

DECATUR COUNTY FSA NEWSLETTER

May 2008



COUNTY COMMITTEE

Robert Henningson, Chairperson
Mike Coleman, Vice Chairperson
David Meitl, Member

OFFICE STAFF

Diane Barrett, CED
Sue Hillebrand, PT
Candi Ketterl, PT
Megan Carter, PT

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
8:00 AM-4:30 PM
Phone: (785) 475-3131

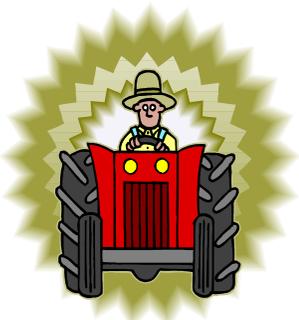
County Committee Meeting Times

The Decatur County Committee meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 9:00 AM, in the Decatur County USDA Service Center Conference Room.



Special Accommodations

For individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment, we will make special accommodations upon request. If special accommodations are required, please contact the FSA office and we will make any arrangements that are needed.



Acreage Reporting Deadline Nears

The deadline to report small grain and alfalfa acreage is June 2, 2008. If you haven't reported these crops please contact our office for an appointment.

The final date to report the balance of your acreage including corn, grain sorghum, feed, sunflowers, fallow and CRP is August 1, 2008. Producers participating in NAP must report NAP acreages 15 days prior to the onset of harvest or grazing.



Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program

The deadline to purchase NAP coverage on eligible 2008 crops in Kansas has past. NAP entitles eligible producers to a payment of 55 percent of an average market price for the commodity if a natural disaster caused a 50 percent production loss or greater of an eligible crop.

In the unfortunate event that a producer does suffer a loss on their particular crop, a form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, must be filed with FSA within 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence, or the date the loss becomes apparent to the producer.

Producers are limited to \$100,000 in benefits per person per crop year, they must certify crop acres by applicable deadlines, maintain production evidence for 3 years, not exceed the \$2 million gross revenue provisions, and must comply with conservation compliance provisions in order to be eligible.

Sodbuster, Swampbuster

Most Farm Service Agency programs require compliance with sodbuster and swampbuster provisions. These provisions require producers to follow an approved conservation system on all highly erodible land planted to an annual crop as determined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Be sure to have determinations made on any new land you plan to plant to annual crops. If you plan to plant a different crop on your current cropland, check with NRCS to assure the new crop will qualify under your conservation system.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all programs and activities on the basis of race color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status (Not all bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotapes, etc.) should contact the USDA TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice or TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 26** Closed for Memorial Day
- May 31** Final date to request 2007 crop loans/or LDP's for corn, sorghum, soybean, and sunflower
- June 2** Final date to report wheat, barley, oats and alfalfa acreages
- July 4** Closed for Independence Day
- August 1** Final date to submit nominations for COC election.
- August 1** Final date to certify spring seed crops and CRP. NAP acres must be certified by August 1 or 15 days prior to the onset of harvest or grazing.
- August 1** Final date to request a farm reconstitution

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

Producers may request loans to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities at the FSA office. These FSFL loans have a 7 year term with annual payments amortized over the term of the loan. The maximum principal loan amount is 85% of the net cost not to exceed \$100,000. If interested, contact the office for more information. Interest rate for May is 3.00%

FSA Signature Requirements

Proper signatures on Farm Service Agency contracts, applications and forms must be submitted before the document will be considered as filed. All entities, including revocable and irrevocable trusts, corporations, partnerships, estates, etc., must provide evidence of signature authority stipulating those individuals who are authorized to represent the entity.

FSA cannot accept signatures without such documentation on file. Examples of acceptable evidence include trust agreements, corporate charters or resolutions, partnership agreements and court orders of appointment. Spouses can sign for one another on most program documents unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office staff. An FSA-211 may be filed to delegate signature authority for FSA program purposes to another individual.



Internet Access To FSA Program Information

Information on FSA programs and services can be found at www.fsa.usda.gov. In addition, LDP rates are posted daily and national news releases can be obtained. You can find Kansas FSA related information at www.fsa.usda.gov/ks, including county/district newsletters, state news releases, and upcoming State events.

Conduct Your USDA Business On-Line

If you have access to the Internet and have an e-mail account you can obtain an e-Authentication Level 2 Account and conduct some of your USDA business on-line. Access www.fsa.usda.gov, then click on "Online Services" at the top of the page. Instructions are provided on how to obtain a Level 2 eAuth account. Once the account is set up, you can access eLDP, eDCP, Customer Statement, Financial Inquiry, eForms, and eRepresentative. Obtain more information and a brochure at your local FSA office.