



November 2007

Cloud County FSA Office

1501 E 7th Street
Concordia, KS 66901
(785)243-4438
(785)243-3602 – FAX

Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee (COC)

Rick Hanson
Gale Ethridge
Brad Berk
Jane Snavelly, Advisor
COC meets the 1st Thursday of the month

Staff

Jackie Koch, PT
Jolene Kindel, PT
Colleen Larsen, PT
Jana Carlson, PT
Wayne A. Akers, CED

Internet web sites

USDA-www.usda.gov
FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov
NRCS-www.nrcs.usda.gov

Loan Rates

	2007
Wheat	\$2.92
Corn	\$1.97
Soybeans	\$4.88
Oats	\$1.34
Gr. Sorghum (cwt)	\$3.30
Sunflowers (cwt)	\$8.32

Special Accommodations

Special accommodation will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA office and we will be happy to make arrangements that are needed.

Dates to Remember

Nov 12 – Veteran's Day – Office Closed.

Nov 2 – Election Ballots Mailed.

Nov 22 – Thanksgiving Day – Office Closed.

Dec 1 – NAP sales closing date for Alfalfa and Grass Forage.

Dec 3 – Deadline to return or have postmarked LAA-3 election ballots.

Dec 25 – Christmas Day – Office Closed.

Weekly – Radio information spot every Monday at 6:50 am, 11:35 am, and 4:50 pm on AM 1390 KNCK.

Cloud County FSA News

2005/2006/2007 DISASTER PROGRAMS

Three different Disaster Programs will be available to producers in this area. They are the Crop Disaster Program (CDP), the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), and the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP).

The following provisions are common to all 3 programs:

- Signup is underway and expected to last for several months (no deadlines have been announced).
- The Payment Limitation per "Person" is \$80,000 for each program.
- A "Person" determination, based upon the most restrictive determination in 2005/2006/2007 will apply.
- Applicants must:
 - o Choose one of the years (2005, 2006, or 2007) for which to receive benefits. This selection can differ for each of the 3 programs.
 - o Be in compliance with the Sod/Swamp, Person, and Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) provisions.

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM (CDP)

CDP provides compensation for weather-related crop losses suffered in crop years 2005, 2006, & 2007 (only those crops planted or prevented from being planted prior to Feb. 28, 2007, are eligible in 2007). Eligible conditions include damaging weather (drought, flooding, hail, freeze, tornado, etc.) or conditions related to damaging weather (excessive wind or heat, disease, or insect infestation).

The biggest difference compared to prior Disaster Programs is that only those crops covered by multi-peril crop insurance or NAP (FSA offered Non-Insured Assistance Program) are eligible for benefits. Non-insured crops are ineligible under this CDP Program.

Producers can receive payments for only one of the 3 crop years and must select the same year for all crops on all farms in the county in which he/she has an interest. The damages must exceed 35% of the crop's production loss or 25% for quality losses.

FSA has received production data from RMA (Risk Management Agency) for producers who had 2005, 2006, and/or 2007 crop insurance claims. These producers will not have to submit acreage or production data unless they also had a quality loss. However, these producers still must file a disaster application and meet all other program requirements to be eligible for a disaster payment.

Insured producers that did not meet their policy's loss level but exceeded the 35% loss level required for this program must provide proof of insurance as well as acceptable evidence showing proof of actual production.

Each crop's calculated payment will be based on the higher of the producer's APH or the county average yield for the crop, and at 42% of the county payment rate.

Reductions will be applied to prevented planted or un-harvested crops since less expense was incurred.

Producers may receive disaster payments in addition to the crop insurance indemnity. However, a producer's CDP payment, plus crop insurance (minus premium) or NAP payments, plus the crop value, cannot exceed 95% of what the producer would have received in the absence of a crop loss. The crop's value will be the higher of the APH price or the applicable market year price.

