NEWSLETTER

Kingman County
Farm Service Agency

February 2011

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

Office Staff

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County Committee

Bernard Albers
Philip Moorhouse
Jason Belt
Donna Werner, Advisor

COC meets the 1st Wednesday of the month @ 8:00 a.m.

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2009 CROP DISASTER LOSSES

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) provides benefits for 'Farm' revenue losses due to natural disasters in years 2008 through 2011. For SURE purposes, a 'Farm' is defined as the sum of all crop acreage from all land in which a producer had an interest in, nationwide. Unlike previous disaster programs, payments are not calculated on individual crop losses, but on overall revenue losses for the producers 'Farm'. Because Kingman County is contiguous to an Agriculture Secretary declared primary disaster county for 2009, your 'Farm' must have had at least a **10% production loss** on one crop of economic significance in order to qualify. You also must have had crop insurance on all insurable crops of economic significance. For non-insurable crops of economic significance, you must have had coverage under the FSA Noninsured crop Assistance Program (NAP). An Economically Significant crop is defined as ANY crop whose value is more than 5% of the value of all crops combined. Or for NAP crops, the expected value of the crop is more than $9,090. The insurance requirement does not apply to socially disadvantaged, limited resource or beginning farmers.

We are now taking SURE applications for crop year 2009. If you think you had a 10% crop loss in 2009 and had the required insurance coverage, or for more information contact our office to get the application started. The deadline to contact our office to request assistance under SURE for 2009 losses is June 1, 2011.

CRP SIGN UP COMING

The county office is preparing for the next general Conservation Reserve Program

CRP Cont.
(CRP) signup to be held from March 14 thru April 15, 2011. Producers should begin now thinking about offering possible areas that may be better suited to being out of crop production, as well as current CRP acres set to expire this year. CRP provides assistance to take the most highly erodible land out of production and convert it to wildlife habitat. Cost share assistance is available for installing the practice and annual rental payments are issued for a period of 10 to 15 years. To be eligible, the acreage must have been cropped, or in CRP, 4 out of the years 2002 thru 2007. Fields offered that are not expiring CRP must also have an average soil erodibility index of 8 or greater, or in a Critical Priority Area (CPA). All new contracts will be required to complete a management practice on all acres, once in the lifetime of the contract. The management practices are light disking, interseeding, burning, managed haying, or managed grazing.

If you would like to reoffer acres of CRP expiring this year or new acres, please contact our office as soon as possible and let us know what you want to offer. We would like to get as much information and prep work done prior to sign up, as time will be very short once sign up begins.

COC ELECTION RESULTS

Jason Belt of Kingman was recently elected to the Kingman County Committee as the representative of LAA#2. Jason began his 3 year term on January 1, 2011. We look forward to working with Jason in the coming years. We also want to take this opportunity to thank Mike Demmer for his years of service on the board. It has been a pleasure working with Mike.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Kingman County FSA Office
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USDA United States Department of Agriculture

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LIVESTOCK DEATHS

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather. A list of normal mortally rates for Kansas can be obtained at your local FSA county office. Applicants must provide adequate documentation to prove that the eligible livestock deaths occurred as a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. LIP payments are calculated by multiplying the national payment rate for each livestock category by the number of eligible livestock in each category. National payment rates are found on the LIP Fact Sheet at www.fsa.usda.gov. A Notice of Loss must be filed within 30 days after the death is apparent. The final date to submit an Application for Payment is Jan. 30 of the following year.

2011 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2011. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2011 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2011, 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, 2010. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

The ACRE Option

The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. For 2011, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2009 and 2010 crop years.

An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. The payment is based on 83.3 percent (85 percent in 2012) of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the State ACRE guarantee and the state revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the state expected yield. The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.

The June 1, 2011, deadline is mandatory for all participants. USDA will not accept any late-filed applications.

Dates to Remember	
March 14	CRP Signup Begins
April 15	CRP Signup Ends
May 30	Office Closed – Memorial Day
June 1	Deadline to request 2009 Crop SURE pmt
June 1	Deadline to Signup for DCP and/or ACRE
June 1	Deadline to report Small Grain Acres