



NEWSLETTER



Please Note the Following Items:

May 2011

Clinton County FSA

1800 W HWY 116

Plattsburg, MO 64477

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DCP /ACRE SIGNUP DEADLINE IS JUNE 1, 2011. HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YET THIS YEAR?

Yearly crop acreage reports are a requirement for participation in government programs. June 30th is the deadline to report wheat and July 31st is the deadline for Spring planted crops, CRP and grass/hay.

Hours

Monday – Friday

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

County Committee

Mary Ann Barmann

Jerald Grimes

Craig Evans

The COC meets the first Thursday of every month at 9:00 a.m.

STAFF

Chris Broderick, PT

Peggy Rapp, PT

Norma Stransky, PT

Annette Brandt, FLM

Kent Allen, CED

Visit our Website at:
www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

DCP Signup Deadline June 1st

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Countercyclical Program (DCP) will continue through **June 1, 2011**. Advance payments of 22% on the 2011 DCP program are available. The remaining 78% of your DCP payment will be issued after October 1, 2011. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices.

DCP contract signatures for enrollment are due by the signup deadline of June 1, 2011. Please call 81-539-2136, ext 2, to schedule your enrollment appointment as soon as possible.

The ACRE Option

The Average Crop Revenue Election (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. 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. An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss.

FSA eAlerts

Missouri FSA introduces FSA eAlerts—a new way to receive FSA program reminders via e-mail or text. You can sign up for eAlerts at your County Office and choose whether you would like to receive information via e-mail, text or both. If you elect to receive information by text, remember standard text messaging rates apply. Consult with your cellular carrier to discuss your text plan details. You can opt out of receiving FSA eAlerts at any time.

You will still receive your FSA newsletter, but Missouri FSA will discontinue sending postcard reminders for upcoming sign ups and deadlines. FSA eAlerts are provided as an additional service to Missouri FSA producers. Always refer to your county office newsletter for program information and bookmark www.fsa.usda.gov/mo to check back frequently for program deadlines and information.

2009 CROP YEAR SURE SIGNUP

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) began Jan. 10, 2011, and ends July 29, 2011. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. A farm enrolled in SURE may be eligible for benefits when either:



- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, have incurred crop production or quality losses, or both, and **include all crops grown by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops.**
- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production of the farm because of disaster related conditions is less than 50% or less than normal production of the farm.

If you believe that you might be eligible for SURE, please call 816-539-2136, ext 2. We will access your RMA (crop insurance) informational downloads and discuss the applicable eligibility requirements with you prior to your office visit.

Conservation Plan Weather Variance

During the 2010 growing season, many areas of Missouri received excessive rainfall amounts. Farmers were forced to complete harvest under extreme wet conditions. The excessive moisture caused rutted up fields and loss of residue. As a result, operators will have to decide how to maintain their approved conservation system during planting season.

This year NRCS can grant a temporary variance for 2011 due to excessive rainfall. This variance allows farmers to restore affected areas to pre-event conditions prior to planting and avoid noncompliance. All tracts granted this variance will be placed on the 2012 compliance review list. It is very important that the NRCS office is notified prior to beginning intended field work.

CRP Transition Incentives

Transition Incentives Program (TIP) sign-up is under way. Through TIP, retired or retiring owners or operators are encouraged to transition their Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres to beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers.

TIP provides annual rental payments to the retiring farmer for up to two additional years after the date of the expiration of the CRP contract, provided the transition is not to a family member.

To be eligible, TIP requires that the retired or retiring farmer or rancher:

- Have land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) that is in the last year of the contract.
- Agree to allow the beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher to make conservation and land improvements.
- Agree to sell, or have a contract to sell, or agree to long-term lease (a minimum of 5 years) the land under CRP contract to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher by Oct. 1 of the year the CRP contract expires.

To learn more please contact your FSA County Office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

Continuous CRP Practices Available

In addition to the CRP general sign up that just ended at FSA offices, producers can also take advantage of the Continuous CRP Program. Environmentally sensitive acreage qualifying for enrollment through the Continuous CRP program may be offered anytime during the year. These environmentally-targeted programs remain funded, and continue to provide heightened environmental benefits for selected areas. Please contact your FSA office for complete details.

USDA Announces May Deadline for Biomass Crop Assistance Program Proposals

Actively Engaged

USDA has amended the rules that govern the requirements to be 'actively engaged' in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Countercyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program administered by FSA. Normally the stockholder or a member of a legal entity **must** make contributions of active personal labor and/or active personal management for the farming operation. The contributions are to be performed on a regular basis, must be identifiable, and separate from the contributions of others.

The exception to this rule for a stockholder or member of a legal entity only occurs when both of the following apply:

- At least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management; and
- The total direct payments received by the legal entity and each of the members can't exceed \$40,000.

FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs.

If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available. Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,119,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner.

The USDA Farm Service has announced the deadline for project area proposals for the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP). To be considered, proposals must be submitted to the applicable state office by close of business, May 27, 2011.

BCAP was authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill and provides incentives to eligible farmers, ranchers and forest landowners for the establishment and production of biomass crops for heat, power, bio-based products and biofuels. BCAP project areas are specific geographic areas where producers grow eligible biomass crops. Producers then receive annual payments for growing those crops. For more information, visit the USDA Farm Service Agency's website at www.fsa.usda.gov/bcap. The BCAP project area proposal submission form, BCAP Form 20, is available online at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/bcap_form_20.pdf.

Failed Acres

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition (destroying) of the crop. Producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions. Failed acreage can be reported after it has been planted to another crop if insurance verification is received by the FSA office before the crop reporting deadline.

Prevented Planting

Prevented planting is to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date. Check with your local office to find the final planting date for your crop and farm. Filing an accurate acreage report can prevent the loss of benefits for a Variety of programs.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

DGP SIGNUP DEADLINE IS JUNE 1ST.

May 30 Memorial Day Holiday. USDA Office closed.

May 31 Final loan availability date for 2010 crop year corn, grain sorghum, and soybeans.

JUNE 30TH IS THE FINAL DATE TO TIMELY REPORT WHEAT.

July 4 Independence Day Holiday. USDA Office Closed

July 15 Deadline to submit 2010 production for ACRE Farms.

JULY 31ST IS THE FINAL DATE TO TIMELY REPORT SPRING PLANTED CROPS AND CRP.

Are You Getting eAlerts Yet?

Producers who utilize email and cell phone texts messages can now receive urgent and timely FSA updates! Interested producers may sign up for eAlerts at your County Office and choose whether you would like to receive information via e-mail, text or both. Please see the enclosed article for complete details.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GREATLY REDUCE YOUR TIME SPENT IN THE FSA OFFICE?

If so, please call 816-539-2136, ext 2 to schedule your appointment prior to visiting us! Scheduling appointments allows us to prepare for your arrival and **greatly** reduces your waiting time.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. 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).