



# “SCOOP”

## ARKANSAS FARM SERVICE AGENCY - - STATE OFFICE

December 2006

### **CRP Quail Workshops Planned for Farm Producers- learn how you can increase farm income!**

Farm producers who want to provide quail and other wildlife habitat on their land now have several new and existing opportunities through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) on cropland that provide incentives ranging from yearly soil rental payments over 10-15 years, 50-90% of practice cost paid, \$4-9 per acre for maintenance added to the rental payment, and \$100 per acre up-front payments.

Producers will receive specific program information that may prove helpful in increasing farm income. FSA and the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission (AGFC) are sponsoring this workshop. The meal will be provided by AGFC.

**Workshops are scheduled in the following counties; we encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the Conservation Reserve Program’s financial incentives for your marginally productive cropland:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b><u>January</u></b>			
16	Paragould	10:30-12:30pm	Community Center
18	Wynne	10:30-12:30pm	Technical Center for the Delta
22	McGehee	6:00-8:00pm	McGehee Municipal Building
22	Texarkana	6:00-8:00pm	REA Building
22	Morrilton	10:30-12:30pm	Conway Fairgrounds-Multi-Purpose building
26	McCrary	1:00-2:30pm	3 Rivers Fairground-Exhibition Hall
<b><u>February</u></b>			
1	Brinkley	6:00-8:00pm	Brinkley Convention Center
1	Corning	6:00-8:00pm	M.B. Ainley Community Center
7	DeWitt	10:30am-12:30pm	DeWitt Community Center
12	Carlisle	10:30am-12:30pm	Kenneth Caviness’ Farm
13	Helena	6:00-8:00pm	Phillips Co. Community College, Community Room
13	Caraway	10:30am-12:30pm	Cowboy Grill, 504 Kentucky
22	Lake Village	10:30am-12:30pm	Fawn Wood Community Center
27	Marked Tree	6:00-8:00pm	Ritter Crop Service Building

The goal of the workshop is to educate producers on new and existing CRP practices available and how these can create wildlife habitat on the farm along with supplement farm income through 10-15 year CRP rental payments and other program incentives.

Many cropland acres across the county currently are only marginally profitable for agriculture production. Some croplands are either drought or flood prone, have low yields, can’t be irrigated, or just hard to farm for other reasons. Placing those hard to farm crop land acres into one of the CRP practices can significantly improve your financial bottom-line and at the same time, improve habitat for quail, deer, turkey, rabbits, fish and many other species of wildlife.

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## EIGHT NEW DISASTER PROGRAMS

### Hurricane Disaster Program (HDP)

(Eleven Arkansas Counties Eligible)

Eight new disaster programs have been announced to help producers who have suffered losses incurred during Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Ophelia, and Wilma. The following eleven counties in Arkansas are eligible: Ashley, Chicot, Columbia, Crittenden, Desha, Lafayette, Lee, Miller, Phillips, St. Francis, and Union for losses incurred during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Funding for the programs nationwide is \$220 million. Program sign-up began December 11, 2006, and will end February 2, 2007 unless otherwise noted below. There are no provisions for late enrollment. Interested producers need to report to their local FSA office immediately for more details. An outline of the programs is as follows:

- 2005 Hurricanes Livestock Compensation Program provides payments to livestock owners and cash lessees for certain feed losses.
- 2005 Hurricanes Livestock Indemnity Program II provides benefits to livestock owners and contract growers for certain livestock deaths.
- 2005 Hurricanes Fruit and Vegetable Program provide benefits to producers who suffered fruit and vegetable crop production losses, including related clean-up costs.
- 2005 Hurricanes Nursery Program provides benefits to commercial ornament nursery, and fernery producers who suffered inventory losses and incurred clean-up costs.
- 2005 Hurricanes Tropical Fruit Program provides benefits to producers of carambola, longan, lychee, and mangos who suffered tropical fruit production losses.
- 2005 Hurricanes Citrus Program provides benefits to citrus producers who suffered citrus crop production losses and associated fruit-bearing tree damage, including related clean-up and rehabilitation costs.
- 2005 Hurricanes Tree Assistance Program (TAP) provides payments to eligible owners of commercially grown Christmas trees, ornamental trees, nursery trees, potted trees, bushes, (including shrubs) and investments that were lost or damaged due to 2005 hurricanes. (Signup period is pending and should be announced in the near future.)
- 2005 Catfish Grant Program, USDA will provide grants to states having catfish producers who suffered catfish feed losses. The State Department of Agriculture is expected to run this program, and should be contacted to receive more details including sign-up dates.

### Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program

**2007 NAP Application Closing Date for the Following Crops is January 2, 2007**

Producers wishing to obtain coverage for noninsured crops must make an application and pay the administrative fee at their local FSA Office for the following crops by the deadline date. The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to eligible producers affected by natural disasters. This federally funded program covers crop losses and prevented planting on noninsurable crops.

Broccoli - Fresh Market	January 2, 2007
Cabbage - Fresh Market (Spring & Fall Plantings)	January 2, 2007
Carrots - Fresh Market	January 2, 2007
Greens - Fresh & Processed Markets - includes mustard, turnip, collards, kale, and spinach (Spring & Fall Plantings)	January 2, 2007
Onions - Fresh Market	January 2, 2007
Pecans - Native and Improved Varieties	January 2, 2007
Potatoes - Fresh Market (Spring and Fall Plantings)	January 2, 2007
Beans - All Varieties - Fresh Market (Spring and Fall Plantings)	February 28, 2007
Beets - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Cantaloupes - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Corn for Grain	February 28, 2007
Corn, Sweet - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Cotton	February 28, 2007
Cucumbers - Fresh Market (Spring and Fall Plantings)	February 28, 2007
Eggplant - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Grain Sorghum for Grain	February 28, 2007

Lettuce - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Okra - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Peanuts for Nuts	February 28, 2007
Peas – For Seed, and Fresh and Processed Markets All Varieties (Spring and Fall Plantings)	February 28, 2007
Peppers – All Varieties - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Pumpkins - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Rice for Grain	February 28, 2007
Soybeans	February 28, 2007
Squash - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Strawberries - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Sugarcane - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Sunflowers - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Sweet Potatoes - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Watermelons - Fresh Market	February 28, 2007
Turnips (Roots) - Fresh Market – (Spring and Fall Plantings)	February 28, 2007
Tomatoes - Fresh Market – (Spring and Fall Plantings)	March 15, 2007

### 2007 NAP Acreage Reporting Deadlines

For producers with Noninsured Crop Disaster Applications for the 2006 crop year the following acreage reporting deadlines are applicable:

Crop	NAP Acreage reporting Deadline
Acreage Reporting Date: Mechanically Harvested; Small Grains for Forage; Wheat, Rye, Barley (WTR), and Oats	December 15, 2006
Acreage Reporting Date: Small Grains for Grazing; Wheat, Rye, Barley, and Oats	December 15, 2006
Apples – All Varieties	January 15, 2007
Asparagus	January 15, 2007
Blueberries	January 15, 2007
Caneberries (Blackberries and Raspberries)	January 15, 2007
Figs	January 15, 2007
Grapes – All varieties	January 15, 2007
Peaches	January 15, 2007
Pears	January 15, 2007
Pecans (Improved and Native)	February 15, 2007
All types of Grasses ( Intended for Mechanical Harvest or for Grazing)	February 15, 2007

### 30 Day Deadline to Review New Digital Maps

Producers are reminded that once a county finishes their new digital maps a notification letter is sent allowing 30 days for producers to review and modify. After that time the line work and associated acres are permanent and official. These new acreages may affect the program payments such as DCP, NAP, and CRP. Don't miss your opportunity for review. The following link on the FSA internet shows how county offices are progressing with their new digital maps.

[http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/november2006clupprogress.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/november2006clupprogress.pdf)

**Other Program Deadlines**

<b>Commodity or Program</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Prevented Planting, Wheat or Oats	December 15, 2006
Final Loan and LDP Availability for Wool, Mohair, Peanuts, and Unshorn Pelts	January 31, 2007
Final Loan and LDP Availability for Wheat, Barley, Oats, Honey, Canola, Crambe, Flaxseed, Rapeseed, and Sesame Seed	March 31, 2007
Applications for GRAZE-OUT of Wheat, Barley, Oats and Triticale	March 31, 2007
Final Loan and LDP Availability for Upland Cotton, Rice, Corn, Dry Peas, Grain Sorghum, Lentils, Mustard Seed, Safflower Seed, Small Chickpeas, Soybeans, and Sunflower Seed	May 31, 2007
Payment Eligibility/Limitation Status Date	April 1, 2007
Certify Wheat and Oats Planted Acres	May 15, 2007
Deadline to Sign up for 2007 DCP	June 1, 2007