



## Washington County FSA December 2010

705 B Street  
Washington, KS 66968  
(785) 325-2253  
(785) 325-2657 – FAX

### Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

### County Committee

Jim Burton, Chairperson  
Dolores Jueneman, Vice-Chairperson  
Tim Harlan, Regular Member  
Committee meets 2nd Wednesday of Month

### Staff

Cindy Zimmerman, FLM  
Brandy Weber, FLO  
Emily Allen, FLO  
Dana Ceerle, FLOT  
Midge Miller, PT  
Marilyn Laflen, PT  
Brenda Heck, PT  
Dawn Bargman, PT  
Debbie Voelker, PT  
Dianne Garber, PT  
Linda Beikmann, PT  
Rob Larkin, CED

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**January 1** – Final date to purchase NAP insurance for apples and pears

**March 15** – Final date to purchase NAP insurance for coarse grains, vegetable and melon crops, etc

## **FOREIGN INVESTORS 90-DAY REPORTING RULE**

Foreign investors with an interest in agricultural lands in the United States are required to report their holdings and any transactions to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Any foreign person who acquires or transfers any interest, other than a security interest, in agricultural land in the United States is required by law to report the transaction no later than 90 days after the date of the transaction. Foreign investors must file Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) reports with the Farm Service Agency County Office that maintains reports for the county where the land is located. Failure to file a report, filing a late report or filing an inaccurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land. For AFIDA purposes, agricultural land is defined as any land used for farming, ranching or timber production, if the tracts total 10 acres or more.

## **ACREAGE REPORTING**

Participation in most Farm Service Agency programs requires producers to file acreage reports. For farms enrolled into the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program, participants must report 100% of the cropland on these farms. To maintain eligibility for disaster programs, producers must provide FSA with full farm acreage reports. This includes reporting pastures, hay meadows, and waterways that may not have been reported in the past.

May 31, 2011 is the deadline to report wheat, oats, barley, and triticale.

For 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 of the crop. Prevented planted acreage reports must be accompanied by documentation to prove, to the County Committee's satisfaction, the intention to plant the crop for harvest.

Producers who have acreage that have failed because of disaster-related conditions must report that acreage to the FSA Office within 15 days of the disaster event and prior to destroying the crop. For failed acreage, producers must be able to prove to the County Committee's satisfaction that the crop was planted with the intent to harvest and that the acreage failed because of disaster-related conditions.

FSA is encouraging that appointments be made as soon as possible to encourage timely and accurate acreage reports. For an appointment please contact the Washington County FSA Office at (785) 325-2253.

## **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% reduction in direct payments and a 30% reduction in loan rates. The decision to elect ACRE binds the farm to the program through the 2012 crop year.

## **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 mortality 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](http://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 January 30 of the following year.

## **COC ELECTION RESULTS**

Dale Peterson of Clifton was recently elected to the Washington County Committee as the representative of LAA#3. Dale will begin his 3 year term on January 1, 2010. A big ***THANK YOU*** goes out to Jim Burton for serving on the County Committee for the past three years.

## DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

FSA disaster assistance programs include: Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program.

To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase catastrophic risk protection insurance for all insurable crops, and coverage for non-insurable crops under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.

In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher, do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement.

## NAME, ADDRESS, BANK CHANGES

Producers sometimes 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.

## 2010 CROP LOAN DEADLINES

Low interest commodity loans are available for farm- or warehouse-stored grain for up to nine months following the month of loan approval. The following deadlines apply for commodity loans:

**March 31:** wheat, oats, and barely;

**May 31:** corn, milo, soybeans, and sunflowers.

## FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants 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 the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and 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 that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can 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

## PAPER CHECK CONVERSION – OVER THE COUNTER

Over the next year, Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will move toward an electronic method for processing producer checks. Paper check conversion is the process of converting paper checks presented to FSA or CCC into electronic debits to the producer's bank account, usually within 24 hours of receipt. Please see the U.S. Department of Treasury legal notice posted in the Service Center or visit the following U.S. Dept. of Treasury website for detailed information:

[www.pccotc.gov/pccotc/pcc/usingpcc/Legal%20Notices/legalnotices.htm](http://www.pccotc.gov/pccotc/pcc/usingpcc/Legal%20Notices/legalnotices.htm)

## FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,119,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner.

FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it. Let FSA be your Lender of First Opportunity!

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