



Eaton County News

Eaton County USDA Service Center

Eaton County FSA
551 Court House Drive
Charlotte, MI 48813
517-543-1512 (phone)
517-543-5962 (FAX)
www.fsa.usda.gov/mi

Hours
Monday – Friday
8:00 – 4:30

County Committee
Jack Holbrook
Wm. Hosey
Duane Smuts
Gerry Holbrook, Advisor

County Committee meets
the 1st Wednesday of
each month.

Staff
Lori Aseltine
Heather Kennedy
Mike McManus
Becky Southern
Claude Smith, Field Asst.
Mark VanBuren, CED

Farm Loan Officer
Sara Possehn

2009 DIRECT AND COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM

Enrollment in DCP for 2009 ends **June 1**. Beginning with the 2009 program year regulations no longer provide for a “late filed” signup period. 2009 DCP contracts will not be approved unless all producers with a share on the contract have signed on or before **June 1**. Please call to schedule an appointment for DCP enrollment.

ACRE PROGRAM

At press time the rules for ACRE are still being written. Producers considering ACRE are encourage to enroll their farms in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) before the June 1 deadline. DCP contracts can then be cancelled to enroll the farm in ACRE.

2009 CROP CERTIFICATION

Producers participating in FSA or CCC Programs are required to report all cropland acreage each year. Fall seeded crops (winter wheat) must be reported by **June 30**. All other crops by **July 15**. Please call to schedule an appointment for crop certification.

EXTENDED BUY-IN WAIVER FOR 2008 CROP DISASTER ELIGIBILITY

Producers can become eligible for 2008 disaster assistance even if they did not obtain the required crop insurance or Non Insured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2008 crops by paying a \$100 buy-in fee per crop before **May 18**. Paying the buy-in fee does not provide the producer with crop insurance or NAP coverage. It merely permits the producer to become eligible for 2008 disaster assistance. Producers will be required to purchase crop insurance or NAP coverage for the next available crop year. Producers who meet the definition of socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmer can request to have the buy-in fee waived.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM MID CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Most CRP contracts enrolled after 2003 require mid contract management. Producers are sent forms to let them know when to perform and report mid contract management. If you have a CRP contract that requires mid contract management and are not sure what to do, please contact the office.

FARM RECORD CHANGES

Please report all farm record changes to the FSA office as soon as possible. Many producers assume FSA automatically updates farm records with new owners. We can only update farm records when we are informed of the change by the farm’s owner or operator.



Eaton County FSA Office
 551 Court House Dr., Suite 2
 Charlotte, Mi. 48813-1047



**PRESORTED STANDARD
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**FSA Farm Loan Programs:
 Michigan's Lender of First
 Opportunity**

FSA offers Michigan's farm families access to affordable credit through a wide variety of lending opportunities. Beyond simple access to agricultural financing, FSA are industry leaders in providing supervised credit. This means we help famers with farm planning, credit counseling, financial planning, and farm and financial education throughout the term of the loan.

We serve a variety of Michigan's agricultural producers including individuals and entities wanting to start farming, those wanting to continue or change their operations, women and minorities who want to start or continue farming, and youth wanting to build their own income producing agricultural projects.

FSA offers a wide spectrum of lending options that can be tailored to an individual's situation

including farm ownership (FO) and farm operating loans (OL) up to \$300,000. We can also work with the borrower's local agricultural lender to guarantee commercial credit for both operating and ownership loans of up to \$1,094,000. In general, farm ownership funds may be used to purchase or enlarge a farm, purchase easements or rights of way needed in the farm's operation, erect or improve buildings, implement soil and water conservation measures, and pay closing costs. Guaranteed FO funds may also be used to refinance debt. Operating loan funds may be used to purchase livestock, poultry, farm equipment, feed, seed, fuel, fertilizer, chemicals, insurance, and other operating expenses. The funds also may be used for closing costs, and to reorganize and refinance certain debt.

Every situation is different. Contact Sara Possehn headquartered in the Ionia County FSA office at 616-527-2098 or sara.possehn@mi.usda.gov.

FSA Down-payment Program

FSA has a special loan program to assist socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers in purchasing farm property. Retiring farmers may use this program to help transfer their land to future generations.

To qualify, the applicant must make a cash down payment of at least 5 percent of the purchase price. This direct loan portion has a maximum loan amount of \$225,000. The loan has a very low fixed interest rate with a 20-year repayment.

Dates to Remember	
May 18	Buy-in for 2008 crop disaster eligibility ends
June 1	DCP sign up ends
June 1	Crop Reporting Begins
June 30	Last day to report 2009 wheat crop
July 15	Last day to report 2009 crops other than wheat

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

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