

Pike County News

August 2008

Pike County USDA Service Center

Pike County FSA

1220 S. Business 61 573-324-3313 (phone) 573-324-2475 (fax) www.fsa.usda.gov/MO

Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Peggy Hall Mark Franz Jim Adams

County Committee meets 3rd Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m.

Staff

Karen Bolte, PT Karen Graver, PT Brenda Mahsman, PT Patti Schuckenbrock, PT Mary Teasley, PT Delores Douglass, Volunteer Josh Gregory, Field Assistant Robert Noellsch, FLM

Roger Colbert, CED

Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs

Bowling Green, MO 63334 USDA enacted into law on May 22, 2008, the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, which has amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create an agricultural disaster relief trust fund and a supplemental agricultural disaster assistance program. The trust fund provides five new disaster assistance programs that may be used to make payments to farmers and producers. The new disaster assistance programs

- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program,
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP),
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP),
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP), and
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-Raised Fish (EALHF) Program.

The SURE program will be available to eligible producers on farms in disaster counties, including contiguous counties that have incurred crop production losses and/or crop quality losses during the crop year. Or any farm in which, during the calendar year, the total loss of production on the farm because of weather is greater than 50 percent of the normal production of the farm.

The LFP program will be available to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock because of drought on land that is either native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or planted to a crop specifically for providing grazing. The LFP program will also be available to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock because of fire on rangeland managed by a Federal agency if the eligible livestock producer is prohibited from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland.

The LIP program will be available to eligible livestock producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality because of adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary during the calendar year, including losses because of hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease,

wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold.

The TAP program is reauthorized, to provide assistance to orchardists and eligible nursery tree growers who produce nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut or Christmas trees for commercial sale that lost trees because of a natural disaster as determined by the Secretary.

The EALHF program will provide emergency relief to producers of livestock including horses, honey bees and farm-raised fish because of losses from adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary.

Producers interested in the SURE, EALHF, LFP or TAP programs must have purchased or obtained a plan of insurance covered under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (FCIC) for each crop on the farm or if the commodity is noninsurable, be covered under the noninsured crop disaster assistance (NAP) program through FSA and have paid the applicable administrative fee set by the State Committee approved deadline date.

However for 2008, producers who do not meet the above listed requirements may be eligible if the producer pays a fee comparable to the cost of NAP or FCIC coverage by no later than **Sept 16, 2008**. For more information about these programs, contact the FSA office.

To participate in these disaster programs, all crops, including hay and pastures, must be covered by insurance, NAP or the fees. Fees must be paid by September 16, 2008. This includes share rent landlords so their share is covered as well.

Calculators and more information are available at:

http://www.extension.iastate.edu/feci

Limited Resource, Beginning Farmers and some SDA producer may be eligible for waiver of fees.



2008 DCP Program Sign-up Is Underway

Producers have until September 30, 2008 to sign-up for the 2008 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP). Producers can fill out their 2008 DCP contract at any USDA Farm Service Agency County Office. Sign-up can also be completed online by going to

http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/edcp and clicking on "Access eDCP Service." You can choose payment options, assign crop shares and sign and submit contracts from any computer with Internet access. You can also view and print submitted contract options.

FSA computes DCP payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2008, eligible producers may request to receive an advance payment of 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. FSA has been issuing advance direct payments as soon as practical after enrollment. Final direct payments will be issued after Oct. 1, 2008. Counter-cyclical payments vary depending on market prices, and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price (which takes into account the direct payment rate, market price and loan rate).

DCP base acres that were not planted this year due to flood and excessive rain must still have weeds controlled or a payment reduction of \$12 per acre will be assessed.

Presently, we have paid all the advances on contracts that are completed. At this time we have 291 farms where we are missing one or more signatures. This represents about 22% of the average total farms we have approved and paid the last USDA United States three years. Another 70 farms have had neither the owner nor operator initiate the contract. We have completed and approved 73% of the farms but the deadline is quickly approaching. September 30 is the deadline to obtain all signatures on these contracts.

> For all eligibility requirements or addition information, contact your local office.

Haying, Grazing CRP Acres

FSA has authorized certain acreage enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to be available for hay and forage after the primary nesting season ends for grass-nesting birds which in Missouri is after July 15, 2008.

CRP having or grazing will provide much needed feed and forage while maintaining the conservation benefits from the nation's premier conservation program. Haying and Grazing is available under 3 options this year.

In all cases, some of the eligible land or forage of the land must be reserved for wildlife and any land that is used under this authority must have a conservation plan. In many instances, the removal of some of the grass cover will increase the diversity of the stand and provide long-term benefits for wildlife. Further, the most environmentallysensitive land enrolled in CRP will not be eligible. The land will be subject to a site inspection to ensure compliance with the conservation plan. Also, before any having or grazing of CRP acres, participants must request COC approval to hay or graze eligible acreage under a particular program(s) and receive notification of approval in writing from the COC.

Participants who request a voluntary modification to the CRP contract to allow critical feed use must also obtain a modified conservation plan for having and grazing management in accordance with NRCS Field Office Technical Guide having and grazing standards and elect to either hay or graze their contracted acreage. Any haying or grazing of CRP acres requires prior FSA county committee approval.

