



Holt County  
**FSA NEWSLETTER**  
January 2009

**Holt County  
FSA Office**

118 W Davis Street  
Mound City, Mo 64470  
660-442-3134  
Office Hours:  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**

Karl Noellsch  
Kirby Rosier  
Karen Ingram

**Office Staff**

Kami Hubach, PT  
Kim Meyer, PT  
Wendy Tubbs, PT

**County Executive  
Director**

Jackie J VanGundy

**Farm Loan**

Bob Dreyer, FLM  
Roger Uptergrove, FLO  
Tuesday mornings

**Fieldmen**

Mark Buntz  
Stan Seitz

**District Director**

Jim Nance



Dear Holt County Producers

**Direct & Counter-Cyclical (DCP) Sign up has begun**

Producers can now begin signing up for the 2009 DCP program and request an advance payment equal to 22% of the direct payment, up until **June 1, 2009**. There will be an opportunity to switch to the ACRE program on a farm by farm basis within the next few months. A producer can stay in the DCP for 2009 and then switch to ACRE in a later year, but once the switch is made, it is permanent. For the ACRE program producers would give up 20% of the guaranteed direct payment, and ACRE payments would be based on individual yields and revenue compared to state set averages. More details will be available later.

**Change in Adjusted Gross Income Limits (IMPORTANT)**

As you visit with your tax preparer or accountant, it might be a good time to review our new AGI forms with them. Under the new farm bill provisions, producers who have an adjusted gross farm income over \$750,000 per year, are not eligible to receive DCP payments. If the non-farm AGI is over \$500,000, the producer is not eligible for commodity, price support or disaster programs and if the non-farm AGI is over \$1 million per year, then they would not be eligible for Conservation (CRP) payments. Contact the office if you would like a copy of the new AGI form to take and look over.

The three entity rule is out – program payments are now limited by direct attribution to individuals or entities. Through direct attribution, payment limitation is based on the total payments received by the individual, both directly and indirectly. Also – spouses are eligible to be considered separate persons for PL purposes, rather than being automatically combined under one limitation.

Individuals & entities must be “actively engaged in farming” with respect to a farming operation in order to be eligible for payments & benefits which means – the individual or entity must make significant contributions to the farming operation of: (1) capital, equipment, land, or a combination; and (2) personal labor or active personal management, or a combination.

The rule requires each partner, stockholder, or member with an ownership interest to make a contribution of active personal labor or management. This contribution must be regular, substantial, and documented as separate and distinct from any other member’s contribution. This may limit the ability of passive stock holders to receive benefits.

Producers may need to provide current information for FSA to verify ownership and signature authority for all entities requesting program benefits.

**ALL** producers will have to fill out new payment eligibility forms for 2009 programs. Please be patient as we deal with these new forms together.

## New Payment Procedures

A procedural change in early December eliminated the issuance of CCC checks from the county office. All payments will now be made by direct deposit to your bank account **OR** by a check issued from the U.S Treasury and mailed to your address. This includes loan disbursements and refunds from loan repayments. If you obtain a CCC grain loan or facility loan and a joint payment is needed, it requires a check printed by the Treasury which will delay the process for a few extra days. If a joint check is not required, and the funds are deposited in your bank account, it will take only 2 to 3 days. If you have not signed up for direct deposit yet, you may want to consider that option. If you make a change in a bank or an account number, be sure to notify us to avoid additional delays in receiving your payments.

### 1099's

Producers who received a payment in 2008 from FSA should be receiving a CCC-1099 in the mail the last week of January. The CCC-1099 is FSA's report to the IRS concerning payments issued during the 2008 tax year. The 1099 is mailed from KCMO but County Offices have access to the report to be able to assist producers if they have any questions.

CCC-1099's can be accessed electronically through the USDA FSA's home page  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA>

You must first register for an e-authentication account through your servicing office.

### Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

The weather has slowed down emergency repair work and inspections by our office for the ECP Program caused by the heavy rains and flooding last Spring. As soon as weather permits, projects need to be completed. The State Committee has set a deadline of **May 31, 2009** for work to be completed. Give us a call if you are ready to start a project and we have not made an inspection yet. As you complete the work, bring in the bills and report.