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM (LCP) and LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

Eligible livestock producers may qualify for benefits based upon the provisions explained below. Information that is common to both LCP and LIP include:

- Eligible livestock may include, but not limited to, dairy and beef cattle, sheep, goats, poultry, horses, and swine as long as they were maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation, and, meet the specific program requirements.
- Producers later selected for spot-check will be responsible for providing acceptable evidence substantiating the number of claimed eligible livestock from the date of spot-check, back to the date of the claimed disaster event.
- Losses were caused by natural disasters that occurred between 1-1-05 and 2-28-07.

US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Cloud County FSA Office
1501 E 7th Street
Concordia, KS 66901-2652**

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Important Reminders

Check the condition of your farm stored grain on a regular basis.

Kansas has an allocation of acres remaining for Habitat Buffers for Northern Bobwhite Quail under the Conservation Reserve Program practice CP33. Kansas currently has over 30,132 acres of habitat buffers enrolled. Availability of CP33 under current legislation ends December 31, 2007.

If you are delinquent on any non-tax debt to the federal government, you are ineligible for Loans, LDP's, Guaranteed & Direct FLP Loans, and Farm Storage Facility Loans.

Timely report all changes to your farming operation as soon as they occur. *This includes, for example: Owner, operator, and address changes; Creating a trust, corporation, LLC, or other business; Changes to direct deposit & bank account information; or adding or giving up farmland.*

Producers planning to move CCC loan grain should contact our office for additional information prior to moving the grain

Consider obtaining Level 2 e-Authentication Access. This allows you to perform many functions on-line from your home computer, including filing e-LDPs, enrolling in DCP, checking program payment info, etc. Contact FSA for more information, including handouts and detailed instructions.

Producers with 2007 NAP Coverage must remember to file a "Notice of Loss" **within 15 days** of the date a loss occurred or the damage to a covered crop was apparent.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (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 USDA, Director of Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

L I P

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) compensates producers who suffered livestock deaths caused by natural disaster conditions or events (except drought). In summary, applicants must provide proof that the eligible livestock deaths occurred in an eligible county as a direct result of an eligible disaster condition/event during the applicable disaster period

L C P

Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) compensates producers who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs that resulted from natural disaster conditions. In Cloud County only the year 2006 is approved for LCP.

Eligible livestock must have been physically located in an eligible county on the beginning date of the applicable disaster period. Livestock used for recreational purposes, such as pleasure, hunting, pets, roping, or show are ineligible.

To qualify, producers must have either owned or cash-leased the eligible livestock on the beginning date of the disaster period (1-1-06).

LCP applicants must provide the following:

- Evidence that the feed loss or incurred additional feed costs, were for the claimed eligible livestock and occurred as a direct result of an eligible disaster condition or event in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. For pasture, a certification as to the percent loss is acceptable. All pastures associated with the "livestock operation" must be reported, plus legal descriptions & acres.
- The number, type, and size of each type of claimed livestock as of the date that the qualifying disaster condition or event began (1-1-06 for 2006 grazing losses).

Maximum LCP payment rates are: Adult dairy cow or bull \$27.72; adult beef cow or bull \$10.66; Sheep or goat \$2.67

In summary, applicants must be able to document the number of eligible livestock and the amount of loss of each type of feed needed by such livestock. A worksheet is available upon request.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

This fall, producers in LAA-3, (Solomon, Lyon, Meredith, Oakland, Starr and Colfax townships), will hold its election. Craig Ballou and Randy Lange will be on the ballot for a three year term. Votes received by ballot will directly elect the County Committee member and alternate for this area. The election ballots will be mailed by an independent contractor around November 2, and **must be returned or postmarked by December 3. Please take time to vote!!** Ballots will be counted Dec.6, 2:00 P.M. at the County Committee meeting.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

FSA offers seven-year, low-interest loans to grain 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: New conventional-type cribs or bins, oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures, and flat-type storage structures designed for whole grain storage; Perforated floors, safety equipment, electrical equipment and concrete components considered essential for a fully functional storage facility; 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 (15%) to the supplier or contractor is required to bridge the gap between the net cost of the storage facility and the loan amount.