Option 1 is to use the Managed Haying and Grazing authority. This method allows a producer to harvest onethird (1/3) of each field per year or the entire field once every three years. If using the one-third method, we have to rotate so that no area is harvested more frequently than once every three years. There is a 25% payment reduction assessed under this option. Baling must be completed by September 30, and hay must be removed by October 30, 2008.

Option 2 would include Emergency Haying and Grazing. This option limits harvest to **one-half** (1/2) of each field, leaving the other half untouched for wildlife. Any fields affected under this option could not be harvested again for the next three years. However, it does allow you to harvest an area that was harvested last year under managed having and grazing authorization.

Option 3 is limited to only those producers who had applied, paid their fees and been approved prior to July 8, 2008 due to a Federal Restraining Order. They have been notified of their options and limitations.

For more information about this program, or to see if your acreage is eligible for this program, contact the FSA office.



Emergency Conservation Program for Flood Victims

Pike County has been approved for Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) for Flooding. The ECP provides emergency funding for farmers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters such as recent flooding and excessive rainfall experienced this year. Approved Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) cost share practices include: removing debris from farmland; grading shaping, re-leveling farmland; restoring permanent fences; and restoring conservation structures such as terraces and other installations.

Based on a site visit, FSA county committee will determine eligibility of land for ECP. The flooding must have created new conservation problems that, if untreated, would:

- Impair or endanger the land;
- Materially affect the land's productive capacity;
- Represent unusual damage which is not the type likely to recur frequently in the same area, and;
- Be so costly to repair that federal assistance is or will be required to return the land to productive capacity. A producer must experience a minimum cost of \$1,000 to be eligible to participate.

Subject to availability of funds, ECP program participants may receive cost share assistance of up to 75% of the cost to implement approved ECP practices. Technical assistance is also available. Eligible participants are subject to a payment limitation. Funding for ECP is appropriated by Congress. This is not an entitlement program where eligible producers are guaranteed funding.

ECP signup starts September 10, 2008 and ends November 8, 2008. There will be no late filed applications approved.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

If you are considering a new grain bin, ask FSA about a Farm Storage Facility Loan! Loans are seven year fixed interest rate payment loans. Eligible equipment includes bins and all permanent fix tures but not portable equipment.

Eligibility is determined by the bushels of crops normally raised on the farming operation, and the amount of storage already available.

Documentation is provided to show repayment ability. A financial statement is also required.

The loan can be made up to 85% of the total cost of the structure, concrete, wiring, fan, and other equipment. If the loan amount is over \$50,000 but less than \$100,000, a deed of trust will be taken on the real estate.







Sure Example	Corn	Soybeans	Total		Dates to Remember
Planted acres	500 ac	500 ac	1,000		Dates to Kemember
APH crop insurance yield	160 bu	48 bu		Sant 1	Labor Day Holiday. FSA Offices
Crop Insurance indemnity price \$5.40		\$13.36		Sept. 1	Closed.
Crop Insurance price guarantee level 75%		75%		Comt 16	Final date for the SURE, EALHF,
Crop Insurance revenue guarantee\$324,000		\$240,480	\$564,480	Sept. 16	LFP or TAP program buy-in.
(acres x yield x price x % guarantee)					Deadline to sign-up ends for 2008
				Sept. 30	Direct and Counter-cyclical
Harvested acres	500 ac	500 ac		1	Payment Program.
Harvested yield/ac	100 bu	30 bu			Deadline to approve CRP Re-
Actual bushels harvested	50,000 bu	15,000 bu		Sept. 30	Enrollments Expiring.
Harvest time insurance price	\$6.00	\$14.00			Elifornients Expiring.
Actual revenue for crop ins	\$300,000	\$210,000	<u>-\$510,000</u>	Sept. 30	Deadline to finish hay on CRP
(bu x price)			φ. σ. 4.400	Sept. 30	D 11: 1 - 1 - 2000 - 1 1
Crop insurance indemnity payment			= \$ 54,480		Deadline to insure 2009 wheat, re-
(insurance guarantee less actual revenue)				1	quired for disaster programs
(1150/ C'			\$649,152	Dec. 1	Application deadline for 2009
SURE guarantee (115% of insurance guarantee)**					NAP coverage for Fall Crops.
Marketing year average cash price \$6.50 \$15.00			Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loan	
Actual Revenue for SURE	\$325,000	\$225,000	\$550,000		program.
Crop insurance indemnity payment			\$54,480		
15% of USDA direct payment (\$20,000)			\$3,000		
Total crop revenue for SURE			- <u>\$607,480</u>		
Revenue Shortfall for SURE (SURE guarantee less actual)			= \$ 41,672	Vigit our website et: www.fee.uede.gov/me	

SURE payment (60% of shortfall)

\$25,003

Visit our website at: www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

This is only for illustration purposes. The actual software is being developed and your payment will vary based on your actual information such as crop insurance coverage, APH, and actual yield realized and the actual average market price which will not be determined until 2009.

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.

^{*} Assumes basic revenue insurance. For CRC or RA-HPO, the final guarantee could be higher since the harvest price exceeded the initial indemnity price.