## COC Elections

Congratulations to Karl Noellsch who was re-elected to the County Committee for three more years. Karl represents producers from Forest, Forbes, Lewis & Nodaway townships. FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The County Committee system works only because of your participation.

Thank you Karl for serving!

### Selling Land?

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in CRP, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you may have to refund all of the payments you've received to date.

Please discuss possible program options with the county office staff before selling any land.

### Record Changes

If you have bought, sold, or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the FSA office as soon as possible after they occur. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a copy of the recorded deed or land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and fines if you are participating in our program.

### CCC Loan Collateral

Producers are reminded that grain under loan cannot be removed or disposed of without prior authorization or repayment. Releases may be made by phone or in person when you are ready to move the grain. A loan violation is subject to administrative penalties, liquidated damages and denial of future farm-stored loans and LDP's. So it is important to **CALL** before you **HAUL!**

### Annual Notice to Producers

FSA is required annually to notify producers of many program requirements, policies, and reminders. The following are some of those notifications:

**Spousal Signatures:** Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) programs in which either has an interest. In most cases, this option is automatically available unless a request for exclusions is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

**Power of Attorney:** We have a power of attorney form available for those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the FSA office. This can be done by completing an FSA-211, Power of Attorney. The form is available at your local USDA Service Center or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov>

Forms obtained and completed outside the USDA Service Center office must be notarized. To find out more, call the office.

**Foreign Landowners:** The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

**Faxed Signatures:** Certain faxed signatures shall be accepted for all applicable program forms or other documents approved for faxed signatures, if all other requirements are met.

**Direct Deposit Mandatory:** As of Jan 1, 1999, all payments issued by the county FSA office will be by direct deposit (electronic funds transfer) to a pre-designated checking or savings account with your financial institution. Forms are available at the FSA office to sign up for direct deposit if you haven't yet. For those already signed up, it is important that we are notified anytime there is a change in your account number or financial institution. If we are not notified timely, future payments may be delayed.

**Controlled Substance:** Any person who is convicted under federal law of planting, producing, cultivating, harvesting, growing, or storing a controlled substance will be ineligible to participate and receive payments under USDA programs. Marijuana, opium poppies, and other drug producing plants are controlled substances.

**Reporting Farm Changes:** It is also the producer's responsibility to notify FSA of ANY changes in their farming operation or entity status throughout the year. Changes that may affect a determination include, but are not limited to, a change in contract shares which may reflect change of land lease from cash rent to share rent or from share rent to cash rent; addition or deletion of a farm; change in the structure of the farming operation, such as individual to a corporation or trust; change in contributions or inputs such as personal labor, or change in farming interests.

**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.

**Website for Digital Imagery:** Landowners who have access to the internet may find the following site of interest. Producers can access 2004 digital imagery for their land by using the map room link at

<http://www.cares.missouri.edu/index.asp>

There will be no line work on the fields, but it is a good source of current photography. Producers can also access topographical maps, floodplain maps and measure distance and acreages.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
 AGRICULTURE  
 FARM SERVICE AGENCY  
 HOLT COUNTY FSA OFFICE**  
 118 W Davis Street  
 Mound City, Mo 64470

January interest rate for facility loans is 2.125%  
 and the rate for commodity loans is 1.625%



*If you are considering a new grain bin,  
 ask about a Farm Storage Facility Loan!*

**Dates to Remember**

Jan 2	Last day to return LS-54-1, Pork check off referendum
Jan 19	Office closed for Martin Luther King Holiday
Jan 31	Deadline on 2008 LDP's for wool, mohair & unshorn lamb pelts
Feb 16	Office closed for President's Day
Mar 16	Final date to purchase NAP Ins coverage on hay, pasture & other NAP crops
Mar 16	Final date to purchase FCIC Crop Ins on Corn & beans
Mar 31	Final date to obtain a loan or LDP on wheat & oats
May 31	Last day to complete work for ECP
June 1	DGP sign up ends
June 1	Final date to obtain a loan or LDP on 2008 corn & beans
Continues	Continuous CRP sign up
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans

Visit our Web site: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo>

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