



January, 2010

Bay County News

Bay County
USDA Service Center

Bay County FSA
4044 S Three Mile Rd
Bay City, Mi. 48706
989-686-0430 (phone)
989-686-7925 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/mi

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

County Committee
Gene VanDriessche
Bernie Cianek
William Hugo
Renee DeShano - Advisor

Staff
Donna Jacobs
Cathy Krengielski
Jodi Lahar
Renay Fritch
Floyd Fischer

County Executive Director
John Porath

Farm Loan Manager
Jerry Spickerman



DCP & ACRE SIGN-UP

Signup for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program has begun. Signup in the ACRE option is also available for those producers wishing to do so. The deadline to signup for either program ends **June 1st, 2010**. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications. **Please call for an appointment.**

FSA 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 2010, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. FSA will issue advance direct payments beginning in December if requested. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price.

The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price.

Producers who elect the ACRE program for a farm agree to:

- forgo Counter-Cyclical payments;
- accept a 20-percent reduction of the Direct payments; and
- accept a 30-percent reduction in loan rates for all commodities produced on the farm

Commodities eligible for ACRE payments are wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, & soybeans. The ACRE program was created to give producers an option in lieu of traditional counter-cyclical payments. Producers may elect and enroll in ACRE for the 2010 crop year even if they have already accepted advance direct payments under the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program.

To elect ACRE for a farm, producers must complete Form CCC-509 ACRE, which *irrevocably* elects ACRE for the farm through crop year 2012. Form CCC-509, the contract to participate in ACRE, must then be completed each year the producer intends to participate and receive benefits. The best way to determine if your farm will benefit from the ACRE program is to search on-line using the words "ACRE calculator 2008". ACRE payment is based on the revenue lost on the BASE crop actually planted and designated per FSA Farm number. *Your five year yield history of this planted crop will have to be established per FSA farm number.*

For additional information visit:
www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp

Bay County FSA Office
4044 S Three Mile Rd
Bay Citv. Mi 48706



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COMMODITY LOANS

A Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) is available for producers who share in the risk of producing the crop. To be eligible, a producer must maintain continual beneficial interest in the crop from harvest through the earlier of the date the loan is repaid or CCC takes title to the commodity. Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan — even if the producer regains beneficial interest.

Commodity loan eligibility also requires compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements; beneficial interest requirements, acreage reporting and ensuring that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards. Producers do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical and/or ACRE Programs to be eligible for commodity loans.

DIRECT DEPOSIT

The Debt Collection Act of 1996 mandates that future payments from FSA be directly deposited into a producer's savings or checking bank account. A transaction statement will be sent from the FSA office indicating the payment type and amount. All producers were required to have initiated Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) by January 1, 1999. Any person may request a waiver of EFT if it poses a financial or personal hardship.

It is important that any changes in a producer's account such as type of account, bank mergers, routing number or account numbers; be provided to the county office promptly to avoid possible payment delay.

ELECTION RESULTS

William Hugo has been elected to serve for LAA #2 which comprises the townships of Beaver, Kawkawlin, Bangor, Williams and Monitor. Bill will be serving a three year term on the County Committee for this area.

| Dates to Remember | |
|-------------------|--|
| Now | Sign-up for DCP & ACRE Program is now <u>going on</u> |
| Jan. 1 | Office closed in observance of New Years Day |
| Jan. 18 | Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Holiday |
| Continues | Continuous Conservation Reserve Program and CREP |

Visit our Web site at:
www.fsa.usda.gov/mi

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