



November 2007

Butler County News

Butler County USDA Service Center

Butler County FSA
2503 Enterprise, Ste A
El Dorado, KS 67042
316-321-5803 (phone)
316-321-4956 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/ks

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

County Committee
Jeff Varner
Ted Wiebe
Mike Murphy
Christine Harder,
Advisor

County Committee
meets on the 1st
Wednesday of each
month

Staff
Velma Larimer, CED
Sue Reynolds, PT
Jennette Rogers, PT
Joan Sanders, PT
Suzy Martin, PT

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Crop Disaster Program Signup

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to crops planted in 2005, 2006, and before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Participants may apply for loss benefits on multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP.

An ending date for this program has not been announced and funds to pay the disaster applications have not yet been released. To apply for CDP, **please call the office to schedule an appointment.**

Livestock Disaster Programs

We are currently accepting applications for two separate livestock programs. The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) covers grazing losses from 2006 due to drought. This program also covers additional feed costs incurred due to the drought. Eligible livestock must have been owned on the start date of the disaster designation (January 1, 2006 for Butler County) and physically located in the disaster county. Livestock owners must have suffered an eligible feed loss from produced or purchased forage or feedstuffs, or incurred additional feed costs as a result of the disaster event. Eligible livestock include beef, dairy, deer, elk, equine, goats, reindeer, poultry, sheep, and swine that are used as part of a farming operation and not for recreational purposes.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides monetary assistance to eligible livestock owners for livestock deaths that occurred between January 1, 2005, and February 28, 2007, in eligible disaster designated counties as a result of an eligible disaster event. Drought is not an eligible disaster event under LIP. Eligible owners must have owned the livestock on

the day they died in an eligible county as a direct result of the disaster event. The livestock must have died no later than 60 days from the disaster event ending date, but before February 28, 2007. Eligible livestock include beef, buffalo, dairy, catfish, chickens, crawfish, deer, ducks, equine, geese, goats, reindeer, sheep, swine, and turkeys that are used as part of a farming operation and not for recreational purposes.

No ending deadline to apply for the livestock disaster programs has been announced and funds to pay the applications have not been released. To apply for these programs, **please call the office to schedule an appointment.** We will provide you with a list of documents that you will need to bring to your appointment.

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program

The current Direct and Counter-Cyclical (DCP) program which was passed in 2002 came to an end September 30, 2007. Final payments were issued in October. The congress is currently working on passing a new farm bill. Until this bill is passed and regulations are written, we won't be able to sign any farms up.

Acreage Reporting

Currently, we do not have the software available to report your fall-planted crops. We will notify you when we have the capability to take your acreage report.

New FSA Employee

The Butler County FSA Office has recently added a new temporary employee. Suzy Martin, a Nebraska native, started in September and will continue to work here until next summer. We welcome her to FSA.



Farm 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 recorded deed or recorded 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.

FSA Signature Policy

Emphasis continues to be placed on the need for correct signatures on all program documents. If you have a question concerning the correct signature format to use, please contact this office.

Attention Wool Producers

January 31, 2008, is the deadline to apply for a loan deficiency payment on wool or unshorn pelts for the 2007 year. You will also need to furnish proof of the date the wool left your farm. The proof can be in the form of a canceled check written to the shearer on the day he sheared or a weight ticket furnished on the date the wool left the farm.

Deadline to Return COC Election Ballots

This year's County Committee election is for Local Administrative Area (LAA) #3, which includes the southern part of Butler County in townships 27, 28, and 29. Ballots were mailed around November 2 and must be returned or postmarked to our office by December 3, 2007. Eligible voters who did not receive ballots can obtain ballots by contacting our office. The ballots will be counted on December 5, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the Butler FSA office.

Dates to Remember

December 3	Final Date to return ballots for COC election
December 25	Office Closed - Christmas
January 1	Office Closed - New Years
January 21	Office Closed - Martin Luther King Jr.
January 31	LDP Deadline for Wool & Unshorn Pelts
Continues	Crop Disaster Program (CDP) Signup
Continues	Livestock Indemnity Program Signup (LIP) Signup
Continues	Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) Signup
Continues	Rural Youth Loans for 10-20 Year Olds
Continues	Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loans for Beginning Farmers and Socially Disadvantaged Applicants
Continues	Direct and Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program

WEBSITES

FSA - www.fsa.usda.gov
 Kansas FSA - www.fsa.usda.gov/ks
 USDA - www.usda.gov
 Obtain a Level 2 e-Authentication Account - www.eauth.egov.usda.gov

Women Ag Conference Scheduled for Feb 8-9

The 2008 Women Managing the Farm Conference is scheduled Feb. 8-9 at the Grand Prairie Hotel and Conference Center in Hutchinson, Kansas. The conference is designed for women who are choosing agriculture as a career, sharing agribusiness decisions with their husband, inheriting a farm, or purchasing a farm or acreage. The conference will include a resource fair and workshops on topics such as planning and managing a family business meeting, evaluating insurance needs, bio-economy, food and nutrition, etc. Registration and more information on the conference are available by visiting the website: www.womenmanagingthefarm.info or calling 1-866-327-6578.

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