



RICE County FSA News

Farm Service Agency

NOVEMBER 2007

RICE County FSA

1480 W US HWY 56, RM 101
Lyons, Ks 67554-9209
TEL: (620) 257-5184
FAX: (620) 257-5653

Service Center Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Farm Loan Programs:

By appointment for Rice County visits:
(620) 669-8161

County Committee

Mark Engelland, Chairperson
Mary Lou Bush, Vice-Chairperson
Howard Behnke, Member

**COC meets the 2nd Wed. of the month
@ 8:30 a.m.**

Employee Information

Rodney Ackerman, CED
Judy Borgen, Program Technician
Tammy Clark, Program Technician
Tracy Minnis, Program Technician
Margaret Chain, Program Technician
Shelley Peverley, Temporary PT
Herb Unruh, Field Assistant

Farm Service Agency online



FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov

LOAN RATES

COMMODITY	2007
Wheat	\$2.95/bu
Corn	\$1.99/bu
Soybeans	\$4.89/bu
Oats	\$1.37/bu
Gr. Sorghum	\$3.31/cwt
Sunflowers	\$8.32/cwt
Barley	\$1.85/bu

RECORD CHANGES

Owner/Operator changes such as: **newly purchased land, land sales, deceased individuals, or ARE renting different land**, make sure to report the changes to the FSA Office within 30 days from the occurrence. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in could lead to possible ineligibility for USDA benefits.

In the Spotlight

Sept 10 – LIP/LCP Signup Began

October 15 – Signup for Crop Disaster Program Began

Nov 12 – Closed for Veterans Day

Nov 22 – Closed for Thanksgiving

December 3 – Final Date to return ballots.

December 25 – Closed for Christmas

January 1 – Office Closed New Years Day

Continuous Programs:

- > Rural Youth Loans for 10-20 Year Olds
- > Farm Operation and Farm Ownership Loans for Beginning Farmers and Socially Disadvantaged Applicants
- > Direct and Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans
- > Farm Storage Facility Loans
- > Continuous Conservation Reserve Program

FINAL 2007 DIRECT PAYMENTS



We have processed and mailed the "Final" Direct Payments under the 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP). These were processed on October 10. If an advance payment was requested at signup you received 22% of the payment rate, the remaining 78% has now been paid. Because of higher crop prices during the marketing year for 2006 crops, USDA determined that no counter-cyclical payments would be made for 2006-crop wheat, oats, barley, corn, milo and soybeans.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

Ballots will be mailed to voters in LAA-2 (Raymond, Center Atlanta, Bell, Valley, Sterling and West Washington townships) in early November. Mark Engelland, current COC Chairperson, is the only nominee on the ballot. **Please take the time to vote and return your ballot even though there is only 1 nominee.** Ballots must be returned to FSA or postmarked no later than December 3rd. Voting by PROXY is prohibited. Remember to sign the ballot. Unsigned ballots are invalid and are not tabulated.

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM (LCP)

The 2005-2007 LCP benefits livestock producers who suffered losses directly associated from natural disasters occurring between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007.

Producers in primary or contiguous counties declared secretarial or presidential disaster areas between Jan. 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007 are eligible to apply for assistance. Rice County did have designations in 2005 and 2006.

Livestock producers incurring losses in more than 1 year may only receive assistance for one year. Eligible livestock must have been owned on the start date of the disaster designation and physically located in the disaster county.

Eligible livestock include beef, buffalo, dairy, deer, elk, equine, goats, reindeer, poultry, sheep, and swine that are used as part of a farming operation and not for recreational purposes. Pasture locations, stocking rates, supplemental feeding costs, etc, must be provided. An eligible livestock value will be compared with a pasture forage/feed loss value, to determine the LCP payments. Documentation must be provided with the FSA-901 application to prove the feed loss or any additional feed costs occurring as a direct result of an eligible disaster event.

LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

The LIP provides monetary assistance to eligible livestock owners and contract growers, for livestock deaths that occurred between Jan. 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007, in eligible disaster designated counties as a result of an eligible disaster event. Those incurring losses in more than 1 year may receive assistance for only one year.

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. Eligible livestock for contract growers includes poultry and swine.

Documentation must be provided with the FSA-900 application to prove kind, type, weight and number of livestock that died, and evidence that supports date, location and cause of death.

