



December 2009

# Thomas County News

## Thomas County FSA

915 E. Walnut  
Colby, KS 67701-0409  
Phone: 785-462-7671  
FAX: 785-462-9726  
www.fsa.usda.gov

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

County Committee  
Leisha Carpenter  
Craig Reed  
Pete Ziegelmeier

County Committee meets  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month

Office Staff:  
Ross Sloan, CED  
Phyllis Tholen  
Kim Jones  
Bonnie Schiltz  
Char Rietcheck

Field Staff:  
Bernie Heinz



### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Dec 1** –NAP application-closing date for all grasses-including alfalfa, mixed forage, and oats.

-Begin making an appointment to sign up for the 2010 Farm Program (DCP or ACRE).

**December 7**- Last day to return ballots for COC elections.

**December 10**- Final date to apply for the Livestock Disaster Programs. Supporting documentation is required.

### Office Closed for the Holidays on

- December 25
- January 1 & 18
- February 15

## Signature Requirements

Before anyone can sign an FSA or Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) document for another person or entity an FSA-211, power of attorney (POA) form must be on file granting such authority. The FSA also allows redelegation authorities with entity documentation as acceptable signature authority documentation. Such documentation must be provided to the FSA Office includes corporate charters, bylaws, court orders of appointment, trust agreements, last will and testament or articles of partnership. An exception to the POA rule is that spouses may sign for each other without written authorization except on the following documents: promissory notes, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) easements or claim documents. If you do not want your spouse signing for you, you must submit **WRITTEN NOTIFICATION TO THIS OFFICE** stating such denial. Signatures of minors (under age 18) were once unacceptable and only a parent or adult guardian could sign necessary forms. **Now**, both the minor and adult **MUST** sign and/or initial all forms, as necessary.

Durable power of attorneys may only be used in cases where an individual is incapacitated and the POA has been reviewed and approved for FSA Program Purposes by the State Office and the Office of General Council.

An FSA-211 shall remain in full force and effect from the date the FSA-211 is correctly executed until:

- 1) Grantor cancels FSA-211 in writing OR
- 2) Either the grantor or appointed attorney in fact dies, becomes incompetent or incapacitated or if a legal entity dissolves.

## Farm Reconstitutions

The Thomas County Farm Service Agency announces 2010 Farm Reconstitution program requirements. In FSA terminology, farms are *constituted* to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is necessary. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon.

**Estate Method** — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

**Designation of Landowner Method** — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

**DCP Cropland Method** — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

**Default Method** — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.



(Recons Continued)

Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by **Aug. 1** for farms enrolled in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE).

**UPDATE: If DCP direct payments have already been issued on a particular farm, the reconstitution will be effective for the next year, unless the payments are refunded.**

\*\*FSA - [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
\*\*Kansas FSA - [www.fsa.usda.gov/ks](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ks)  
\*\*USDA - [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)  
\*\*Obtain a Level 2 e-Authentication Account - [www.eauth.egov.usda.gov](http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov)  
\*\*DAILY LDP RATES -  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/displayLP?Rates?area=home&subject=prsu&topic=ldp-ldp>

### 2009 Commodity Loans

If you want to hold your crop for later sale, a farm or warehouse stored commodity loan may be for you. Our interest rate is the best in the credit industry at **1.375% (Dec. 2009)**. Loans can be repaid any time during the loan term. Loans mature the last day of the ninth month following the month the loan is disbursed. Loans disbursed Dec. 2009 mature Sept. 30, 2010. Thomas County loan rates all per bu, except milo is cwt.

Wheat	Corn	Milo	Soybeans
\$2.56	\$1.97	\$3.25	\$4.67



### DCP & ACRE Signup Deadline

Signup for the 2010 DCP & ACRE Program will start in Wichita County on December 1, 2009. In order to serve our producers, we are requiring you make an appointment ahead of time. During this appointment, the DCP/ACRE contracts, Average Gross Income (CCC-926), and Wheat Certifications will be signed. Sign up will end June 1, 2010 and FSA will not accept any late-filed applications. For 2010, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 1, 2009. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price. **PLEASE CALL 785-462-7671 to MAKE, CHANGE, or CANCEL an APPOINTMENT.**

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, 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.