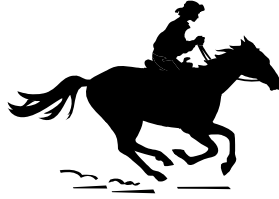


Bourbon County Farm Courier



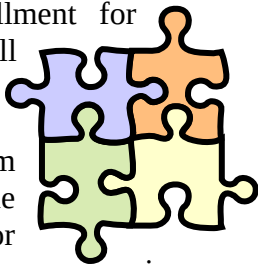
FSA Committee: Ed Karleskint, Glenn Oberst, Joe Ludlum, Gloria Luker
Douglas E. Niemeir, CED COC meetings: second Thursday
Phone (620)223-1880 Fax (620)223-6916 August 2009 Office Hours 8-4:30

DCP and ACRE Deadline

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program has been extended until August 14, 2009. Late-filed applications will not be accepted. **Signup in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) option is also available through August 14, 2009.**

FSA computes DCP Program 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 2009, advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment may be requested for each commodity associated with the farm. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity averages below its target price for the marketing year.

ACRE is available for enrollment for farms with bases, but will establish payments according to crops actually planted. This option bases part of the farm program payments on revenue levels instead of simply price or yield. Some of the DCP benefits are given up for ACRE eligibility: 1) 20 percent of the direct payment; 2) 30 percent of loan rates; 3) and counter-cyclical payments if applicable. A state-wide reduced revenue "trigger" must be met as well as a farm level reduced revenue "trigger" before additional ACRE payments are made. Enrollment and all needed signatures must be provided by August 14. Contact our office for more details.



Acreage Reports Needed

File a complete report of crop and land uses by August 14—According to provisions of the last Farm Bill, an annual report of crop and land uses is needed for farm program participation.

Annual acreage reports will be needed for all farm program benefits which will include:

- All farms enrolled in CRP.
- All farms enrolled in DCP or ACRE.
- All farms qualifying for SURE.

- Price Support benefits like commodity loans or loan deficiency payments.
- Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops.
- Any farm maintaining cropping history for program purposes.

New Livestock Loss Program

The **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)** provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have incurred **livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality as a result of adverse weather**. Eligible disaster conditions may include blizzards, disease, extreme cold, extreme heat, floods, hurricanes, and wildfires. Federal Regulations for LIP were published on July 2, 2009. Signup for LIP started July 13, 2009.



Producers will need to provide documentation detailing the proof of death to indicate that the livestock deaths are a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event. It will also be necessary for producers to provide documents detailing the quantity and kind, type and weight range of livestock that died as a result of the adverse weather event. Documentation may include, but is not limited to the following: bank or other loan documents, FEMA records, tax records, National Guard records, private insurance documents, production records, property tax records, purchase records, rendering truck receipts, veterinarian records, and written contracts.

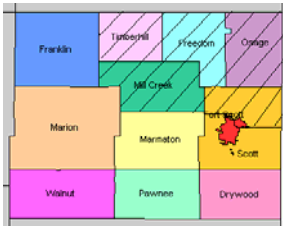
In the event verifiable documentation is not available, producers will be required to present reliable records documenting the proof of death along with verifiable beginning and ending livestock inventory.

The final dates to file a notice of loss for 2008 or 2009 losses are: September 13 for 2008 losses; September 13 for 2009 losses through July 12; and 30 days following the death loss for the balance of 2009. Application for payment for 2009 losses can be filed after the notice of loss, but must be filed by January 30, 2010. Contact our office for details.

Election Upcoming

Nominations have been completed for a position on the three member Bourbon County FSA Committee. The area hosting the election this year is Local Administrative Area 2 which includes the **townships of Timberhill, Freedom, Osage, Mill Creek, and Scott north of highway 54.** Candidates for this year include Clifton Beth, Ed Karleskint, and Deanna Wade.

All currently active farm/ranch owners or operators are eligible to vote in this election. Ballots will be mailed out in early November, and must be returned to the applicable county office by December 7, 2009.



CRP Maintenance

Participants in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) agreed when signing their 10-15 year contract to maintain these acres according to the program guidelines. That means attaining a stand of grass, controlling noxious weeds, controlling brush and trees, and taking any other actions needed to adequately maintain the CRP cover.

Needed controlled burning should have been completed during April. Chemical applications for sericea lespedeza control with Remedy or Pasturegard (or similar product) should have been accomplished during June as well as use of these chemicals for tree and sprout control. Johnsongrass control with Plateau or Outrider (or similar product) should be accomplished before the plants go to seed. Sericea control

can also be achieved with Escort application when the plants are blooming (generally during September). For information or recommendations concerning CRP maintenance, contact our office or your local K-State Research and Extension Office.

Storage Facility Loans

FSA offers seven-year, low-interest loans to producers to build new or upgrade existing storage facilities and related essential, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment. Loan opportunities include, but are not limited to: 1) new conventional-type cribs or bins, oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures, and flat-type structures for whole grain storage; 2) perforated floors, safety equipment, electrical equipment and concrete components considered essential for a fully functional storage facility; and 3) remodeling existing storage facilities.

Farm storage facility loans must be approved prior to site preparation, equipment purchase or construction, and must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. Special provisions apply for loans exceeding \$50,000. The maximum loan amount will be 85 percent of the net cost of the applicant's needed storage or handling equipment, not to exceed \$100,000 per borrower. A minimum down payment is required to bridge the gap between the net cost of the storage facility and the loan amount. The fixed interest rate on these loans is equivalent to the rate of interest charged on U.S. Treasury Securities of comparable maturity on the date the loan is approved – the July, 2009 rate was 3.25 percent. There is a \$45 application fee. Contact our office for more details.



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