

May 2013



NEWSLETTER



Sanilac County FSA Updates

Sanilac County FSA Office

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2013 DCP/ACRE Contracts

The sign-up period for 2013 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) programs is still open. All eligible participants may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. This means that eligible producers who were enrolled in ACRE for 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP for 2013 or may re-enroll in ACRE for 2013. Likewise, producers who were enrolled in DCP may opt for ACRE enrollment.

Annual contracts are required to be signed by all producers with a share in payments to receive program benefits. Landowner signatures or valid lease agreements are also required. The deadline for ACRE enrollment is June 3, 2013 and DCP enrollment deadline is August 2, 2013. Producers should contact the office at 810-648-2998 to schedule an appointment.

Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Compliance

Landowners and operators are reminded that in order to receive payments from USDA, they must be compliant with Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions. Farmers with HEL determined soils must apply tillage, crop residue and rotation requirements as specified in their conservation plan.

Producers should notify FSA prior to conducting land clearing or drainage projects to ensure compliance. If you intend to clear any trees to create new cropland, these areas will need to be reviewed prior to clearing to ensure any work will not jeopardize your eligibility for benefits.

If you are removing dead ash trees and you intend to remove the stumps and plant a crop in that area that is not currently cropped, please be sure to request a wetland determination,

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is now completing requests for HEL and/or wetland determinations on an entire tract. In the distant past wetland determinations were completed on cropland areas only, unless specifically requested.

Landowners and operators can complete form AD-1026 Highly Erodible



Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification to determine whether a referral to NRCS is necessary.

For more information on Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation provisions, contact a FSA County Office or visit the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Farm Loan Customers

Operation Changes

Please be aware that if you change the way you operate (for example, from an individual to an LLC) and you have a loan with Farm Loan Programs (FLP), it will change the way you do business with FLP. If you own real estate, equipment, or livestock that is pledged as security with FLP in your individual name, then you change to an entity, that loan and your security must be changed to the entity's name and tax identification number.

Bank Account Changes

Direct Deposit Form SF-3881, ACH Vendor/Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form, has two different agency information areas to be completed for money received from Farm Programs (FP) and money received from Farm Loan Programs (FLP). If your bank account information changes and you are participating in both Farm Loan Programs and Farm Programs (DCP, CRP, MILC, etc.), you must complete one Form SF-3881 for FLP and a separate one for FP due to different required information on the form.

Important Dates and Deadlines

RIGHT NOW - Make your appointment for DCP/ACRE sign-up

May 20th - General CRP sign-up begins

May 27th - Office closed in observance of Memorial Day

June 3rd - ACRE sign-up ends

June 7th - 2011 SURE application deadline

June 14th - General CRP sign-up ends

July 15th - crop certification deadline

August 2nd - 2013 DCP sign-up ends

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).