



**DISTRICT 1 – Cheyenne – Decatur – Gove – Greeley – Logan – Norton – Rawlins
Sheridan – Sherman – Thomas – Wallace – Wichita**

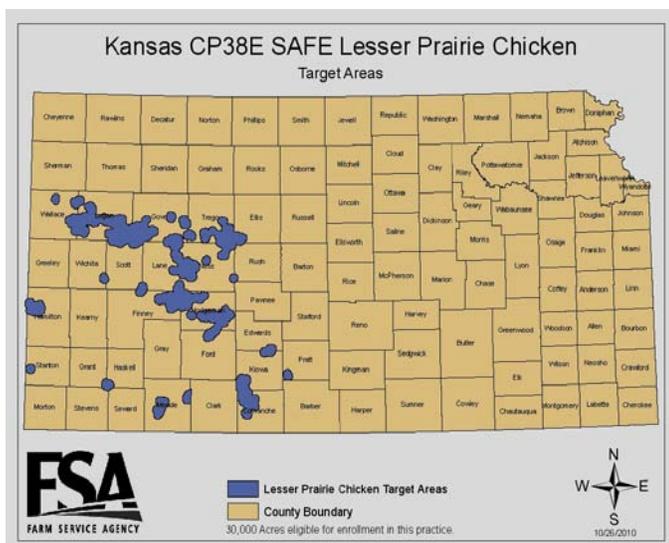
December 2010

LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN PRACTICE

A new Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) practice – Lesser Prairie-Check State Acres for Wildlife (or SAFE) -is available beginning Dec. 1 with signup continuing under continuous signup provisions.

The program offers to enroll up to 30,000 acres of new or expired CRP into a native, warm season grass and forb species mix to create nesting and brooding habitat for Lesser Prairie-Chickens and other grassland birds.

Targeting for this practice is very specific to certain areas shown on the map below.



LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) pays for livestock deaths above normal mortality caused by adverse weather events such as blizzards and extreme cold. It's important to document any livestock deaths, so you get credit for those initial deaths (normal mortality). Deaths above normal mortality can then be paid. Documentation includes rendering truck receipts, paid for FSA farm visits, and third party certifications. Livestock death losses must have occurred in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested.

REPORT CHANGES

Report changes of: land ownership; rental arrangements; addresses; members or stockholders of entities; deceased producers; and changes in your bank name or accounts so payments are direct deposited properly.

FACILITY LOANS

We make loans up to \$500,000 to build grain bins, hay storage, drying and handling equipment. You pay 15 percent down and we loan the other 85 percent. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rate 1.875 to 2.75%.

SIGNUP FOR DCP/ACRE ENDS JUNE 1

Counties are now taking appointments for signup in either the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP), or the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program. The final signup date is June 1, 2011. The DCP program is the annual farm program that makes direct and counter-cyclical payments to producers. ACRE is the other option in lieu of traditional DCP counter-cyclical payments. Producers who elect ACRE for a farm agree to: forgo counter-cyclical payments; take a 20-percent reduction in direct payments; and take a 30-percent reduction in loan rates for all commodities produced on the farm. A farms enrollment in ACRE is non-revocable through the end of the 2012 farm bill.

SIGNUP FOR 2009-CROP LOSSES (SURE)

Signup for 2009-crop and revenue losses under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) is expected to begin in Jan., 2011. To be eligible you are required to have obtained crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance was not available, to have participated in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. This is not required for crops not of economic significance (create 5% or less of your farm revenue) or where the administrative fee required to buy NAP (\$250 per crop) exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage. Counties eligible for 2009 SURE: Cheyenne, Greeley, Logan, Rawlins, Sherman, Thomas, Wallace & Wichita. In a future year, 2011 will be considered for SURE and to qualify you'll need all 2011 crops insured and have NAP on non-insurable crops. Sales for NAP on 2011 feed crops ends March 15.

ACREAGE REPORT DATES

The final date to report 2011 crop acres of wheat, barley, oats, and rye is May 31, 2011. The final date to report corn, grain sorghum, forage sorghum, fallow, oilseeds, grass and CRP is August 1, 2011. Contact your local FSA Office for an appointment to certify crop acres.

2010 TAX EXPENSE ITEM

You get credit for payments on the date the payment is received at the USDA service center. With January 1st falling on a Saturday, USDA employees will observe the New Year holiday Fri., Dec. 31, 2010. To be given credit for payments in 2010 and for the interest payment to count for 2010 tax expenses, payments must be received in a County Office by Thurs., Dec. 30, 2010.

