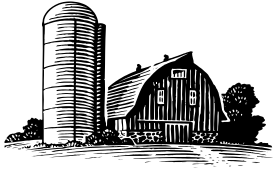




DECEMBER 2010



Labette County News



Labette County FSA
115 W. 4th St
PO Box 437
Altamont, KS 67330
620-784-5431 phone
620-784-5900 fax

Visit us online at
www.fsa.usda.gov or
email at
kitra.cooper@ks.usda.gov

IMPORTANT DATES

December 8—COC meeting
December 25—office closed
January 1—office closed
January 12—COC meeting
January 17—office closed

2010 COMMODITY LOAN RATES

HRW Wheat--\$2.80
SRW Wheat--\$1.71
Corn--\$2.10
Grain Sorghum--\$3.48
Soybeans--\$4.99

More rates can be accessed
online at www.usda.fsa.gov under
Price Support.

DECEMBER LOAN INTEREST RATES

Commodity—1.25%
Storage Facility—2.00-3.00%
Direct Ownership—4.125%
Direct Operating—1.75%
Youth Loan—1.75%

Food for thought:

“The trouble with weather forecasting is that it's right too often for us to ignore it and wrong too often for us to rely on it”. ~Patrick Young

For current information about FSA and agriculture in general, check out the following websites:
www.usda.fsa.gov
www.usda.fsa.gov/ks
www.ksda.gov
www.oznet.ksu.edu
www.nass.usda.gov

2011 DCP SIGNUP BEGINS REPORT PLANTED WHEAT ACRES

Call the office anytime to make your appointment to sign into the 2011 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) Program and report your planted wheat acreage. Even calling a day ahead will increase efficiency and eliminate your wait time.

Producers may request an advance DCP payment of 22%, payable beginning December 1. Participation in DCP requires that ALL producers (operators and landowners) on a farm sign the DCP contract (CCC-509), agreeing to the crop share division. This requirement may be waived for cash leased farms IF the farm operator provides our office a copy of the cash lease agreement or certifies to the cash lease on FSA form CCC-510.

In order to maintain payment eligibility, all producers must also verify the farming operation information to which they certified in 2010 and file current adjusted gross income statements with both FSA and IRS. Forms are available in our office. The deadline for DCP signup and small grain acreage reports is May 31, 2011.



REPORT FARMING CHANGES NOW

If you have sold or bought land, changed the way you do business (formed or changed a trust, partnership, corporation, etc.), assumed operatorship of a new farm for 2010, or any other type of farm business change, please notify us now. The only way we know a change has been made is if YOU notify US. FSA can only approve DCP contracts for farms with correct records. Some changes will require that copies of documentation be filed with our office, such as recorded deeds, trust and other entity paperwork, and proof of tax ID numbers.

We also need you to notify us of any address or direct deposit bank account changes. This will ensure that you receive correct information and timely payments.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S 72nd ANNUAL MEETING

When: Saturday January 22, 2011
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Where: LCHS Cafeteria, Altamont

A short business meeting and dinner will be held to elect two supervisors to the Labette County Conservation District Board, followed by the presentation of Soil Conservation and Wildlife awards from the Kansas Bankers Association, and Conservation Poster Contest winners.

RSVP by calling 620-784-5613, X29, or email julie.ryan@ks.nacdnet.net by January 7, 2011.

LABETTE FSA COMMITTEE WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

Ballots for the 2010 County Committee election were counted at the County Committee meeting on December 8, 2010. Tori Dickinson of Oswego was elected as the new representative for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 3, which consists of Walton, North, Neosho, Labette, Liberty, and Montana Townships. Tori will begin her duties January 1, 2011, and join current committee members Ken Foster and Darlene Ferguson.

Labette County is divided into 3 LAA's based on farm population, with one representative from each area serving on the County Committee. The 3-year terms are staggered. County Committee members meet once monthly and serve the important purposes of determining local policies, hearing appeals, and supervising the County Executive Director. Committees are also responsible for making national farm programs fit the needs and situations faced by local farmers and ranchers and bring local expertise and knowledge to USDA's daily delivery of programs.

2009 SURE PROGRAM COMING—WATCH FOR DETAILS

The Supplemental Revenue (SURE) program will be available to Labette County producers sometime in early 2011. This will pay for revenue losses incurred on totally insured farming operations for 2009. The signup and payment process will function identical to the 2008 SURE program.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00a.m. – 4:30p.m.

County Committee:

Ken Foster, Chair
Darlene Ferguson, Vice Chair
David Dhooghe, Outgoing member

County Committee generally meets the 1st Wednesday of each month

Staff:

Kitra Cooper, CED
Annetta Henry, PT
Sally McKinzie, PT
Dawn Thompson, PT
Trey Thompson, Field
Jim Dark, FLM
Michelle Cerne, FLO



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To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

HOW TO FILE FOR LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM PAYMENTS

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) is a program that pays per-head for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by an adverse weather event during the calendar year. Weather events included are:

- Floods
- Blizzards
- Wildfires
- Lightning
- Tornadoes
- Extreme heat
- Extreme cold

Mortality and payments rates can be found online at www.fsa.usda.gov/ks.

Filing for LIP requires very specific documentation and data from livestock producers. Producers must file a notice of loss for each and every livestock death within 30 days of the date of death. This may be filed by phone, fax or email, as well as in person. With the notice of loss, the producer **MUST** report the exact cause of death, exact date and weather event, the livestock type and weight range, and the number of livestock inventory on hand on the date of the weather event.

In addition to filing a timely notice of loss, livestock producers must also provide **required documentation** of the cause, date and number of deaths. Payment can be made anytime during the calendar year **AFTER** normal mortality has been met.

Documentation must be provided using **one of the following three methods. Verifiable Records** noting date and cause of death, including:

- Paid-for FSA on-site inspection, within **one week** of the deaths
- Veterinarian records
- Rendering truck or other carcass disposal receipts

Reliable Records:

- *Verifiable* beginning and ending inventory records PLUS contemporaneous producer records existing at the time of the adverse weather event (includes photos with a self-date stamp)

Third-Party Certification:

- Will **ONLY** be accepted on Form FSA-926 (available at the office) and must be filed by a non-interested person and include a *detailed* written statement, affiliation with owner, and contact information. Livestock owner must also provide inventory records and certify there is no other documentation of death available.

GET ONLINE ACCESS FOR YOUR FSA INFORMATION AND PROGRAMS

Just like online banking or bill-paying, your personal FSA financial information is available to you online 24 hours a day through a completely secure website. FSA’s Online Services Website is a service that allows agricultural producers to conduct business and generate financial reports from the comfort of their home office. Producers also have the option to sign into certain FSA programs online.

Authorized producers may view summary and detailed information about specific payments received, collections paid, outstanding debt (excluding loans) and information reported on the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Form 1099. Producers may also update their Direct Deposit banking information through this access.

Also available is a Customer Statement that allows USDA customers to view their participation, application and payment status in various commodity and conservation programs, information on farm loans, and conservation plan and land unit information.

For more information, go to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/> and click the “Online Services” tab at the top of the page. Here, you will be able to obtain Level 2 Access to an eAuth Account.

This requires you to:

- submit an online customer profile
- activate your account by responding to the confirmation email within 7 days
- complete the “identity proofing” by presenting your photo ID at your local FSA office.