NAP COVERAGE

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available. This coverage entitles eligible producers to a payment of 55 percent of an average market price for the commodity if a natural disaster caused a 50 percent production loss or greater of an eligible crop. The administrative service fee is \$100 per crop per administrative county not to exceed \$300 per producer per administrative county and a \$900 maximum fee for multi-county producers. Interested producers must pay the fee and file form CCC-471, Application for Coverage, by the application closing deadline. The application deadline date for the 2008 NAP coverage is:

- December 1 for all Grasses including Alfalfa, Apricots, Asparagus, Blueberries, Cranberries (Blackberries and Raspberries), Cherries, Clover, Grapes, Lespedeza, Honey, Mixed Forage, Nectarines, Oats, Peaches, Plums, Strawberries, and Vetch.
- March 15 for coarse grains, vegetable and melon crops, Amaranth, Chestnuts, Cotton, Pecans, Pumpkins, Safflower, Sesame, Squash, and Walnuts.

**2005-2006-2007 CROP
DISASTER PROGRAM (CDP)**

HOW TO APPLY

We had planned to mail applications to you; however, due to the large amount of paper for each unit, it is not cost effective for us to do so. We have printed the applications and are now taking calls for appointments to complete your paperwork. Applications are by TAX ID number. **Operators:** please specify all owners you will be handling when scheduling your appointment. **Owners:** contact your operator if you want them to handle your application.

Please note: We must approve applications as soon as you file. Therefore we are unable to hold/defer any payments until Jan 2008.

PLEASE CALL 620-257-5184 TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT.

SIGN-UP PERIOD

Sign-up began October 15, 2007 for QUANTITY losses only. An ending date has not been established. A sign-up for QUALITY losses under CDP will be announced at a later date.

YEAR OF LOSS

Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 may be paid for only one year of benefits. For 2007, crops must have been planted or prevented from being planted before February 28, 2007. You may apply for losses on multiple crops but they must be in the same crop year.

LOSS THRESHOLD

Eligible crops must have sustained a loss in excess of 35% of the expected production of a crop to qualify for a quantity loss.

ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS

Eligible producers are those who obtained crop insurance or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss. Crop insurance includes multi-peril, revenue, group and catastrophic (CAT) policies. Policies for hail insurance only do not meet this requirement.

Participants must also have been in compliance with Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation provisions for the applicable year.

PAYMENT LIMITATION

The maximum CDP benefits a person may receive is \$80,000. The most restrictive "person" determination covering 2005, 2006 or 2007 will be used. Producers eligible for CDP can also receive benefits under the Livestock Compensation Program.

YIELDS

The higher of either the county average yield, or the APH yield for insured crops or NAP yield will be used for the CDP application. Applications are completed by unit according to the downloaded insurance records.

INSURANCE RECORDS

We receive reports from RMA for 2005, 2006, and 2007 that reflect producers who purchased insurance on an insurable crop for Rice County. This report will normally provide the necessary information to complete the CDP application.

In situations where the production is not available on the RMA download the participant will be responsible for:

- o providing production records (ie: elevator delivery or settlement sheets);
- o summarizing all the producer evidence;
- o accounting for the total amount of unit production;
- o and providing information in a manner that is easily understood.

PAYMENT RATE

Payment rates will be 42 percent of the maximum established RMA price for insured crops or 42 percent of the state average price for NAP covered crops.

CALCULATING PAYMENTS

FSA calculates CDP payments by multiplying the payment rate established for the crop times 42 percent payment level times the loss of production.

A units' total assistance may not exceed 95% of what the value of the crop would have been in the absence of a loss (CAP). If this occurs, the disaster payment will be reduced by the amount over the 95% value (we may see this in many instances for 2007, depending on the type of insurance you have).

Disaster Payment + Net Insurance Indemnity Payment + Value of the actual production = Total assistance

When calculating a payment for a unit loss the following factors will be applied:

- o a non-harvested payment factor to crop acreage planted but not harvested;
- o a prevented planting factor to any prevented planted acreage eligible for payment.

DETERMINING PRODUCTION

FSA includes all harvested, non-harvested appraised and assigned production for the total planted acreage of the crop unit to determine production under CDP.

If a crop is appraised and subsequently harvested as the intended use, FSA will take into account the actual harvested production to determine benefits. FSA will determine whether the evidence of actual production represents all that could or would have been harvested.

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