



NEWSLETTER



September 2012

Branch County
FSA Office

Hope R. Gentile
County Executive
Director
387 N. Willowbrook
Suite F
Coldwater, MI 49036

517-278-2725 phone
517-278-5176 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/MI

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

County Staff

Program
Technicians:
Shelly Dickinson, PT
Kelly Gruner, PT
Jessica Mobley, PT
Linda Snyder, PT

Farm Loan Staff:
Russ Lafollete,
Farm Loan Manager
Crystal Hepker, Loan
Officer
Program Technician
Debra Wheeler
Joann VanDeusen

517-849-9890 phone

SEPTEMBER DEADLINES

NONINSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP):

Coverage for fall seeded crops must be purchased by September 30.

The fee for NAP is \$250 per crop. Maximums of \$750 per producer per county and \$1875 per producer for multi-county producer are set in the program.

AVERAGE CROP REVENUE ELECTION (ACRE) PARTICIPANTS:

All ACRE designation forms (CCC-528) must be completed and returned to the county office by September 30, 2012.

Important Change to Reporting Deadline
November 15, 2012 – Wheat, small grain and forage crops must be certified at your local FSA office.
***This is a change for the 2013 crop year, please mark your calendars.**

Production Evidence ***Deadlines for MILC***

Final production evidence for program payments **MUST** be received in the applicable County Office by **COB, November 1, 2012**. If not previously submitted, all production evidence for milk produced during the months of October, 2008 through September, 2012 must be received in the office by this date if a producer wishes to receive any payments that were available during these months. MILC producers will be receiving a letter informing them which month's production, if any, is missing for any of these months for which a payment was available.

IRS FORM 1099-G AND 1099-MISC REPORTING

Beginning with calendar year 2012 IRS reporting, Kansas City will **NOT** generate and mail IRS Form 1099-G and/or IRS Form 1099-MISC to producers if the total of reportable payments for each tax identification number is **LESS THAN \$600.00**.

Also beginning with calendar year 2012 IRS reporting, Kansas City will be issuing only one IRS Form 1099-G and/or one IRS Form 1099-MISC to each multi-county producer whose total reportable payment for each tax identification number are equal to or greater than \$600.00. This is a change from receiving one 1099 from each county.

PRODUCERS RECEIVING LESS THAN \$600.00 IN COMBINED PAYMENTS NEED TO CONSULT A TAX ADVISOR TO DETERMINE IF THESE PAYMENTS MUST BE REPORTED ON THEIR TAX RETURN.

Highly Erodible Lands and Wetland Compliance

Producers participating in most programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA)

and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are required to abide by certain conditions on any land owned or farmed that is highly erodible or that is considered a wetland.

To be in compliance with the highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation provisions, producers must agree, that they will NOT:

- **Produce an agricultural commodity on highly erodible land without a conservation system;**
- **Plant an agricultural commodity on a converted wetland;**
- **Convert a wetland to make possible the production of an agricultural commodity.**

Producers planning to remove fence rows, convert woodlots to cropland, combine crop fields, divide a crop field into two or more fields, install new drainage, or improve or modify existing drainage, must notify the FSA and update Form AD-1026.

FSA will notify NRCS and NRCS will then provide highly erodible land or wetland technical determinations.

Special 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

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

The Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFLP) 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 now 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.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

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.

For more information about FSFL please visit your FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.



**Branch County
FSA Office
387 N. Willowbrook
Ste. F
Coldwater, MI 49036**

Dates to Remember

2013 Deadlines

September 1 - Sales closing date on 2013 value loss crops such as aquaculture, ornamental nursery, Christmas trees floriculture, mushrooms, finfish, ginseng, and grass sod.

September 30 - Sales closing date for 2013 small grains, forage crops, winter wheat, rye, barley, fall speltz, and fall mint.

October 1 - Coverage ends for many NAP crops.

November 15 – Final Date to report Perennial Forage, **Fall Wheat, and any other fall-seeded small grains.**

November 20 - Sales closing date for 2013 apples, apricots, asparagus, blueberries, sweet/tart cherries, cane berries,(raspberries), grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, rhubarb, and strawberries

December 1 - Sales closing date for 2013 honey and maple sap.

On-Going - Farm Storage Facility Loans.

January 15 – Apples, Blueberries, Cherries, Grapes, and Peaches need to be reported

February 1- Onion sales closing date.

March 15 - Final date to purchase NAP coverage on for most spring seeded NAP crops.

March 31 - Final date to request a 2012-crop small grains and honey loan or LDP.

May 31 - Final date to request 2012-crop feed grains, oilseeds loan or LDP.

July 15 – Final date to certify (Planted 3/31-5/31), **Corn**, Dry Beans, Forage Seeding, Green Peas, Hybrid Corn Seed, Spring Oats, Onions, Popcorn, Potatoes, Soybeans, Sugar Beets, Tomatoes and all other Crops .

August 15 - Cabbage (Planted 6/1-7/20), Processing Beans, including CRP.