



## Caldwell County FSA Office

23 West Main St.  
Kingston, MO 64650

816-586-2711 phone  
816-586-2067 fax

### Hours

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

### November 2010 Issue No 5

#### County Office Staff

Debbie Clevenger,  
*County Executive  
Director*

Annette Brandt,  
*Farm Loan Manager*

#### Program Technicians

Betty Dunscombe  
Debbie Leeper  
Carol Gorham  
Mary Finch

Mark Burnett,  
*Field Assistant*

#### County Committee

Terry Wright, Chair.  
Joe Graham, Vice  
Kevin Stonum,  
Member  
Wanda Stubbs,  
Advisor

*County Committee meets the  
last Thursday of each month  
at 8:30 a.m.*

Visit our Website at:  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/mo](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo)

## Voting for County Committee Deadline is December 6<sup>th</sup>

Ballots for this year's county committee election were mailed to eligible voters in the townships of Lincoln, Davis, Fairview, and Breckenridge on November 5, 2010. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on December 6, 2010. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 6, 2010. The candidates in this year's election are:

- Lee Anderson is nominated in LAA 3, Caldwell County, to serve as a committee member. Anderson is a Braymer resident and has produced wheat, beans, and corn for fifty-one years. Lee has land in the CRP and has raised cattle and hogs in the past. He is an MFA Oil Delegate and has previously served on the ASCS County Committee. Lee has also served as a Township Board member for Fairview Township.
- Tomme S. Feil is nominated in LAA 3, Caldwell County, to serve as a committee member. Feil and her family are Braymer residents and she has produced cattle and hay for thirty years. Tomme is a Braymer Alumni Board Member, a member of the Caldwell County Extension Council, and is Chairman of the Trustees for the Braymer Baptist Church.

Eligible voters in local administrative area 3 (townships of Lincoln, Davis, Fairview, and Breckenridge) who have not received a ballot should contact the FSA county office staff. **Voter Requirements**—Persons meeting requirements in

**1 or 2, plus 3**, below, are eligible to vote:

1. Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either of the following: an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper, *or* a partner in a general partnership or member of a joint venture that has an interest in a farm as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper; or
2. Not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm; *and*
3. Eligible to participate in any FSA program that is provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

**Discrimination Prohibited** No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

## Crop Assistance Program

Sign-up for the Crop Assistance Program (CAP) began October 25, 2010, and will continue through December 9, 2010. Up to \$550 million in disaster assistance will be issued to producers of rice, upland

cotton, soybeans and sweet potatoes that suffered losses because of excessive moisture or related conditions in 2009. Missouri producers with land physically located in Caldwell County that suffered losses in 2009 because of excessive moisture or related conditions are eligible. **The deadline to sign-up for CAP is December 9, 2010.**

CAP will provide financial assistance to producers in Caldwell County who are still feeling the effects of the quality and quantity losses to soybeans caused by excess moisture and related conditions in 2009.

Producers of eligible crops in disaster counties who certify to a five percent or greater crop loss in 2009 due to excessive moisture or related conditions will receive a payment based on a predetermined payment rate times the planted acres of the crop. FSA will not consider acres in late-filed acreage reports on or after Monday Oct. 25, 2010 to be eligible acres for CAP. Per acre payment rates will be prorated by FSA in order to keep payments within available funds for the program. Producers will initially receive 75 percent of their CAP payment and once sign-up is complete they may receive up to an additional 25 percent.

The predetermined per-acre payment rate for soybeans is \$15.62.

The general eligibility provisions, payment limits and adjusted gross income limits that apply to FSA programs apply to CAP. No person or legal entity (excluding a joint venture or general partnership), may receive, directly or indirectly, more than \$100,000 in CAP benefits. Additionally, CAP payments will be treated as 2009 revenue under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program.



For more information about the CAP or any other disaster assistance programs, visit your local FSA county office or to view the CAP factsheet go to: [http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/cap10pfs.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/cap10pfs.pdf).

## **CCC-927 or CCC-928 Must Be Sent To IRS**

Producers who participated in 2009 or 2010 programs subject to adjusted gross income limitations (AGI) had to certify compliance with AGI rules. The average AGI verification process for 2009 and 2010 payment eligibility requires all program participants to provide written consent to IRS for the disclosure of certain information to FSA.

On October 6, 2010, a letter was mailed to producers who have not submitted:

- CCC-927: “Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-Individual Form”
- CCC-928: “Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-Legal Entity form”

Individuals and legal entities, including members of legal entities, that certified to average AGI compliance for 2009 and/or 2010 payment eligibility must submit a completed CCC-927 or CCC-928 to IRS regardless of whether they received program benefits directly or as a member of a joint operation or entity. These forms must be submitted to IRS in order to avoid a demand for refund of program payments and benefits received.

## **Changing Banks**

If you have changed banks and not notified FSA, your payment could be delayed. Payments are electronically transferred into your bank account, if we are not aware of changes to your account and routing numbers, there could be problems. In order to make timely payments, you need to notify the office if you close your account or if another financial institution purchases your bank. It is important that any changes in producer’s account such as type account, bank mergers, routing number or account numbers, be provided to the county office promptly to avoid possible payment delay.

