



# Clark County FSA

## *Farm Program Sign Up Dates*

Producers may now enroll in the 2010 DCP and/or ACRE Program. Signup ends June 1, 2010.

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 to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price for each covered commodity equals the direct payment rate plus the higher of the national average market price received by farmers during the 12-month marketing year or the national average loan rate.

Producers who are eligible for the DCP Program will also be eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program.

The ACRE program was new for 2009 and is a farm by farm election. ACRE payments are calculated based on the actual crop acres planted (up to the previous crop base). Crop revenue will be determined by using the farm's previous 5 year production yields times prices based on a two year average. For 2010, the two-year price average will be based on the 2008 and 2009 crop years. The election to enroll in the ACRE program is irrevocable. The owner(s) of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled in ACRE, the farm will remain in ACRE through 2012 crop year. By enrolling in ACRE producers would give up some current benefits: a 20% reduction in direct payments, a 30% reduction in marketing assistance loan rates, and no counter-cyclical payments.

ACRE payments are triggered when both the Actual State Revenue for the crop year for the covered commodity is less than ACRE Program Guarantee AND Actual Farm Revenue is less than the Farm ACRE Benchmark Revenue.

## *Adjusted Gross Income Certification*

Producers will be required to certify their AGI (Adjusted Gross Income) again this year when applying for benefits. Currently the provisions are as follows: **Average non-farm AGI** cannot exceed \$500,000 to qualify for commodity program benefits, **farm average AGI** cannot exceed \$750,000 to remain eligible for direct crop base payments and **average adjusted non-farm income** cannot exceed one million (with some exceptions) to remain eligible for Conservation programs. The rules for AGI provisions changed significantly last year and producers should be sure to review all information carefully before making their certification.

## *USDA FOOD DRIVE*

The USDA employees will be conducting a Food Drive from December 7 through December 17. Please remember to bring in your non-perishable items when you attend Open House on Tuesday, December 8. Items collected will be donated to the local food pantry.

*Thank You!*

### Farm Service Agency

#### Hours:

Monday - Friday

7:30 a.m - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 660-727-3364

Fax: 660-727-3089

### Farm Program Staff

Kim Meinhardt

Kim Taylor

Nancy Webster

Caren Whitehead

CED: Sharon Marks

### Farm Loan Staff:

Karma Hillyer

Bill Bonine

FLM: Kurt Shelangoski

### County Committee:

Harold Hall, Chrmn.

Matt Plenge, V. Chrmn.

Barbara Parrish, Member

District Director: Tom Balsler

Area Farm Loan Specialist:

Mike Arnold

FSA Website:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>



## SWCD Information

### *TREE APPLICATIONS:*

Tree applications are available at the NRCS/SWCD office. Seedling bundles range from \$4 to \$30. A handling charge of \$5 is added to each order. Holder of the Missouri Conservation Heritage Card can receive a 15% discount up to \$20 off their seedling purchases. **ORDERS ARE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE BASIS** until supplies are depleted. April 30, 2010, is the last day to order.



### *RENTAL EQUIPMENT:*

Mulcher (1/2 day) \$60

The bale processor (mulcher) can be used to mulch waterways, structures, diversions, and critical area seedings.

Call the office for rates on the following: rootplow, sodcutter, plastic pipe sales.

There is no charge for the following: Tree spades, level, tripod and rod.

Call Elaine at (660) 727-3364, Extension 101 for more information.

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SWCD Employees:

Elaine Brotherton, Clerk

Roy Stice, Technician

Kim McNamar, District Aide

## *Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE)*

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) is a permanent disaster program created by the 2008 Farm Bill that replaces the previous “ad hoc” crop disaster program. Unlike previous disaster programs that paid for losses by unit and crop, the SURE program is a “total farm” disaster program. This revenue based program compares crops’ expected revenue and program guarantee dollar amount to the actual crop revenue of the entire farming operation. **Entire farming operation refers to all farms, all interests, in all counties.**

In order to be eligible for payments under SURE, you are required to carry insurance on all crops with an economic significance of 5% or greater, within the farming operation. Crop insurance coverage of CAT level or higher for insurable crops and/or NAP coverage for non insurable crops is required. In 2009 and subsequent years, RMA’s Rainfall index policy is acceptable coverage for hay acres. For the SURE program, grazing acres do not require coverage.

