



District 7 News

Bollinger County FSA

Office Hours: 8:00-4:30
Phone: 573-238-2671

Butler County FSA

Office Hours: 8:00-4:30
Phone: 573-785-8416

Cape Girardeau County FSA

Office Hours: 8:00-4:30
Phone: 573-243-1467

Dunklin County FSA

Office Hours: 8:00-4:30
Phone: 573-888-2536

Jefferson/Washington FSA

Office Hours: 7:00-4:30
Phone: 636-789-2441

Mississippi County FSA

Office Hours: 8:00-4:30
Phone: 573-649-9930

New Madrid County FSA

Office Hours: 8:00-4:30
Phone: 573-748-2557

Pemiscot County FSA

Office Hours: 7:45-4:30
Phone: 573-333-1923

Perry County FSA

Office Hours: 7:30-4:30
Phone: 573-547-6531

Ripley/Carter County FSA

Office Hours: 7:45-4:30
Phone: 573-996-7116

Scott County FSA

Office Hours: 7:30-4:30
Phone: 573-545-3593

Ste. Genevieve County FSA

Office Hours: 7:00-4:30
Phone: 573-883-2703

St. Francis/Iron County FSA

Office Hours: 7:00-4:30
Phone: 573-756-6488

Stoddard County FSA

Office Hours: 7:00-4:30
Phone: 573-624-5939

Wayne/Madison County FSA

Office Hours: 7:45-4:30
Phone: 573-224-3410

District Director

Billy Swiney
Butler County FSA
Phone: 573-785-8416

Livestock Indemnity Program

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from disaster. Using funds from the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund established under section 902 of the Trade Act of 1974, the program is administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011.

The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and/or application for payment for either 2008 or 2009 livestock losses.

Date of Livestock Death	Final Date to File a Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application for Payment
Calendar Year 2008	Sept. 13, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009
Jan. 1, 2009 to July 12, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009	Jan. 30, 2010
July 13, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2009	30 days after death is apparent	Jan. 30, 2010

For more information on available supplemental disaster assistance programs, please visit your FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

NAP Coverage

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available.

The application deadline date for the 2010 NAP coverage for greens is 9-01-09, value loss 9-01-09, controlled environment 9-01-09, small grains 9-30-09, and strawberries 9-30-09, blueberries, grapes, apples, peaches and pears 11-20-09, rice 2-28-2010, honey 12-1-2009, potatoes 12-31-2009 and all other crops 3-15-2010.

Producers who already have coverage on 2009 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2010, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date.

A new CCC-471, application for coverage, is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops. Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.
- File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail, etc.

For more information on NAP coverage please contact your nearest Farm Service Agency office.

County Committee Meeting Times

Bollinger County

First Thursday of each month at 9:00 am.

Butler County

Third Thursday of each month at 8:00 am.

Cape Girardeau County

First Tuesday of each month at 8:00 am

Dunklin County

Second Thursday of each month at 8:00 am.

Jefferson/Washington

First Wednesday of each month at 8:30

Mississippi County

Second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 am.

New Madrid County

First Tuesday of each month at 8:00 am.

Pemiscot County

Third Friday of each month at 9:00 am.

Perry County

Second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 am.

Ripley/Carter Counties

Second Friday of each month at 9:00 am.

Scott County

Fourth Friday of each month at 8:00 am.

Ste. Genevieve County

Next to Last Thursday of each month at 8:00 am

St. Francois/Iron

First Friday of each month at 9:00

Stoddard County

The Wednesday closest to the 15th of each month at 7:00 am.

Wayne/Madison County

Second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 am.

Continuous CRP Available

USDA has indicated there will not be general signups scheduled for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in 2009. The budget has no available funding for CRP general signups, and instead advocates enrollment in Continuous CRP.

Environmentally sensitive acreage qualifying for the Continuous CRP will be eligible for annual rental payments and cost-share of up to 50 percent on approved practices. This program will remain funded, and continue to provide heightened environmental benefits on select areas.

Payment Limitation Changes

Over time the payment limitation provisions have been expanded to more programs. Some of the changes in this area are listed below.

New forms for 2009 and subsequent years

Anyone that plans to participate in 2009 programs is required to submit a completed CCC-902, CCC-926, and CCC-901, if applicable, for payment eligibility and payment limitation purposes. The form used prior to 2009 was named CCC-502.

Another change for 2009, all must make a contribution in an entity:

All partners, stockholders, or members with an ownership interest in the legal entity must make a contribution, whether compensated or **not** compensated, for active--*

- personal labor,
- active personal management,
- or a combination of active personal labor and active personal management to the farming operation;

*Note: there are exceptions for spouses.

For more detailed information on this and other programs please contact your local FSA office.

CSP PROGRAM SIGN UP

The signup for the new Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) began August 10, 2009 and will run through September 30, 2009. Please be aware that this is a **Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)** program that must be requested at your county NRCS office. FSA can provide some support to NRCS for this signup, such as producer information and maps, but we have no administrative authority over the CSP program and can only refer you to the NRCS office if you are interested.

