

July 2013



Calhoun County FSA Updates

Calhoun County FSA Office

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County Executive

Director:

Elizabeth Lake

Farm Loan Manager:

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Program Technicians:

Bonnie Baxter

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Dana Sherman, FLP

County Committee:

Beth Korn, Chairperson

Keith Lawrence, Vice-Chair

Sharon Williams, Member

Denice Raymond, Advisor



ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE FOR FSA EXTENDED TO AUGUST 2, 2013

Producers are required to file an FSA-578, *Report of Acreage*, to certify planted acres by the final dates (listed below) to be considered eligible for the following benefits:

- Direct & Counter Cyclical Program (DCP)
- Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE)
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Commodity Loans
- Loan Deficiency Program (LDP)
- Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Producers are reminded of the importance to accurately report the crop, crop acreage, intended use, irrigation practice, planting date and producer shares.

Crop Reporting Deadlines:

- **August 2 (for 2013 only)** - Spring seeded grains, spring planted row crops.
- **November 15** - Perennial Forage (Alfalfa, Hay, Mixed Hay, Pasture), fall-seeded Wheat, Rye, and all other fall seeded small grains. REMEMBER NOV. 15 FOR YOUR 2014 CROPS!
- **January 2** - Honey
- **January 15** - Apples, Asparagus, Blueberries, Cherries, Grapes, Peaches, Plums, Strawberries, and all other perennial orchard crops
- **February 1** - Maple Sap
- **September 30** - Aquaculture, Christmas Trees, Floriculture, Ginseng, Mushrooms, Nursery & Sod

Late Fees:

Due to changes in program provisions for timely filed crop reports, late fees for 2013 Crop Year Certifications will be waived until September 15, 2013.

DCP Enrollment Ends August 2

The sign-up period for the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program is still open until Aug. 2, 2013.

The 2013 DCP program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that all eligible participants in 2013 may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. This means that eligible producers who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 and missed the June 1 ACRE enrollment deadline may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013 and still participate in the program.

Nominations Being Accepted for County Committee

The area electing a County Committee (COC) member this year is Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2. LAA 2 includes the townships of Athens, Burlington, Fredonia, Leroy, Newton, and Tekonsha. Beth Korn currently represents LAA 2 and is eligible for re-election.

The election of agricultural producers to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to all farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, large or small operation. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

COC members are a critical component of FSA operations. The intent is to have the COC reflect the makeup of the producers and represent all constituents. This means wherever possible, minorities, women or lower income producers need to be on the committee to speak for these under-represented groups.

Nominating petitions are available at the Calhoun County FSA Office. It (nomination form FSA-669A) may also be requested by telephone, fax, or via internet at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections . **Nominations will be accepted through August 1.**

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