



**Andrew
County
FSA Office**

105 Hwy. 71 West
Savannah, Mo 64485
816-324-3196
816-324-5879 fax
Office Hours:
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Roger Scott
Jim Steeby
Karen Strasser
3rd Fri. – 8:30 a.m.

Office Staff

Sindy Barr, PT
Carrie Noland, PT
Allyson Wells, PT

**County Executive
Director**

Bob Caldwell

Farm Loan

Charlotte Holeman,
FLM
Tom Shelton, FLO
Thursday mornings

Fieldman

John Wheeler

District Director

Jim Nance



Farm Service Agency
United States Department of Agriculture

Andrew County
FSA NEWSLETTER
February 2010

Bob's Corner

It has been quite a winter, and it may not be over yet. It has been a challenge to get the crops out, to get products to the market and to take care of livestock. There is some important information we want to share with you, so please take time to read this newsletter.

Now might be a good time to visit the office to sign up for the 2010 DCP or ACRE programs, before you get busy in the fields. It is especially important where landlords and other producer's signatures must be obtained by June 1, 2010. While you are in the office, you might want to inquire about the SURE program, if you had at least a 10% physical loss on any crop in 2008. To be eligible all crops must have been insured by multi-peril insurance. CAT insurance meets this requirement, but hail insurance alone, does not.

As was noted in last month's newsletter, it is very important to stay in compliance with your conservation plan to remain eligible for USDA payments. With the wet fall some of you may have ruts in your fields that are to be no-tilled. If you contact NRCS here at our office, you may get a waiver to till certain areas. This must be requested **before** the work is done!!

When warmer weather does finally get here, be sure to check on your stored grain. Some grain went into the bins carrying excess moisture which can be a problem if it is not monitored regularly. If grain is under CCC loan, do not forget to call our office and release the grain or pay it off before hauling. There are some delays in providing refunds when a check from an elevator is more than needed to pay off grain hauled. Contact your elevator and see if they will issue two checks, one to you and one to CCC.

Again here are a few important notes to clip and post somewhere you will see them often:

- **DCP/ACRE Sign up Continues until June 1, 2010**
- **Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) 2008**
- **Conservation compliance is required to receive USDA payments**
- **Please note the article on the 1099's for 2009 payments**
- **Be sure to send CCC-927 or 928 to IRS as instructed!**

Bob Caldwell, CED

2009 year 1099's for taxes

Producers who received a payment in 2009 from FSA should have received a CCC-1099 in the mail by now. The CCC-1099 is FSA's report to the IRS concerning payments issued during the 2009 tax year. The 1099 is mailed from KCMO but County Offices have access to the report to be able to assist producers if they have any questions.

Computer software problems have caused numerous issues regarding 2009 payments. Producers should thoroughly review their 1099G for accuracy.

Selling Land?

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in CRP, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you may have to refund all of the payments you've received to date.

Please discuss possible program options with the county office staff before selling any land.

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

The LIP provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from disaster, in excess of the normal mortality rate. When a death occurs, it must be documented by a veterinarian, or a person who is not related to you, nor works for you. All deaths must be reported within 30 days and the final date to file for payment for the previous year, is January 30th. All deaths must be reported and documented, including the ones that are within normal mortality rates. Call us for more information.

CCC Loan Collateral

Producers are reminded that grain under loan cannot be removed or disposed of without prior authorization or repayment. Releases may be made by phone or in person when you are ready to move the grain. A loan violation is subject to

administrative penalties, liquidated damages and denial of future farm-stored loans and LDP's.

So it is important to CALL before you HAUL!

Annual Notice to Producers

FSA is required annually to notify producers of many program requirements, policies, and reminders. The following are some of those notifications:

Spousal Signatures: Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) programs in which either has an interest. In most cases, this option is automatically available unless a request for exclusions is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

Power of Attorney: We have a power of attorney form available for those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the FSA office. This can be done by completing an FSA-211, Power of Attorney. The form is available at your local USDA Service Center or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov>

Forms obtained and completed outside the USDA Service Center office must be notarized. To find out more, call the office.

Adjusted Gross Income

USDA has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Internal Revenue Service to establish an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to USDA. The agreement ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs. Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service by June 15 to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainservlet>.

SURE

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster that occurred in the crop years 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. However, crop insurance or NAP coverage is no longer required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage. Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement. The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

- at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition
- crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm
- producers in counties declared disaster counties by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties, or those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are eligible to receive SURE payments for crop producer or crop quality losses. Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss. A SURE calculator is available at: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/sure_calculator_2008.xls. The calculator is not official, but is intended for educational use. A fact sheet and backgrounder are also available online.

Faxed Signatures: Certain faxed signatures shall be accepted for all applicable program forms or other documents approved for faxed signatures, if all other requirements are met.

Reporting Farm Changes: It is also the producer's responsibility to notify FSA of ANY changes in their farming operation or entity status throughout the year. Changes that may affect a determination include, but are not limited to, a change in contract shares which may reflect change of land lease from cash rent to share rent or from share rent to cash rent; addition or deletion of a farm; change in the structure of the farming operation and measure distance and acreages.

2010 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2010. USDA urges producers to visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract. USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

ACRE

The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. The June 1, 2010, signup deadline is mandatory for all participants. USDA will not accept any late-filed applications. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. For 2010, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2008 and 2009 crop years. An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. Payment is based on 83.3% (85% in 2012) of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the state ACRE guarantee and the state revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the state expected yield. The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20%, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30%. The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
ANDREW COUNTY FSA OFFICE**
105 Hwy. 71 West
Savannah, Mo 64485

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
COLUMBIA, MO
PERMIT # 230

February interest rate for Facility Loans is 3.25-4%
and the rate for Commodity Loans is 1.375%



*If you are considering a new grain bin,
or hay storage building, check us out!*

Dates to Remember

Mar 15	Final date to purchase NAP Ins coverage on hay, pasture & other NAP crops
Mar 15	Final date to purchase FCIC Crop Ins on Corn & Beans
Mar 31	Final date to obtain a Loan or LDP on wheat & oats
June 1	DCP/ACRE sign up ends
June 1	Final date to obtain a loan or LDP on 2009 Corn & Beans
Continues	Continuous CRP sign up
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans

Visit our Web site: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo>

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