



## Crawford County Farm Service Agency

**January, 2011**

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Girard, Kansas 66743

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

### Office Staff

Judy A. Jacquinet,  
County Executive Director  
Robert White,  
Farm Loan Manager  
Jason Love,  
Farm Loan Officer  
Loretta Bailey,  
Program Technician  
Debora Bolin,  
Program Technician  
Barbara Brown,  
Program Technician  
Anna Goble,  
Program Technician  
Donna Little,  
Program Technician

### County Committee

Carolyn Michael  
Larry Richard  
Steve Murphy  
(Committee meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday  
of each month at 8:30 am in the  
USDA Service Center)

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Report your wheat as soon as it is planted. When reporting acreages, producers will also need to provide planting dates. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Payments. An FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must be filed for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. The acreage certification deadlines for all acreage are:

#### Acreage Certification Deadlines:

- Small Grains for Grain -May 31
- Small Grains for Grazing -15 days prior to grazing
- Small Grains for Haying -15 days prior to haying
- Spring Seeded Crops -August 1
- CRP -August 1
- NAP -August 1 or 15 days prior to the onset of harvest or grazing for all other crops.

#### TIMELY REPORT PREVENTED PLANTING & FAILED ACREAGE

Producers must report prevented planted acres within 15 calendar days after the crop's final planting date and complete a CCC-576, Notice of Loss. Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

#### Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.



2011 DCP and ACRE Signup  
The enrollment period for the 2011 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) ends on June 1, 2011.

The ACRE program provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price. ACRE payments are made when both state and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments, receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates. The decision to elect ACRE binds the farm to the program through the 2012 crop year.

Planted crops considered eligible for ACRE payments include: wheat, barley, oats, grain sorghum, corn, upland cotton, peanuts, pulse crops (dry peas, lentils, chickpeas or garbanzo beans), rice, soybeans, and other oilseeds (canola, crambe, flaxseed, mustard seed, rapeseed, safflower, sesame seed).

#### COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

Congratulations to Steve Murphy on being elected to the County Committee for Local administrative Area (LAA2) which covers Sherman, Crawford, & Sheridan townships.

We would like to thank Joe Murphy for his 6 years of service as a county committee member.

Committee members are an important part of the administration of federal farm programs at the county level. The County Committee ensures USDA Programs are delivered in a timely, fair and equitable manner.

The County Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 8:30 am in the USDA Service Center.

FSA appreciates those who serve on the county committee and the producers for taking the time to vote for committee candidates.



**FSA ANNOUNCES CONSERVATION LOAN PROGRAM**

Farm Service Agency has announced the launch of a Conservation Loan (CL) program that will provide farm owners and farm-related business operators access to credit to implement conservation techniques that will conserve natural resources.

CL funds can be used to implement conservation practices approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), such as the installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; implementation of manure management; and the adaptation of other emerging or existing conservation practices, techniques or technologies.

Direct CLs can be obtained through local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices with loan limits up to \$300,000. FSA is presently offering fixed interest rates for these loans of 4.5%. Guaranteed CLs up to \$1,119,000 are available from lenders working with FSA. Applicants in a strong financial position may qualify for a streamlined application process.

Unlike FSA's traditional farm ownership and operating loan programs that are targeted toward smaller and less financially established farmers, eligibility requirements are expanded to permit the agency to provide assistance to some applicants who may be large and financially strong.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center, 620-724-6227, Ext 229. You may also visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

**Changing Banks**

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions. If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

*Selling Land*

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all of the payments you've received to date. Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.

**2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance**

The sign-up period for the 2009 crop year Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program has opened. SURE is one of five disaster programs included in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill) that provides assistance to farmers and ranchers who have suffered losses due to natural disasters. Any eligible producer who suffered losses during the 2009 crop year is encouraged to visit a local FSA office to learn more about the SURE program and how to apply.

To be eligible for SURE a farm or ranch must have:

- At least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance;
- A policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for all economically significant crops;
- Been physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation. Without a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may be eligible if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster.

Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage. Farmers and ranchers interested in signing up must do so before July 29, 2011. For more information on the 2009 SURE program, visit any FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/sure>

**Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)**

The noninsured crop disaster assistance program (NAP) is a federally funded program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed. These benefits are only available for crops for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is not available. Application for coverage must be filed by the applicable crop's application closing date. Production records for all crops must be reported to the FSA office no later than the application closing date for the crop for the following year. FSA requires that any production reported in a loss year be verifiable according to Agency specifications. *NAP Losses must be reported within 15 days of loss.*

Dates to Remember	
Jan 10	SURE Signup Starts
Jan 30	Final date to file an application for 2010 livestock losses for LIP
May 31	Report Small Grains
June 01	DCP/ACRE signup ends
July 29	SURE Signup ends
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program