FOREIGN LAND INVESTMENT RULE

Foreign investors in U. S. Agricultural land must report their land holdings, acquisitions, leases of 10 years or more, and land use changes within 90 days of their investment to the local FSA Office. Failure to report can result in a civil penalty of 25 percent of the fair market value of their interest in the agricultural land.

CONSERVATION LOAN PROGRAM

Loans are available to most farm owners and operators without regard to income level to install conservation practices approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), such as: terraces, water conservation measures; establish or improve pastures; manure management; and other conservation practices, techniques & technologies.

The loans may be of particular interest to those with expired CRP acres not remaining in grass. These acres may need conservation measures to stay in compliance with highly erodible and wetland requirements in the farm bill. Check with NRCS on your requirements.

Loans are available at FSA Farm Loan offices in Goodland, Oakley and Norton. Direct loan limit is \$300,000 (4.125%) . Guaranteed loans up to \$1,119,000 are available from lenders working with FSA.

DIRECT & GUARANTEED LOANS

FSA makes loans directly to borrowers and we also guarantee loans made by commercial lenders to farm operators to buy farm land, livestock, equipment, or for family living, refinancing, or operating expenses.

To qualify for a direct loan, applicants must have sufficient repayment ability and loan collateral, and be unable to obtain credit elsewhere. Loans may be considered for up to 100% of security value.

Commercial lenders needing a loan guarantee apply to FSA for the guarantee. Often a combination of FSA direct and guaranteed loans is used. Interest assistance to reduce interest by 4% is considered when needed.

Direct loans available:

- Farm operating loans - 1.75% interest
- Farm ownership loans - 4.125% interest
- Beginning farmer operating - 1.75% interest
- Beginning farm ownership down payment – 1.5% interest
- Youth loans up to \$5,000(10-20 year olds) 1.75% interest
- Socially Disadvantaged operating (females & minorities)
- Socially Disadvantaged ownership(females& minorities)
- Emergency operating loans (weather related)

Guaranteed loans available:

- Farm operating - interest not exceeding average rate
- Farm ownership- interest not exceeding average rate

TRANSITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TIP)

This program encourages retired or retiring owners, or operators, to transition Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres to beginning or socially disadvantaged (SDA) farmers or ranchers with less than 10 years of experience.

TIP provides annual rental payments to retiring farmers for up to two additional years after expiration of the CRP contract, provided transition is not to a family member. To be eligible, TIP requires the retired or retiring farmer or rancher to sell, have a contract to sell, or agree to a long-term lease of 5 years or more, on the land in CRP by Oct. 1 of the year the CRP contract expires. Retired or retiring owners or operators with CRP that expires Sept. 30, 2011, should take action to enroll in TIP by that date.

Websites

More program information and services on these sites:
 FSA - www.fsa.usda.gov
 Kansas FSA - www.fsa.usda.gov/ks
 On-Line Services -www.fsa.usda.gov – then click on ‘Online Services’ on top menu bar
 USDA - www.usda.gov

2010 CROP LOANS

Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) loans are available on 2010 crop year production. Our interest rate is the lowest available in the credit market at 1.25 percent.

County	HRW Wheat (bu)	Corn (bu)	Milo (cwt)	Soybn (bu)	Sunflr (cwt)
Cheyenne	\$2.66	\$1.94	\$3.16	4.65	10.86
Decatur	\$2.65	\$1.93	\$3.18	4.67	10.70
Gove	\$2.67	\$2.01	\$3.23	4.73	10.70
Greeley	\$2.59	\$2.07	\$3.39	4.73	10.79
Logan	\$2.68	\$2.02	\$3.25	4.73	10.77
Norton	\$2.65	\$1.95	\$3.12	4.69	10.62
Rawlins	\$2.65	\$1.96	\$3.21	4.68	10.86
Sheridan	\$2.64	\$1.95	\$3.22	4.68	10.70
Sherman	\$2.65	\$1.96	\$3.18	4.70	10.93
Thomas	\$2.69	\$1.97	\$3.24	4.67	10.77
Wallace	\$2.63	\$2.03	\$3.29	4.73	10.85
Wichita	\$2.59	\$2.06	\$3.36	4.81	10.70

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (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 to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."