

Missouri District 5

Boone, Callaway, Cole/Miller, Franklin,
Gasconade, Moniteau, Montgomery, Morgan, Osage/Maries,
St. Charles, St. Louis, Warren

United States
Department of
Agriculture

June 25, 2008

Farm Service Agency

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2008 Crop Reporting Deadline Extended to August 15th.

County offices are taking crop certification on planted and prevented planting acres by **August 15th**. Producers also need to report CRP, permanent hay and pasture acres before this deadline. You will need to bring your planting dates with you. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs

REMINDER: Reported acreage, shares and farming entities should be consistent with crop insurance, and crop sales receipts. **When producers report differently than the way they actually operate, they may not be considered eligible for program benefits or may be required to refund benefits.**

Farm Bill Sign-Up Starts TODAY

The 2008 DCP Signup period starts June 25, 2008 and will end September 30, 2008. The 2008 program will be administered exactly like the 2007 DCP. One policy change is: generally farms with less than 10 acres of bases will not be eligible to receive payments unless that farm is wholly owned by socially disadvantaged or limited resource farmers or ranchers.

“Call your local office to see if an appointment is necessary.”

Check with your FSA office to see if your power of attorney and any cash rent agreements are still in effect. A 22% advance can be request as early as July with final payments issued in October 2008.

When Weather Prevents or Damages Crops

When bad weather prevents planting or damages crops, producers are required to report the acreage to the FSA office to receive history or disaster credit. This applies to all crops, whether covered by crop insurance, not covered by insurance, or covered by FSA's Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP).

Producers who have their crops insured through a private crop insurance company are required to contact their insurance agent immediately and advise them of the damaged crops. Additionally, a CCC-576, *Notice of Loss Application*, must be completed in person at the FSA office, and the prevented and/or failed acres reported.

Producers with crops covered under FSA's NAP, need to contact the FSA office within 15 days the damage occurred or within 15 days from the date damage is apparent. The losses can be appraised and production counted before the crop is put into another use, abandoned or destroyed.

Crops not covered with a private insurance or NAP policy should still reported to the local FSA office, to file a Notice of Loss Application no later than August 15, 2008. This will provide FSA with a historical record of your crop should disaster assistance become available.

For more information about reporting prevented planting or failed acres, contact or stop in the FSA office.



Changes to FSA Operating, Farm Ownership, and Beginning Farmer Loan Programs

The new Farm Bill has already significantly changed FSA loan programs. Loan limits for operating and farm ownership loans have been increased to \$300,000 effective immediately. These loans can be used for short and intermediate term operating financing and real estate acquisition and/or improvement.

There has also been a total overhaul of the Beginning Farmer Down Payment Farm Ownership loan program. Under this down payment program, a beginning farmer may purchase a farm with as little as a 5% down payment, and be eligible for FSA financing on 45% of the purchase price, with conventional financing on the remaining 50%. This FSA loan will carry a fixed 1.5% interest rate for 20 years and cannot exceed \$225,000. There is no limit on the purchase price of the property. FSA may also be able to guarantee the conventional loan, helping lenders offer long-term fixed rate financing at the current low rates.

For more information contact your FSA office or go to www.fsa.usda.gov

FSA Encourages Socially Disadvantaged Producers

FSA makes and guarantees loans to approved socially disadvantaged applicants (SDA) to buy and operate family-size farms and ranches. A SDA farmer is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as a member of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. SDA groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

FSA reserves direct and guaranteed loan funds for SDA persons. Non-reserved funds also can be used by SDA persons. FSA also promotes full participation of SDA producers in FSA programs as well as participation on the FSA county committee. FSA also provides information and assistance to applicants to help them develop sound farm management practices for success in farming, ranching, or other agricultural production.

County Committee Nominations

From **Jun. 15–Aug. 1, 2008** farmers and ranchers can nominate themselves or eligible peers as candidates for election to the FSA County Committee. It is important for all agricultural producers to be represented especially minority and beginning farmers and ranchers. Committee persons play a vital role by helping local producers manage tough financial times and natural disasters. Nominees need to reside in the administrative area (LAA) up for election that year and agree to serve. Request nomination forms from your local USDA Service Center or obtain one online at: www.fsa.usda.gov.

