



January 2009



## St Clair/Macomb County FSA News

Kimball  
USDA Service Center

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

County Committee  
Chairman  
Ron Parks  
Vice Chairman  
Richard Townsend  
Members  
Ron Beier  
James Koss  
John Busemann  
Advisor  
Loretta Domagalski

County Committee meets  
First Tuesday of the month  
at 9:00 AM

Staff  
County Executive Director  
Dean Forrester  
Farm Loan Manager  
Phil Sweeney  
Program Technicians  
Brenda Boyd  
Ellen Wilson  
Steve Simmons  
Karla Frammolino  
Field Reporter  
James Domagalski



### Producer Meetings

Our office will be hosting a Farm Bill informational meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held in the Community Building at the St Clair County Fairgrounds in Goodells. We encourage all Producers to attend this meeting.

We will also be hosting a meeting for all producers enrolled in the Non Insured Assistance Program (NAP) on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 1PM at the Senior Center in Berlin Township next to the Fire Hall.

### 2008 Farm Bill

The Direct & Counter Cyclical (DCP) signup for 2009 officially began on December 22, 2008. We are currently taking appointments for those who want to enroll.

*As part of the change to the new mapping systems we will be adjusting all farms cropland to reflect what is shown on our Common Land Unit (CLU) maps that we are now using. In most cases the cropland on a farm and its tract(s) will change. If the change in cropland results in the Cropland being less than the DCP crop bases for a farm the bases will have to be reduced to equal the cropland. This will have to be completed before a farm can be enrolled in the 2009 DCP signup.*

*Another part of the 2009 DCP signup will require all operators to file new Payment Limitation forms. There are also new Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) limitations provisions.*

*At the Producer Meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup>, we will cover the major changes in*

### Farm Bill Continued

the Farm Bill. These include the Acreage Crop Revenue Election payments (ACRE) which is a part of the DCP program. The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) which is the new Disaster program that is tied to Crop Insurance and the Non Insured Assistance Program (NAP). We will also discuss Direct Attribution and Payment Limitation.

### Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC)

The initial signup period began December 22, 2008 and ends January 21, 2009. An extended signup period begins on January 22, 2009 and will continue throughout the duration of the MILC program, ending on September 30, 2012. For complete details contact our office.

### Non Insured Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP producers are reminded to submit their 2008 production evidence. If you filed a notice of loss for 2008, we need the production evidence to process your claim; if you did not file a claim then the production evidence is still needed for your actual production history (APH). This can be a summary for each crop listing the total production per crop and the container weights. The production evidence must be signed and dated by the producer. You must have supporting documentation such as pick records in case you are picked for a spot-check.

**Farm Changes**

If you have any farm changes now is the time to be getting the changes updated and the reconstitution paperwork filed. The sooner you let us know the earlier the reconstitution will be completed.

**Transfer of Farms**

A change in a farm's administrative county may be permitted to a contiguous county that currently has an FSA office without completing a farm combination in the receiving county if at least 1 of the following applies:

The principal dwelling of the farm operator has changed.  
 A change has occurred in the operation of the land.  
 There has been a change that would cause the changed administrative county office to be more accessible, such as a new highway, relocation of the county office, building site, etc.  
 The producer documents that the changed administrative county office is "significantly" more convenient.

In and out transfers shall be:

Signed by the farm operator and all owners.  
 A one time option for the producer if done because of convenience (If this option is elected the transferring producer has used their 1 time option for the farm)  
 Made only to a county that currently has an FSA office and is contiguous to the county where the farm is physically located.

Note: Owners and operators shall be aware that transferring a farm can affect their eligibility to vote in specific County Committee elections.



**Commodity Loans**

Commodity loans are currently available for eligible crops. If anyone is interested please contact our office for more information.

**Farm Stored Facility Loans (FSFL)**

FSFL's are available for grain facilities, if you are interested please contact our office for more information.



A wise man once said that: "The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence, that is until you get to the other side of the fence."

*Dean E Forrester*

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Dates to Remember	
Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>	NAP onion deadline
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	NAP deadline all crops
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	DCP signup ends
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program

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