## **FSA Conservation Loan Program**

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and guarantees conservation loans on farms to help conserve our natural resources. The Conservation Loan (CL) Program provides farmers with the credit necessary to implement conservation measures on their land.

The direct CLs loan limit is up to \$300,000 and guaranteed CLs up to \$1,119,000 (amount adjusted for inflation), may be available by applying with lenders working with FSA to obtain a guarantee.

Applicants will work with Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) Staff to develop a conservation plan. Conservation practices must be approved by NRCS before FSA can provide financing. Examples of conservation practices include installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; transitioning to organic production; manure management, including manure digestion systems; etc.

For more information on the Conservation Loan program, contact your local FSA office to setup an appointment with a Loan Approval Official. Or visit the Missouri FSA website at: [www.fsa.usda.gov/mo](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo) and select the “County Offices” link to locate the nearest FSA office.

## **Farm Loan Year End Reviews**

Producers who have a farm loan with FSA are reminded they must provide data for their Year-End Analysis (YEA) to their loan officer each year. Borrowers are urged to provide this information timely so that their files can be maintained. The office will contact you for the data you will need to provide us.

## **Applications for FSA Farm Loan Assistance**

Farmers and ranchers who intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Failure to apply early may result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications. Contact your local FSA Farm Loan representative for more details and assistance in applying.

## **DCP and ACRE Signup for 2011**

Producers are encouraged to begin coming to the office to enroll their farms in the 2011 program. Advance payments will be available.

Selected Interest Rates for November 2010	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.000%
Farm Ownership and Conservation Loans — Direct	4.125%
Limited Resource Loans	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans —Beginning Farmer Down Payment	1.500%
Emergency Loans	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 7 year	1.875%
Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 10 year	2.500%
Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 12 year	2.750%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.250%

## New Financial Management Webpage

Producers who have level 2 e-authentication access can use the new Public Financial Management Information web page. The website allows producers to generate reports that show both current and historical financial information. This resource will allow users to view details on payments, collections and outstanding debt. The website is a great tool for producers to conveniently access financial information at any time. To view the Financial Management Information web page, visit

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/fmi>. Please contact your county office if you have any questions regarding the web page. **Note: Website use requires level 2 e-authentication access. Follow the steps below to obtain level 2 access...**

1. Go to [www.eauth.egov.usda.gov](http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov), complete a customer profile and submit it online.
2. After submitting your customer profile, you will receive a confirmation email, and you must respond to it within 7 days to activate your account
3. Then you must complete the “Identity Proofing” process by visiting a local USDA Service Center and presenting a photo ID, such as your driver’s license.

## Paper Check Conversion – Over the Counter (PCC –OTC)

Over the next year, FSA/CCC is moving toward an electronic method for processing producers’ checks. This will allow FSA/CCC to process collections faster. When producers present checks, either in person or through the mail, the checks will be converted into an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). The funds will be debited from the producer’s account, usually within 24 hours of receipt. Please see the U.S. Department of Treasury legal notices posted in the Service Center or visit the following U.S. Department of Treasury Internet site for detailed information:

<https://www.pccotc.gov/pccotc/pcc/usingpcc/Legal%20Notices/legalnotices.htm>

**Note:** FSA/CCC will begin this process in the coming months.

### What is PCC - OTC?

PCC – OTC is a process for converting paper checks presented to FSA into electronic debits to the producer’s bank account. It presents many benefits, such as reducing lost/misplaced checks and paper handling. This improves customer relations, speeds the check clearing process, and reduces the potential for human error.

### How will my checks be handled?

If the check is presented in person, the check will be scanned into the system, voided, and stamped with the words, “Electronically Processed” or “Electronically Presented” and the voided check will be returned to the customer. If the check is mailed to FSA, the check will be scanned into the system and voided. The customer will not receive the check back from FSA. FSA will hold checks for up to 14 calendar days to ensure that the item was successfully processed, and then FSA will shred the check.

### How quickly will funds be transferred from my account?

The transfer of funds from your account could occur within 24 hours. Therefore, you should be sure that you have sufficient funds in your account to process the transaction. If you do **not** have sufficient funds, we may initiate the transaction again.

**How will this transaction appear on my account statement?**

The transfer of funds will be reflected on your account statement. The transaction may be recorded in a different place on your statement than where your checks normally appear, such as under “other withdrawals” or “other transactions”.

**What are my rights if there is a problem with the transaction?**

You have protections under Federal law for an unauthorized electronic fund transfer from your account. You should contact your financial institution immediately if you believe that the transaction reported on your account statement was not properly authorized or is otherwise incorrect.

Dates to Remember	
Dec. 6	<b>Last day</b> to return voted Ballots in county committee election.
Dec. 9	Crop Assistance Program (CAP) <b>signup ends.</b>
Dec 24	Office Closed for Christmas Celebration
Dec 31	Office Closed for New Year’s Celebration
Jan 17	Office Closed to Observe Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loan Program.
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program.

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**Military Farmers Recognized**

Any Caldwell County Farmer who has or is currently serving in the military, is asked to submit a picture to the county office so we can keep our “Caldwell County Farmer Wall of Honor” updated. Please stop by to view the display we currently have.

**Report Your Wheat Acres**

Please stop by the office and report the wheat you sowed this past fall while the acreage is fresh on your mind. You should always report the same acreage to FSA that your report to Crop Insurance.

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”