



October 2007

Coffey County News

Coffey County USDA Service Center

Coffey County FSA
313 Cross Street
Burlington, KS 66839-1190
620-364-2313 (phone)
620-364-3149 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/ks

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

County Committee
Warren Graham
Daryl Knight
Max Osborn
Bonnie Davies, Advisor

County Committee meets
the 2nd Wednesday of
each month at 7:30 AM.

Staff
Kim Specht, PT
Vicki Fry, PT
Vickie Wolford, PT
Megan Wilson, PT

Executive Director
Sarah Falk

Loan Manager
Stacy Kull



New County Executive Director

There's a new face in Coffey County's FSA Office! Sarah Falk has been selected as the new County Executive Director for Coffey County. Sarah has been working with the Kansas Farm Service Agency for three years and has received training in various parts of eastern and north central Kansas. Sarah started as the CED for Coffey County on July 2, 2007. She has been exposed to agriculture throughout her life by growing up on a farm in north east Kansas. She graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in Business Administration.

New Disaster Programs

Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)

The Coffey County FSA Office is currently accepting applications for the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP). Producers who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2006, as the result of an eligible disaster event may qualify for monetary assistance through this program.

Eligible disaster events for Coffey County include the following: drought, high winds, excess heat and winter storms. Producer's who suffered losses in more than one calendar year will file applications for multiple years; however, payment will only be issued on the year selected by the producer. (Payments may not exceed the smaller of the calculated payment rate or the value of the feed loss as determined by FSA.)

To be eligible under LCP, livestock must:

- be dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, swine or deer;
- have been **owned** or cash-leased on the **beginning date** of the applicable disaster period;
- have been **physically located** in an eligible county on the **beginning date** of the applicable disaster period;
- have been maintained for **commercial use** as part of a farming operation on the beginning date of the disaster period;
- not have been produced and maintained for reasons other than commercial use as part of a farming operation. Excluded uses include, but are not limited to, wild free roaming animals or animals used for recreational purposes such as pleasure, hunting, pets, roping or for show.

Please note: Cattle must have weighed 500 lbs, or more, on the **beginning date** of the eligible disaster period in order to be eligible for this program. In most cases, the beginning date of the disaster period is January 1 of the year in which the loss is experienced (2005 or 2006).

In order to be eligible for this program, producers must have:

- owned or cash-leased eligible livestock on the **beginning date** of the applicable disaster period(s);
- **And** suffered an eligible feed loss from produced or purchased forage or feedstuffs; or, incurred additional feed costs as the result of an eligible disaster event during the applicable disaster period for feed intended for use with eligible livestock.

Livestock producers who wish to participate in the LCP program are asked to call the County Office to set appointments. Please bring the following to your appointment:

- adequate proof that the feed loss, or incurred additional feed costs, were:
- for the claimed eligible livestock
- occurred as the direct result of an eligible disaster event during an eligible disaster period in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested;

- other supporting documentation necessary to determine the applicant's eligibility. Supporting documents may include, but are not limited to, verifiable purchase records, veterinarian records, bank or other loan papers, rendering truck receipts, FEMA records, National Guard records, written contracts, production records, IRS records, property tax records, insurance documents, sales records, and other similar documents.

Producers will be asked to certify their pastures on aerial maps. Please be prepared to provide the location of the pastures, the number of acres grazed and the number of animals owned/leased, their size and location on the beginning date of the disaster. Also, producers will need to provide the current location of the animals or proof of disposition if the animals are no longer owned.

The LCP program is fully funded, which means payments will not be factored. An \$80,000 payment limitation applies to each "person" for benefits received under 2005-2007 LCP. Individuals or entities whose average adjusted gross income exceeds \$2.5 million for the three years immediately preceding the calendar year for which benefits are requested are ineligible for LCP benefits unless 75% or more of their income is from agriculture.

All LCP applications must be filed during the sign-up period. There are no late-file provisions. An ending date has not yet been announced for this program; however, producers are encouraged to contact the County Office at their earliest convenience to set up an appointment. (620) 364-2313

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

The Coffey County FSA Office is also accepting applications for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). LIP provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths caused by natural disasters that occurred between Jan. 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007.