Electronic Services Available

If a producer has Internet access, program participants can access many services from home 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours.

To participate in these services, you must meet all program eligibility requirements. Online services have stringent security measures to protect your private information.

To utilize electronic services a producer needs an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires an e-mail address and filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/> followed by a visit to the county office for identity verification.

If you have more questions, or would like assistance establishing your account, just contact your local USDA Service Center and talk with our trained FSA personnel.

Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing agriculture-related projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups.

Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS AND LDPs

To be eligible for loans or LDPs, you must comply with conservation and wetland protection requirements, beneficial interest requirements, report your acreage on the farm and ensure that the commodity meets CCC minimum grade and quality standards. You do not have to participate in the DCP or ACRE Program to be eligible for loans or LDPs.

Requesting LDPs is easy with the CCC-633EZ form (Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) Agreement and Request). Complete page 1 of the EZ form indicating your intention to receive LDP benefits before losing beneficial interest. Once you've signed the EZ form you can submit an LDP request at any time during the loan availability period – before or after losing beneficial interest.

ATTENTION COTTON PRODUCERS: The current cotton price is at a level where an LDP payment could be earned. If you think you might be eligible for cotton LDP, please be sure to sign a CCC-633EZ page 1 before losing beneficial interest. You might want to check with your gin to see if your marketing contract allows an LDP.

When it comes to loans, you must have beneficial interest in the commodity on the date you request the loan, and you must retain beneficial interest while the loan is outstanding. Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan – even if you regain beneficial interest.

For commodities to be eligible for loans or LDPs, they must have been produced by an eligible producer, be in existence and in a storable condition and be merchantable for food, feed or other uses as determined by CCC. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan.

The total of LDPs and market loan gains received by a producer is no longer limited by a maximum payment limit. The previous limit of \$75,000 has been lifted by the 2008 farm bill. However, AGI (Adjusted Gross Income) provisions are still in place. If a person's non-farm 3-year Average Adjusted Gross Income exceeds \$500,000/year then that person is ineligible.

Violating provisions of the loan and LDP program may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing monetary damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans and LDPs. The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without prior authorization and providing an incorrect quantity certification.

Farm Storage Facility Loans (NEW RULES)

The Farm Storage Facility Loan program (FSFL) provides low interest financing for producers to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The following are eligible

commodities for farm storage facilities loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other than whole grain
- Pulse crops-lentils, chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (includes nuts) and vegetables- cold storage facilities

A FSA farm storage facility loan must be approved by the local FSA county committee before any site preparation and/or construction can be started.

To be eligible the borrower must:

- produce an eligible facility loan commodity
- have a satisfactory credit rating
- demonstrate the ability to repay the loan
- not have any non-tax federal debt
- demonstrate the need for additional storage
- provide proof of multi peril crop insurance
- provide proof of all peril insurance (including flood insurance if needed) with CCC as loss payee
- comply with USDA provisions for HELC and WC
- comply with the National Environmental Policy Act
- comply with any local zoning, land use and building codes

All loans will be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. For loans that exceed \$50,000 or the borrower's aggregate outstanding principal exceeds \$50,000, the borrower must be able to provide one of the following:

- a first lien on the real estate on which the facility is located
- real estate owned by the borrower other than where the facility is located, provided the real estate offered is sufficient to secure the loan
- a letter of credit from a financial institution in an amount sufficient to protect CCC's interest for each year the loan has an outstanding balance

The maximum loan amount is \$500,000 per loan. CCC can loan up to 85% of the net cost of the eligible facility and equipment. Terms are for 5, 10 or 12 years depending on the amount of the loan. The interest rate is fixed for the entire length of the loan and is based on the rate in effect during the month the loan is initially approved. Loans will not be disbursed until the facility has been erected and inspected with the exception of one qualifying partial disbursement.

Each applicant will be charged a nonrefundable \$100 application fee. CCC will pay all collateral lien searches and recording fees for filing form UCC-1 and credit reports. Applicants pay for all other fees such as severance agreements, attorney fees, real estate lien searches, instrument filing fees and for loans over \$50,000 a title search/opinion or title insurance.

Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged Applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities.

For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

If producers or their spouses believe they would qualify as socially disadvantaged, they should contact their local FSA office for details. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

Selected Interest Rates for August 2009

90-Day Treasury Bill	.125%
Farm Operating Loans -- Direct	3.125%
Farm Ownership Loans -- Direct	5.0%
Farm Ownership Loans -- Down Payment	1.50%
Emergency Loans	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loans	3.125%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.50%

Dates to Remember

9-1-2009	NAP Deadline for greens, value loss, controlled environment crops
9-7-2009	Office closed for Labor Day
9-13-2009	Livestock Indemnity Payment deadline (2008 and 2009 losses)
9-30-2009	NAP Deadline for strawberries and fall seeded small grains
11-20-09	NAP deadline for apples, apricots, grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, blueberries
12-1-09	NAP deadline for honey
12-31-09	NAP deadline for potatoes
2-28-2010	NAP deadline for rice
3-15-2010	NAP deadline for all other crops

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.