Nomination forms for the 2008 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on August 1, 2008. Voting takes place in the fall when ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by Nov. 3. Newly elected members take office Jan. 1, 2009.



June Select Interest Rates

- ◆ Farm Operating-Direct 3.250 %
- ◆ Farm Ownership Direct 4.875%
- ◆ Limited Resource 5.00%
- ◆ Farm Ownership-Direct Down Payment or Beginning Farmer 1.5%
- ◆ Emergency 3.75%
- ◆ Farm Storage Facility 3.375%
- ◆ Commodity Loans 3.0%

Farm Storage Facility Loans

Low interest facility loans (3.375% for June) are available from FSA for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities. The storage is for commodities including wheat, soybeans and corn.

The seven-year Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL) are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, or to remodel existing facilities. Eligible facilities include new conventional-type cribs or bins and new and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright and bunker silo-type structures.

All FSFLs are secured by a promissory note and security agreements. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85 percent of the net cost of the storage or handling equipment, up to \$100,000 for each borrower.

Sign-up for LCP and LIP to End July 18th



Signup for the **Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)** resulting from the drought in 2005, 2006, and recently added 2007 will end **July 18, 2008**. This program began in September 2007 to compensate livestock producers for feed loss. If you owned or cash leased eligible livestock on January 1st of 2005 or 2006 or April 4, 2007 and have not yet applied, you may be compensated for your feed loss. Eligible livestock include: Beef and Dairy Cattle, Buffalo, Beefalo, Sheep, Goats, Equine, Swine, Poultry, Deer and Elk. (Claimed livestock must be for commercial purposes in a farming operation to be considered eligible).

Signup is also ending for the **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)** for producers who lost livestock as a direct result of the winter storms in December 2006 and January 2007.

Crop Disaster Quality Loss Sign-up Begins

Eligible producers who suffered crop loss damage between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2007, are eligible to sign up for quality losses (for example –low test weight wheat) under the Crop Disaster Program (CDP), for losses that occurred before the end of the 2007 calendar year.

Producers must apply for quantity loss to be eligible to apply for a quality loss. A quality loss can be based on a single scale ticket, however total production evidence will need to be provided in entirety. In addition, the requirement for Crop Insurance or NAP coverage still applies. Quality loss participants will be required to provide actual production evidence. The actual production evidence will need to show the quantity, price AND quality factors.

SAFE (State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement)

Conservation Reserve Program

Owners and operators of certain cropland in designated geographic areas of Missouri may enroll eligible land into a new continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) practice titled State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE), also known as Practice CP38E, beginning May 1, 2008. USDA has approved three SAFE proposals in Missouri to address high priority wildlife needs through habitat restoration. In District 5, the SAFE Project that is available to interested producers is the Bobwhite Quail Habitat Restoration.



Producers within Missouri's SAFE areas have already voluntarily enrolled approved offers of more than 2,000 acres in CRP contracts for 14 to 15 years up to the state maximum of 6,250 acres for the Bobwhite Quail Restoration Project. Enrolled producers will receive annual CRP rental payments, incentive payments, and cost-share assistance to establish habitat.

Acreage must meet cropping history to be eligible for enrollment. The land must be physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity. Land designated as marginal pastureland does not qualify for SAFE.

Through SAFE, producers create a habitat that includes food plots and may involve planting shrubs, trees, grasses, and forbs species that help restore or improve wildlife habitat. This habitat is managed during the life of the contract by strip disking, spraying or burning.

Find more information about SAFE online.

District 5 Service Centers

Michelle Motley District Director

Boone
Kim Viers, CED
601 Bus Loop 70W
Columbia, MO 65203
573-875-5540 FAX 573-875-5547
COC Meets 2nd Tues. @ 8:30 am.

Callaway
Darrell Campbell, CED
Mark Mudd, FLM
4549 State Rd H
Fulton, MO 65251-5465
573-592-1400 FAX 573-592-1450
COC Meets 2nd Tues. @ 9 am.

