



DISTRICT 1 – Cheyenne – Decatur – Gove – Greeley – Logan – Norton – Rawlins- Sheridan– Sherman – Thomas – Wichita – Wallace

July 2008

ACREAGE REPORTS DUE AUG 15

Report your 2008 spring seeded crops (feed grains, oilseeds, dry beans, alfalfa, hay, feed, etc), and CRP by Aug. 15. This is also the APH production report deadline for non insured crops for 2007.

FAILED ACREAGE

If any of your crops fail, protect your cropping history by filing CCC-576 Notice of Loss prior to destroying failed acres. This eliminates any potential discrepancies between FSA and your crop insurance records. It also maintains your crop history for any future disaster payments. After reporting your failed acres, you can destroy the acreage and/or plant another crop.

2008 FARM PROGRAM SIGNUP UNDERWAY

Signup is underway for the 2008 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP) now through Sept. 30, 2008. Farm operators are being mailed a DCP contract for each farm with the appendix (rules) and are asked to forward these to owners for signature.

Signup is available at any USDA Service Center or go online. You can choose payment options, assign crop shares, sign and submit contracts from any computer with Internet access. You can also view and print submitted contract options. Online access is available using an eAuthentication account.

The electronic service is available by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/edcp> and click on "Access eDCP Service." To access the service, producers must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account. To get a Level 2 account, producers must complete an online registration at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> and then visit the local FSA office to verify their identity. For more information about DCP, which will include a fact sheet, go to the DCP Web page at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=dccp&topic=landing>

DCP payments are computed on base acres and yields set for each farm. Advance payments of 22 percent of the direct payment can be requested to be made as soon as practical after signup. Final direct payments will be made after Oct. 1, 2008.

OPERATION & BANK CHANGES

Report any changes in land ownership and leases. We need a copy of the deed, sales contract or property tax statement to prove land ownership. Also report any deceased owners or operators. Notify us of any new or changes in estates, trusts, corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, etc. Report changes of address or changes to your bank account number so direct deposits are made to the proper account.

CRP CRITICAL USE

Certain CRP practices can be hayed or grazed July 16 through Nov. 10, 2008. You can hay or graze it yourself or lease it out. No restriction on selling the hay either. If interested request to modify your CRP contract and get a forage management plan. There is no payment reduction, but you pay a \$75 fee per CRP contract. At least 50 percent of each CRP field must be left unhayed. Grazing can occur at 75 percent of the NRCS recommended stocking rate on 100 percent of the eligible acres, or at 100 percent of the stocking rate on 75 percent of the eligible acres.

CRP EARLY LAND PREPARATION

CRP participants with contracts expiring this Sept. 30 may begin immediate land preparation to return the land to cropland without penalty. The participant completes form CRP-1G prior to beginning any activity and also obtains an approved conservation plan from NRCS prior to beginning tillage. If the soil is tilled prior to October 1, wheat or another fall seeded crop must be planted this fall. The acreage can not be hayed or grazed to begin the land preparations.

Participants who wish to begin preparations for planting corn or milo in the spring of 2009 may complete the required forms and begin applying herbicides to the contract acres after July 15, but may not disturb the soil until after September 30, 2008. The acreage may be mowed to increase herbicide-plant contact; however, the acreage can not be baled or grazed.

PLAN AHEAD FOR EXPIRING CRP

1.7 million acres of CRP expire in Kansas over the next 4 years. Don't pass up the chance to keep your trouble spots in CRP with continuous CRP practices when your contract expires. Areas such as wash and drainage areas, terrace tops, lagoons (playas), acreage bordering creeks and streams, hard to farm areas, rocky spots, poor soils, etc. all can be maintained in CRP another 10-15 years. Many of these practices get a signup incentive payment, annual rental payments, and may qualify for Kansas walk in hunting payments, etc. The majority of establishment cost is all ready invested. Don't pass this up. Plan ahead and visit with FSA and NRCS to discuss options. Continuous practices can be used on trouble spots on expired CRP even if you don't break the CRP.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

New or remodel on farm storage facilities including bins, flat storage, upright silos, etc. Also permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, safety equipment. A real estate lien required for loans over \$50,000. The maximum loan is 85% of net cost, up to \$100,000 per borrower, 15% down payment, seven year loan.

