceeding \$50,000. The maximum loan amount will be 85 percent of the net cost of the applicant's needed storage or handling equipment, not to exceed \$500,000 per loan. A minimum down payment to the supplier or contractor is required to bridge the gap between the net cost of the storage facility and the loan amount. Fixed interest rates on farm storage facility loans are equivalent to the rate of interest charged on U.S. Treasury Securities of comparable maturity on the date the loan is approved. There is a \$100 application fee. The loan terms available are seven (7) years, ten (10) years, or twelve (12) years depending on the amount of the loan.

Beginning Farmer Loans

Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and guarantees loans to beginning farmers who are unable to obtain financing from commercial lenders. Each fiscal year, the Agency targets a portion of its direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operating loan (OL) funds to beginning farmers. A beginning farmer is an individual or entity who (1) has not operated a farm for more than 10 years; (2) meets the loan eligibility requirements of the program to which he/she is applying; (3) substantially participates in the operation; and, (4) for FO purposes, does not own a farm greater than 30 percent of the median size farm in the county. (Note: all applicants for direct FO loans must have participated in the business operation of a farm for at least 3 years.) If the applicant is an entity, all members must be related by blood or marriage, and all members in a corporation must be eligible beginning farmers.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call your local FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.

Offices Closed for Memorial Day

All FSA Offices will be closed on Monday February 15, 2010 in observance of President's Day.



Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Verification

IRS will verify data for FSA for compliance purposes. Producers are required to submit a consent form to IRS. Consent is given on form CCC-927 for individuals and CCC-928 for entities. FSA will not have access to tax returns. The consent forms **must be mailed directly to IRS no later than June 15, 2010**. The Kansas State FSA mailed these forms directly to producers, and these forms are available at your local FSA office. Failure to submit these forms will result in a refund of USDA payments and ineligibly for additional payments.

Socially Disadvantaged Loans Available

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and guarantees loans to approved socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family-size farms and ranches. A socially disadvantaged (SDA) farmer, rancher, or agricultural producer is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as a member of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. SDA groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Commodity Loans and LDP's

Loans are available for participating producers on commodities. Nine month Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) are available with the interest rate determined by the month of loan application and disbursement. Loan Deficiency Payments are available when the posted county price (PCP) falls below the county loan rate. The final date to request a 2009 Wheat, Barley, or Oats loan is March 31, 2010. The final date to request a 2009 Corn, Grain Sorghum, or Soybean loan is May 31, 2010. The CCC-666 EZ must be completed prior to loss of beneficial interest. Contact your local FSA for details and current rates.

Report Changes

It is important to keep your records accurate and up to date. Report any changes on land ownership or changes in your farming operation. Also, if you have any banking changes such as different account numbers or changing banks, report these changes to insure your Direct Deposit is accurate. Address changes also need to be timely reported including update the 9-1-1 addresses. All these changes need to be submitted to your local FSA office.

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

Currently, qualifying producers can enroll in the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE). The SURE Program will be available to eligible producers on:

- farms in disaster counties, including contiguous Counties. Disaster counties are counties included in the geographic area covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration by the Secretary for production losses. *Hodgeman County was designated for 2008. Contiguous counties for 2008 include: Barber, Clark, Comanche, Edwards, Ford, Gray, Ness, and Pawnee.*
- any farm in which, during the calendar year, the total loss of production of the farm because of weather is greater than 50 percent of the normal production of the farm.

For SURE, a "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.

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. Total Farm Revenue minus Disaster Assistance Program Guarantee = Payment 60 percent of Difference.

Producers must meet the Risk Management Purchase Requirement (RMPR). This means the producer must have crop insurance on all insurable crops and Non Insurance Assistance Program (NAP) on all non-insurable crops. Waivers may be granted on crops not considered on economic significance.



FARM LOAN YEAR END REVIEWS

Producers that have a farm loan with FSA are reminded they must provide data for their Year-End-Analysis (YEA) to their loan officer each year. Borrowers are urged to provide this information timely so that their files can be maintained. You may contact your servicing office for the data you need to provide.

CELEBRATING AG WOMEN 2010 CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 5-6, 2010
HYATT REGENCY WICITHA, KANSAS
www.womenmanagingthefarm.info