



Atchison County Newsletter

Atchison County USDA Service Center

Atchison County FSA
302 E. Hwy 136
Rock Port, MO 64482
(660) 744-5328 (Phone)
(660) 744-5536 (Fax)

Hours

Monday—Friday
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Duane Klute, Chairperson
Craig Heits, Vice-Chair
Julie Joesting, Member

Meets 2nd Wednesday of
every month at 8:00 a.m.

Staff

County Executive Director
Corey Leshner

Farm Loan Manager
Bob Dreyer

Farm Loan Officer
Roger Uptergrove

Program Technicians
Nancy Daugherty
Pam Husing
Patricia Lane
Marilyn Thurnau
Karen Vette

Field Assistant
Robert Smith

Preventing Fraud

FSA supports the Risk Management Agency in the prevention of fraud, waste and abuse of the Federal Crop Insurance Program. FSA has assisted, and will continue to assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. Producers can report suspected cases of fraud to FSA, RMA or Office of Inspector General.

Hard to believe the crop year is almost over and we will soon see combines in the fields bringing in this year's harvest. Reports throughout the county indicate that most of the crop will be average to above average. There has been some wind and hail damage in parts of the county, but the damage appears to be isolated. We have been blessed with timely rains this summer and no flooding as we have had the previous two years. I think everyone would agree, we have been very fortunate this summer.

We have had a good summer here in the office as well. I thank each of you for reporting your acreage timely and for enrolling into the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) and / or the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) by the applicable deadline. Of the eligible farms in the county, 88% enrolled into DCP and 8% enrolled into ACRE for a combined enrollment percentage of 96%.

A few of the topics in this newsletter include:

- Farm Storage Facility Loans (New Rules)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (New Program)
- CRP Management Practices (Documentation Deadline Rapidly Approaching)
- Treasury Offset Program Implemented (Affects All Payments)

Do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions about the programs FSA administers. Please be safe this fall during harvest!

Corey Leshner

Atchison County Rainfall

All FSA offices serve as a rainfall data collection site. Below is the rainfall Atchison County has received during the growing season this year, compared to 2008 and the 30 year average. This information can be viewed at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/statistics_by_State/Missouri/Publications/Weather_Data/

	2009	2008	30 Year Average
May	2.27	6.8	4.53
June	8.17	8.65	4.13
July	4.24	3.35	4.97
August	7.51	.80	3.61
Total	22.19	19.6	17.24



FSA Implements Treasury Offset Program

Beginning August 3, 2009, the Farm Service Agency changed the way payments are processed. The Treasury Implementation Project will bring some changes on the timing of payments that producers receive and how FSA's deposit information appears on bank statements.

All payments FSA makes by direct deposit will be transmitted by Kansas City to the Department of Treasury. This is required for FSA to be compliant with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996. All Federal payments will be processed through the Treasury Offset Program (TOP) so that delinquent Federal debt can be offset.

This new process will result in a delay of direct deposit payments to customers by one business day. All payments will be matched against debt referred to Treasury, including payments made by Treasury check. If the TOP database finds a match for a producer's taxpayer identification number and name, the payment will be offset to satisfy the delinquent Federal debt. Treasury will notify producers of any offsets taken for debts due other agencies.

Producers will also notice a change on their bank statements for all FSA direct deposit information. Currently, the description on the payee's bank statement reads "USDA-FSAKCMOCDS". In the near future, the description on the bank statement will read, "FSA TREAS 310" for all payments disbursed by FSA through the Department of Treasury.

Producers can call the Treasury Offset Program (TOP) Call Center at 1-800-304-3107 for any question regarding a TOP offset and to obtain the contact information for the offsetting agency. The TOP Call Center only has access to provide the name of the offsetting agency and their contact information. The payee will need to call the offsetting agency to determine the origination of the debt.

Livestock Indemnity Program

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from disaster. Using funds from the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund established under section 902 of the Trade Act of 1974, the program is administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011.



The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and/or application for payment for either 2008 or 2009 livestock losses.

Date of Livestock Death	Final Date to File a Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application for Payment
Calendar Year 2008	Sept. 13, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009
Jan. 1, 2009 to July 12, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009	Jan. 30, 2010
July 13, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2009	30 days after death is apparent	Jan. 30, 2010

For more information on available supplemental disaster assistance programs, please visit your FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.



Farm Storage Facility Loans (NEW RULES)

The Farm Storage Facility Loan program (FSFL) provides low interest financing for producers to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The following are eligible commodities for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other than whole grain
- Pulse crops-lentils, chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (includes nuts) and vegetables- cold storage facilities

An FSA farm storage facility loan must be approved by the local FSA county committee before any site preparation and/or construction can be started.

To be eligible the borrower must:

- produce an eligible facility loan commodity
- have a satisfactory credit rating
- demonstrate the ability to repay the loan
- not have any non-tax federal debt
- demonstrate the need for additional storage
- provide proof of multi peril crop insurance
- provide proof of all peril insurance (including flood insurance if needed) with CCC as loss payee
- comply with USDA provisions for HELC and WC
- comply with the National Environmental Policy Act
- comply with any local zoning, land use and building codes

All loans will be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. For loans that exceed \$50,000 or if the borrower's aggregate outstanding principal exceeds \$50,000, the borrower must be able to provide one of the following:

- a first lien on the real estate on which the facility is located
- real estate owned by the borrower other than where the facility is located, provided the real estate offered is sufficient to secure the loan
- a letter of credit from a financial institution in an amount sufficient to protect CCC's interest for each year the loan has an outstanding balance

The maximum loan amount is \$500,000 per loan. CCC can loan up to 85% of the net cost of the eligible facility and equipment. Terms are 7, 10 or 12 years depending on the amount of the loan. The interest rate is fixed for the entire length of the loan and is based on the rate in effect during the month the loan is initially approved. Loans will not be disbursed until the facility has been erected and inspected with the exception of one qualifying partial disbursement.

Each applicant will be charged a nonrefundable \$100 application fee. CCC will pay all collateral lien searches and recording fees for filing form UCC-1 and credit reports. Applicants pay for all other fees such as severance agreements, attorney fees, real estate lien searches, instrument filing fees and for loans over \$50,000 a title search/opinion or title insurance.

2009 Compliance



Compliance and spot checks will once again be utilized during the 2009 crop year. Instead of locally selecting farms, contracts, loans, etc., for spot check and review, a nationwide selection of producers is used to achieve a statistical sampling of participating producers. Spot check selections are to be conducted based on a producer's participation in Conservation Reserve Program, Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, Marketing Assistance Loans, Loan Deficiency Payment Program, etc.

CRP Mid-Contract Management Practices - Deadline Approaching

CRP participants who have contracts requiring mid-contract management practices are reminded that if the practice is not completed and documentation is not received in the office, the annual CRP payment will be reduced. Documentation includes invoices and / or receipts. If completing the practice yourself, a signed statement indicating the type of management practice, dates completed, hours taken to complete the practice, machinery used, etc must be submitted. In addition, you will need to identify on a map which acres on the contract had a management practice completed. The deadline to provide this documentation and receive your full CRP annual payment is September 30, 2009.

Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or to purchase or improve farms or ranches.



While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged Applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities.

For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

If producers or their spouses believe they would qualify as socially disadvantaged, they should contact their local FSA office for details. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

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 to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.