The SURE program is available to eligible producers if two ‘triggers’ are met. First, the county must have received a Secretarial Disaster declaration due to Natural Disaster, or be contiguous to a county with the declaration. Second, at least one crop of economic significance must have a 10% crop production loss. In the absence of a secretarial declaration, any farm in which actual production for all crops is 50% of normal production may also qualify. Clark County had a Secretarial Disaster Declaration in 2008.

For qualifying producers, if the total farm revenue is less than the SURE program guarantee, the SURE payment is made at 60% of the difference. The SURE guarantee is very similar to a producer’s crop insurance guarantee, so, depending on the coverage levels, the higher the coverage the higher the guarantee level will be. Payments can be calculated and pay up to 90% of the crops normal production on the farm. There is an online calculator that can help producers estimate probable payments. You may access the calculator at [www.fsa.usda.gov/mo](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo).

Sign up for the SURE program for 2008 losses is anticipated in the near future. To initiate an application, eligible producers should visit their local county FSA office. When available, office personnel will be able to access RMA informational downloads with applicable data. If a producer has production evidence that is not obtainable through the RMA download, i.e. double crop soybeans, hay/forage, fruits and/or vegetables, the producer must bring that production evidence with them. Regardless of insurance type or coverage level, there is economic stimulus funding that has created additional options under the SURE program. Every producer and every farming situation will be different, so it is in the best interest of each producer to inquire about the SURE program.

Since the SURE program is available through 2011, as a producer, you can prepare your operation for SURE eligibility by insuring all economically significant crops in all counties.

### *2010 Non-Insured Crops*

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. For instance: alfalfa, mixed grass hay/pasture, double crop soybeans. Deadline for purchasing NAP on these crops is March 15, 2010. Fee is \$250 per crop not to exceed \$750 per county.



## *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 need to provide.

## *Operating Loan Applications Needed Now*

Farmers who plan to apply to the Farm Service Agency for annual operating loan assistance next year are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. The earlier an application for loan assistance is filed, the quicker the FSA staff can process your request. In addition, due to budget constraints, farmers who wait until later in the year to apply, often run the risk of finding out that our funding allocations have been utilized already. Farmers should also contact our office to set up an appointment with Kurt Shelangoski (Farm Loan Manager) or Bill Bonine (Farm Loan Officer) for information as to what is required in order to have a complete loan application on file. Decisions on loans can not be made until a complete application is received.

## *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 improvement of 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.

## *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 the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all of the payments you've received to date.

Please contact the County Office staff if you have any questions about what benefits may be affected when buying/selling property.

*The USDA Service Center Will Be Closed:*

*December 25 in observance of Christmas*

*January 1 in observance of New Year's Day*



## **LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS And MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS**

March 31, 2010 is the last day to request a CCC loan on 2009-crop wheat. May 31, 2010 is the last day for 2009-crop corn, soybeans, and grain sorghum.

Loan rates are:

Corn \$2.00/bushel  
Soybeans \$5.12/bushel

There is a loan service fee for CCC grain loans. It is the lesser of:

- 1/2 of 1% of the gross loan amount
- \$45 + \$3 for each additional bin or warehouse receipt over 1

Producers with farm-stored grain under loan **MUST** get a "release" from our office **BEFORE** moving mortgaged grain. You may call in or stop by the office if you are not locking in a rate. Releases may be for 15 or 30 days. Releases are issued only when a producer needs to deliver and sell the commodity to repay the loan. Grain may be moved **ONLY** during the 15 or 30 day release period.

## **Reasonable Accommodations**

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call the FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.



*We cordially invite you to the annual*

# OPEN HOUSE

*December 8 (Tuesday)*

*9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*



- FSA \*
- NRCS \*
- SWCD \*
- MDC \*

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