



Rush County Farm Service Agency

January 2011

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

Office Staff

Kim Klozenbucher,
County Executive Director
Vicky Foos,
Program Technician
Cindy Schroter,
Program Technician
Paula Sramek,
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Gail Sanders,
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County Committee

Kyle Tammen, Chairperson
Teresa Collins, Vice-
Chairperson
Ken Urban, Regular Member
Committee Meets The 2nd
Wednesday Of Each Month

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2011 DCP AND ACRE SIGNUP

Signup for the 2011 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) has begun and will continue until June 1, 2011.

For DCP, eligible producers may request a 22 percent advance direct payment. 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.

For ACRE, the 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 issued when both the state and farm level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE for a farm, the producer elects to forgo counter-cyclical payments, receive a 20 percent reduction in direct payments and a 30 percent reduction in loan rates. A decision to elect ACRE binds the farm to the program through the 2012 crop year.

COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

The Rush County FSA Committee election results for LAA #1 were tabulated December 8, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at the Rush County FSA Office.

Ken Urban of Bison, Kansas was the top vote recipient with 81 votes and will serve a three-year term as the community representative to the Rush County FSA Committee.

Bruce Kershner of Rush Center, Kansas was second vote recipient with 59 votes and will be the 1st alternate to the Committee for LLA #1.

Congratulation goes out to Ken on his new position. Ken began his new position January 1, 2011.

A big thanks goes out to Bruce for serving on the County Committee for a total period of 12 years beginning back in 1996.

NAME, ADDRESS, FARM, LAND AND BANK ACCOUNT CHANGES

It is easy to forget to timely report changes to the FSA Office which can cause delays in payments, program signups and even program eligibility. Please remember to promptly report name and address changes, farm or land changes, changes in accounts or financial institutions, and the formation or dissolution of entities such as trusts, estates, corporations, partnerships, etc.

Updating your FSA records and keeping them current begins with you by requesting a change and supplying the needed information to complete your change.

2011 ACREAGE REPORTING

The latest Farm Bill requires that producers file acreage reports to participate in most FSA programs including CRP. For the DCP or ACRE programs, it is a requirement that participants report 100 percent of the cropland on a farm. For disaster program eligibility, producers must provide a full farm acreage report which includes reporting pastures, hay meadows and waterways.

Producers, who have been prevented from planting, prevented planted acreage reports are required to be submitted no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the crop. Documentation must also be provided to prove the intention to plant crop.

Producers who have acreage that has failed due to a disaster-related condition must report the acreage to the FSA Office within 15 days of the disaster event and prior to destroying the crop.

The final date to report wheat, barley, oats and triticale is May 31, 2011.

2009 SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS (SURE)

SURE Program signup for 2009 crop losses began January 10, 2011 and will continue through July 29, 2011.

SURE payments are based on production losses on a producer's "Farm". A "Farm" for the SURE Program is defined as all crops in which a producer has an interest in nationwide.

SURE is available to eligible producers on farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred crop production or quality losses, or both, and includes all crops grown by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops. Rush County is NOT a Secretarial disaster designated county nor a contiguous county to a county that is designated.

SURE is also available to eligible producers on any farm in which, for the 2009 crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.

2010 CROP LOAN DEADLINES

Low interest, nine month commodity loans are available for both on-farm or warehouse-stored grain. For on-farm stored grain, a producer may certify to the production or request a paid for measurement service. For warehouse-stored grain, a producer will need to request one or more warehouse receipts from the warehouse where the grain is stored. The deadline to request a loan for wheat, barley or oats is March 31, for corn, milo, soybeans or a sunflower is May 31.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM (FSFL)

The FSFL program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to construct or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The maximum principal amount of an FSFL loan is \$500,000. Producers are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of eligible storage facility and permanent drying or handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA County Office where the producer's farm records are maintained. An FSFL loan must be approved prior to any site or construction preparations begin.

The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- >Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain.
- >Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain.
- >Pulse crops – lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas.
- >Hay.
- >Renewable biomass.
- >Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables – cold storage facilities.

LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

LIP provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather. A list of normal mortality rates for Kansas can be obtained at the FSA 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 weight category by the number of eligible livestock in each category which is in excess of normal mortality. National payment rates can be 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 no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the loss of livestock occurred.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

Persons with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations to attend or participate in FSA meetings, events or functions should contact Kim Klozenbucher, at 785-222-2615 or email me at kim.klozenbucher@ks.usda.gov.

SORGHUM CHECKOFF REFERENDUM TO BE HELD

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has finalized procedures for the upcoming referendum on the continuation of the Sorghum Checkoff Program and is announcing the dates it will conduct the referendum.

For the program to continue, the Sorghum Promotion, Research, and Information Order requires that a referendum be conducted no later than 3 years after the start of assessments, which began on July 1, 2008. The order requires a simple majority vote in the referendum for the program to continue.

USDA will conduct the referendum February 1-28, 2011, at local Farm Service Agency (FSA) Offices for producers and the Agricultural Marketing Service Office, referenced below, for importers. Ballots may be obtained in person, by mail or facsimile at county FSA Offices, or via the Internet at www.ams.usda.gov/sorhumpage.

Any eligible person engaged in the production or importation of sorghum from July 1, 2008, to December 31, 2010, is eligible to participate. Individuals are required to provide documentation such as a sales receipt or remittance form that shows they engaged in the production or importation of sorghum.

The Sorghum Checkoff Program, and its 13-member board, is authorized by the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996. The mandatory program is funded at the rate of 0.6 percent of the net market value on grain sorghum and 0.35 percent of the net market value of sorghum forage.

Sorghum Checkoff is a national, coordinated, self-help marketing program designed to strengthen the position of sorghum in the marketplace, maintain and expand existing domestic and foreign markets and uses for sorghum, and develop new markets and uses for sorghum.

The final procedures were published in the November 18, 2010, Federal Register. The notice announcing the dates of the referendum were published in the January 4, 2011, Federal Register.

Dates to Remember	
Feb. 1-28	Sorghum Checkoff Referendum
March 31	Final Loan Request Date For 2010 Wheat, Barley Or Oats
May 31	Final Loan Request Date For 2010 Corn, Milo, Soybeans Or Sunflower
May 31	Final 2011 Acreage Reporting Date For Wheat, Barley, Oats Or Triticale
June 1	Final 2011 DCP/ACRE Signup Date
July 29	2009 SURE Signup Deadline