2008 CROP LOANS

A lot of producers wished they would have held some of their 2007 wheat crop last year and enjoyed those higher prices that came later in the year. If you want to hold all or part of your crop for later sale in 2008, a CCC farm or warehouse stored commodity loan may be for you.

Loans can be repaid any time during the term of the loan. Loans mature on the last day of the ninth month following the month the loan is disbursed. Loans disbursed July 2008 mature April 30, 2009.

To get a warehouse stored loan, get warehouse receipts from the storing elevator. You pay storage through the maturity date, but if you sell early that's refunded to you.

Farm stored bins must have inside and outside ladders and provide sufficient head room so a commodity inspector can get inside to sample the grain. You can get a measurement service to determine the quantity or certify to the quantity. If you plan to move the grain between bins to condition it, then designate all of your bins as the storage location.

County	HRW Wheat (bu)	Corn (bu)	Milo (cwt)	Barley (bu)	Oats (bu)
Cheyenne	\$2.91	\$1.95	\$3.19	\$1.90	\$1.32
Decatur	\$2.90	\$1.94	\$3.08	\$1.90	\$1.32
Gove	\$2.92	\$2.02	\$3.23	\$1.90	\$1.35
Greeley	\$2.84	\$2.08	\$3.39	\$1.90	\$1.35
Logan	\$2.93	\$2.03	\$3.20	\$1.90	\$1.35
Norton	\$2.90	\$1.96	\$3.12	\$1.85	\$1.32
Rawlins	\$2.90	\$1.97	\$3.21	\$1.90	\$1.32
Sheridan	\$2.89	\$1.96	\$3.22	\$1.90	\$1.32
Sherman	\$2.90	\$1.97	\$3.18	\$1.90	\$1.32
Thomas	\$2.94	\$1.98	\$3.24	\$1.90	\$1.32
Wallace	\$2.88	\$2.04	\$3.29	\$1.90	\$1.35
Wichita	\$2.84	\$2.07	\$3.36	\$1.90	\$1.35

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CROP DISASTER PROGRAM (CDP)

Signup began Oct.15 for producers with crop production losses (quantity) in excess of 35 percent in 2005, 2006, or 2007. We are now taking signup for (quality) losses of at least 25 percent for these same years.

If you had qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007, you must choose only one year to receive benefits. You can apply for losses on multiple crops, but they must all be in the same crop year. If choosing 2007, the crops must have been planted or prevented from being planted before February 28, 2007.

JULY 18 DEADLINE - LIVESTOCK PROGRAMS

Livestock producers have until **July 18, 2008**, to enroll in the 2005 - 2007 Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). Signup began on Sept. 10, 2007. The two programs provide aid to livestock producers who suffered eligible livestock deaths, or livestock feed losses/additional expense between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2007.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Counties are divided into three local administrative areas (LAA) with each taking its turn every third year to have a FSA county committee election. Farm operators and owners in the LAA whose turn it is to have the election, selects one producer to serve a three-year term on the FSA county committee (COC).

Nominations are accepted June 15 through Aug. 1, 2008. Producer residents in the LAA holding the election can nominate themselves or others as candidates. The nomination form, FSA-669A, is available at the county office or by download: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=newsroom&subject=landing&topic=cce>. Nomination forms must be signed by the person being nominated, agreeing to serve if elected. Nomination forms must be returned to the county office by close of business Aug. 1, or postmarked by midnight Aug. 1. The mailed ballot election is Nov. 3 thru Dec. 1, 2008

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call the FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.