



## LINCOLN COUNTY Farm Service Agency

**MAY 2011**

### Mailing Address:

Lincoln County FSA Office  
P.O. Box 156  
112 E. Court St.  
Lincoln, KS 67455-0156

PH 785-524-4855  
FAX 785-524-3231  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/ks](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ks)

### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday  
7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### PERSONNEL:

William Wineinger  
**County Executive Director**

Mark Herrmann  
**Farm Loan Manager**

### Program Technicians:

Carla Morriscal  
Emilie Wacker  
Sheila Ruby  
Sylvia Ringler

### County Committee:

Damon Vonada, Chairperson  
Nick Biggs, Vice-Chairperson  
Connie Gebhart, Member

### County Committee Meets:

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Month; 10:00  
a.m. Nov-Apr, & 9:00 May-Oct

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.

## Acreage Reporting:

**May 31, 2011** is the final date to timely file acreage reports for 2011-crop wheat, oats, barley, triticale, and other small grain crops. Most farm operators have already reported their wheat acres, and we encourage all others to report immediately. If you planted **oats** this spring, do not forget to report that acreage. Late-filing fees and other requirements apply to late acreage reports.

**August 1, 2011** is the deadline to report all other crop and land use acreage including CRP acreage. Most federal farm programs require an annual acreage report to maintain eligibility. The SURE program (see below) requires a report of all cropland and non-cropland (includes grass hay and pasture acres) for producer eligibility.

### 2009-crop SURE Signup:

A signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue (SURE) Assistance Program will end **July 29, 2011**. SURE may provide assistance to eligible producers who have incurred significant revenue losses due to crop production and/or quality problems related to adverse weather. To qualify, producers must have an overall revenue loss on the "farm" which, defined for SURE purposes, refers to all acreage nationwide that is planted to crops for commercial use, except grazing. If you had 2009 crop losses, contact our FSA office.

### Farm Loan Programs:

Direct or guaranteed farm loans for land, equipment, or operating expenses may be possible for farmers and ranchers who need help obtaining credit. Producers can get more information by contacting our office or Mark Herrmann, Loan Manager, at (785) 483-5618, ext. 29.

### Report 2011 NAP Crop Losses:

Producers who purchased Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage are required to report crop losses within 15 days of a disaster event or the date losses are apparent.

## Sorghum Checkoff Results:

Sorghum producers voted to continue the Sorghum Promotion, Research, and Information Order in the referendum held February 1 – 28. By an overall margin of 76% in favor, and 24% opposed, the sorghum checkoff program will continue to be funded at 0.6% of the net market value on grain sorghum. The vast majority of votes were cast by producers in Kansas and Texas, with Kansas producers voting 57% in favor of continuing the checkoff.

### CRP Items:

General Signup #41: As of this writing, no results have been announced from the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup conducted March 14 - April 15. Enhancements/Seedings: May 15 is deadline for producers to "enhance" existing CRP native grass with a forbs mix or to plant new native grass mixes. New rules allow for the existing native grass to be burned April 15 - May 15 in conjunction with a forb seeding. Otherwise, no disturbance should occur April 15 – July 1 (the primary nesting period).

### 2011 DCP and ACRE Signup:

Farms can be enrolled in the 2011 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) through **June 1, 2011**. Advance payments can be requested at 22 percent of the total "direct" amount. The ACRE option is intended to provide a safety net for crop revenue shortfalls due to price and/or production declines at the state- and farm-level. Both state and farm "triggers" must be met before ACRE payments are due. The state-level revenue guarantee is based on a 5-year state Olympic average yield and a 2-year national average price. By participating in ACRE, producers forgo counter-cyclical payments, receive a 20% reduction in direct payments, and take a 30% reduction in loan rates. The decision to elect ACRE binds the farm to the program through the 2012 crop year.

**OR CURRENT RESIDENT**

**FSA County Committee (COC) Items:**

During the 2010 COC election, Damon Vonada was re-elected and is currently serving another three-year term for Local Administrative Area (LAA) #1 covering the western portion of Lincoln County. Shirley Krueger was elected as COC Alternate.

FSA will be accepting nominations for COC candidates from June 1 through August 1 for the election to be held in LAA#2. This area includes the townships of Battle Creek, Beaver, Indiana, Marion, Orange, Salt Creek, and Scott. Most farm operators and owners with farming interests in this area are eligible to nominate, be nominated, and hold office, but some exceptions do apply.

Beginning June 1, an eligible voters list will be available to view for LAA#2 and FSA-669A nomination forms can be obtained by contacting the FSA office. Also, it is likely a special mailing with a FSA-669A will be sent by our FSA State Office to voters in LAA#2. At 1:00 p.m. on July 12, an informal meeting will be held at the FSA office specifically for the COC election process.

The actual COC election will be conducted by mail ballot from November 4 through December 5, 2011. Ballots will be counted at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 8, at the FSA office, which is open to the public to attend. The candidate with the most votes will be elected to serve a three-year term.

***Spouse Signature Authority***

With the exception of loans and a few other documents, spouses can sign most FSA program documents on behalf of each other without a power-of-attorney on file. A written statement is required to revoke this authority and must be signed and dated.

***Name, Address, Entity, or Bank Changes?***

Many times producers forget to timely report changes to our office which has caused ineligibility for farm program benefits or delayed payments. Please remember to promptly report name and address changes, changes in accounts or financial institutions, and the formation or dissolution of entities such as trusts, estates, corporations, partnerships, etc., to our office.

**Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL):**

Low-cost financing for storage facilities is available for qualifying producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including all grain crops and forage/hay. Interest rates for the FSFL program changes monthly, but the rate becomes fixed for the term of the loan upon application approval. Depending on the loan amounts, terms of 7, 10, and 12 years are available for the purchase and installation of new, eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying and handling equipment, or for new components used to remodel existing facilities. Loan principal is generally for 85 percent of net costs, and loans exceeding \$50,000 require real estate mortgages. Sign-up is continuous, as long as CCC funds are available. Contact the FSA office for more details.

**Commodity Loans Available**

Low-interest commodity loans are available for farm- or warehouse-stored grain for up to nine months following the month of loan approval. The final date to obtain a loan for **2010-crop** Corn, Milo, Soybeans, and Sunflowers is **May 31, 2011**.

The **2011-crop loan rates** are noted below:

Lincoln County Loan Rates Crop Year 2011	
Wheat	\$ 3.09/bu
Corn	\$ 1.97/bu
Grain Sorghum	\$ 3.35/cwt
Sunflowers	\$ 10.62/cwt
Oats	\$ 1.43/bu
Soybeans	\$ 4.85/bu

Dates to Remember	
Date	Item
May 15 <sup>th</sup>	CRP Forbs or New Grass Plantings
May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Loan Deadline – 2010 Course Grains
May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Acreage Reporting Deadline – Small Grains
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Final date for 2011 DCP/ACRE, Recons
July 29 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline for 2009 SURE Crop Disaster
August 1 <sup>st</sup>	Acreage Reporting Deadline – Spring Seeded Crops, CRP, Other Land Uses