Eligible disaster events for Coffey County include the following: high winds, excessive heat, winter storms and excessive moisture. Producer's incurring losses in more than one calendar year may only select one year in which to receive assistance. Drought is not an eligible disaster event under LIP.

Producers must have owned the livestock on the day the livestock died (including producer-owned livestock in a commercial feedlot). Animals born at normal full-term or near full term shall qualify if death was the direct result of an eligible disaster event **AND** the birth produced a fully developed carcass that normally would have survived under normal weather conditions.

Livestock producers who wish to participate in the LIP program are asked to call the County Office to set up appointments. Please bring the following to your appointment:

- adequate proof that the livestock death occurred as a direct result of an eligible disaster event such as rendering truck receipts, national guard receipts of carcass removal, veterinary records, IRS records, or private insurance documents.



Market Gain reported on IRS Form 1099-G



Beginning with the 2007 calendar year, FSA/CCC will report producer market gains associated with the repayment of a CCC loan, whether the producer repays the loan with cash or uses commodity certificates in exchange for the outstanding loan collateral. The market gain will be reported on IRS Form-1099-G. This is a change that will take affect for this year's tax season.

Crop Disaster Program

CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops from natural disasters if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to 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. Eligible farmers can sign-up for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) beginning Oct. 15, 2007.



Dates to Remember

December 1	Application closing date for NAP crops: all grasses, alfalfa, apricots, asparagus, blueberries, caneberries, cherries, clover, grapes, lespedeza, honey, mixed forage, nectarines, oats, peaches, plums, strawberries, and vetch.
December 3	Final date to return ballots for COC Election
January 1	Application closing date for NAP crops: apples and pears.
January 31	Last day to apply for Wool & Mohair Loans and LDPs. Also final deadline for Unshorn Pelts (LDPs).
Continuous	Rural Youth Loans for 10-20 Year Olds
Continuous	Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loans for Beginning Farmers and Socially Disadvantaged Applicants
Continuous	Direct and Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans
Continuous	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
Continuous	MILCX Program

FARM LOAN PROGRAM NEWS

The FSA-Farm Loan Program Office located in Ottawa administers farm loan programs for Coffey County producers. **Please contact their office at (785) 242-3527 ext 38 or 41 if you have any questions about the programs below or want to make an appointment.**

FARM LOANS – The Farm Service Agency makes both direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans to family-size farmers and ranchers, involved in crop production, livestock, fruits, vegetables, nuts and other farm related products produced.

FSA is currently offering direct real estate loans with fixed interest rates ranging from 4.00% to 5.5% to purchase land, construct farm buildings and/or improve structures. Direct operating loans with a fixed interest rate of 5.125% can be used to finance machinery, equipment, livestock, feed, seed, plants, supplies, or refinance carryover operating expenses. Emergency loans at 3.75% are available for specific disaster designations in the area for producers having a qualifying loss of at least 30% in crop production or a physical loss to livestock, livestock products, real estate, or chattel property. An individual must be unable obtain commercial credit. This can be due to lack of down payment, equity, inability to cash flow at commercial lenders rates and term, etc.

The guaranteed interest assistance program will allow FSA to pay 4:00% of an eligible customer's interest expense on guaranteed operating loans for a period of 5 years.

YOUTH LOANS – FSA makes loans of up to \$5,000 to rural youth to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, FFA, and similar organizations. Each project must be part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization adviser, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.

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

FSA Offices Closed

- November 12 - Veterans Day
- November 22 - Thanksgiving
- December 25 – Christmas

FARM RECORDS CHANGES

Changes to your farming operation can affect your eligibility for program benefits. It is crucial that operation changes be reported to the FSA office as soon as possible to avoid eligibility problems. Reports of purchased or sold property should be accompanied by a copy of the land deed. Other changes that need reporting include increases in cropland, changes of shares, changes of operator or tenant, changes to your bank account, etc.

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