Cole-Miller
Drew Parmley, CED
Kelly Volmert, FLM
1911 Bogg's Creek Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101
573-893-5196 FAX 573-893-7238
COC Meets 1st Wed. @ 8:30 am.

Franklin
Sheria Yancey, CED
1004 Vondera Ave., Suite 1
Union, MO 63084-3122
636-583-2303 FAX 636-583-3571
COC Meets 1st Wed. @ 8:00 am.

Gasconade
Sharon Borgmann, CED
316 Olive Street
Owensville, MO 65066
573-437-4131 FAX 573-437-4771
COC Meets 2nd Thurs. @ 8:45 am.

Moniteau
Daryl Raithe, CED
410 West Buchanan
California, MO 65018
573-796-4691 FAX 573-796-4520
COC Meets 3rd Thurs. @ 9 am.

Montgomery
Priscilla Eggering, CED
1013 South Sturgeon
Montgomery City, MO 63361-2700
573-564-2262 FAX 573-564-3967
COC Meets 1st Tues. @ 9 am.

Morgan
Dennis Schad, CED
100 S Burke Street
Versailles, MO 65084
573-378-4589 FAX 573-378-6163
COC Meets 2nd Fri. @ 9 am.

Osage-Maries
Randy Frisbee, CED
1315 East Main Street
Linn, MO 65051
573-897-2138 FAX 573-897-4107
COC Meets 2nd Thurs. @ 8:30 am.

St. Charles-St. Louis
Brian Mulherin, CED
160 St. Peters Centre Blvd.
St. Peters, MO 63376
636-922-2833 FAX 636-922-2840
COC Meets:
St. Charles-3rd Wed. @ 9am
St. Louis-3rd Thur. @ 9am

Warren
Ryan Eddy, CED
635 W. Booneslick RD
Warrenton, MO 63383
636-456-3433 FAX 636-456-3712
COC Meets 1st Mon. @ 9 am

United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
Boone County
601 Bus Loop 70W Suite 213E
Columbia, MO 65203

Official Business



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Dates to Remember

June 15

County Committee Nomination Period Begins.

July 4

Independence Day Holiday.

Offices Closed

July 18

Deadline for LCP and LIP.

July 24

Retirement Open House for Gasconade Co. CED-Sharon Borgmann 10 am-2 pm.

August 15

Deadline to Report All Crops and Land Uses.

Ongoing

- ◆ Update Farm Changes-Take Trust Papers to Office.
- ◆ Crop Disaster.
- ◆ Farm Facility Loans.



CRP Permitted Use for Livestock Feed Needs



USDA has authorized certain acreage enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to be available for hay or forage after the primary season ends for grass-nesting birds, (July 15, 2008). This is available for CRP participants until November 10, 2008. There is a \$75 administrative fee per contract for the critical feed use. Eligible acreage includes the following CRP practices in District 5:

- *CP1, Establishment of Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes,
- *CP2, Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses,
- *CP4B, Permanent Wildlife Habitat Corridors,
- *CP4D, Permanent Wildlife Habitat,
- *CP10, Vegetative Cover Grass Already Established

The most environmentally sensitive land enrolled in CRP is **ineligible** for critical feed use including wetlands, buffers, filter strips. Also, acreage devoted to useful life easements, as determined by CCC, and land within 120 feet of a stream or other permanent water body is ineligible.

Haying is limited to 50 percent of each eligible field. If grazing, 25 percent of each field must remain ungrazed or all of the eligible CRP acreage may be grazed at no more than 75 percent of the stocking rate, as determined by NRCS.

Participants who request a critical feed use must also obtain a modified conservation plan for haying and grazing management in accordance with NRCS Field Office Technical Guide haying and grazing standards.

For more information about this program or to see if your acreage is eligible for this program, contact your local FSA office.

Controlled Substances

Any person who is convicted under federal law of planting, producing, cultivating, harvesting, growing, or storing a controlled substance will be ineligible to participate and receive payments under USDA programs. Marijuana, opium poppies, and other drug producing plants are controlled substances.