

MISSOURI DISTRICT 4



United States
Department of
Agriculture

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Direct Deposit

The Debt Collection Act of 1996 mandates that payments from FSA be directly deposited into a producer's bank account. A transaction statement will be sent indicating the payment type and amount. Recently, all FSA payment processing was centralized. This means county offices no longer print checks locally and will also no longer produce and mail payment statements. Both will now be issued from a central location. If you still receive your payments by check, it is important to note that it may now take up to 10 business days to receive your check in the mail. Those receiving their payments by direct deposit should see no change in the 3 day time-frame for receipt of the payment.

2009 Direct and Counter Cyclical Payment (DCP) Program

FSA offices are now signing up producers for the 2009 DCP program. The sign-up period ends June 1. Beginning with the 2009 crop year, regulations no longer provide for a "late-filed" signup period or fee. Accordingly, enrollment is not permitted after June 1, 2009.

DCP contracts cannot be approved until all producers have signed the DCP contract and/or submitted all applicable documentation **on or before June 1, 2009**. All DCP participants will be required to file new payment eligibility documents including, but not limited to, a new farm operating plan and adjusted gross income certification.

Advance payments of 22% are available upon request, provided all applicable program or payment eligibility requirements are met.

Current crop year changes to the farming operation such as ownership, operator, or crop share changes that occur after the DCP contract is signed must be reported to the FSA office so a revised contract can be signed by all producers by September 30, 2009.

TIPS FOR SIGN UP:

Call ahead to see if an appointment is needed.

PRIOR to your appointment/visit report any ownership, operator or share changes to the FSA office so that your farm records will be current when you arrive.

If signing on behalf of another individual or an entity, make sure all required signature authority documentation is in place.

All participants on the contract will be required to complete form FSA-926 (Adjusted Gross Income Certification) each year from 2009 to 2012.

New Adjusted Gross Income Limits

The 2008 Farm Bill provided new regulations for Adjusted Gross Income limitations. The chart below provides the new limits. For a more detailed explanation, including exceptions for conservation program benefits, contact your local office.

If Average AGI...	Exceeds...	Then ineligible for...
Non-farm Income	\$500,000	Commodity program benefits
Farm Income	\$750,000	DCP direct payments
Non-farm Income	\$1,000,000	Conservation programs

MILC Sign-up

Producers may now sign their Milk Income Loss Contract. As of January, no payment rate has been in effect.

Correction

The August 2008 FSA newsletter incorrectly omitted Johnsongrass as a noxious weed in Carroll County.

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2009 Women in Agriculture and Ag Landowners Regional Conference

The 6th Annual Women in Agriculture and Ag Landowners Conference will be held Friday March 13 at the Martin Civic Center in Marshall. This year's keynote address will be given by syndicated columnist and author Dr. Val Farmer. The luncheon address will be provided by author and fiddle player Howard Marshall. Workshop topics include the New Farm Bill, Estate Planning, Barns & Quilts, Farmers Markets, Trees, Farm Land & Rent Values, Federal & State Conservation Programs, and much more!

Register by calling the Saline County Extension Center at 660-886-6908 before March 11th.

Reporting Changes

It's very important to update your FSA office on any changes to your farming operation. Any of the following changes affect your participation in FSA's farm programs.

- ♦ Ownership changes (buying or selling farmland)
- ♦ Operator changes (adding or changing)
- ♦ Crop share changes (increasing or decreasing shares and/or crops)

Report any of the above changes to your FSA office as soon as possible so your records can be updated in preparation for program sign up and participation. Report ownership changes after the transaction is final. Provide FSA with a copy of proof of ownership such as:

- ♦ a copy of the deed,
- ♦ a land contract, or
- ♦ a legal document that contains a legal description of the land and names you as the owner.

Due to new regulations, requests to change or add an operator to a farm must be made in writing by the owner. Any changes to the owner, operator, or crop shares should be finalized before initiating any program contracts, including DCP and CRP. Changes can be made after contracts are initiated; however, advance payments may have to be refunded before the contract can be modified.

It's also important to keep powers of attorney up to date. Power of Attorney (POA) form, FSA-211, can only be revoked in writing. If you granted POA to an operator, he can still sign documents on your behalf, even after he no longer operates your land, unless you have properly revoked the POA. It's a good idea to periodically review the POAs you have on file at your local FSA office to keep them current.

Prescribed Burn Workshops

Three prescribed burn workshops will be held in the area. These workshops will cover burn equipment, safety, how to conduct a prescribed burn, how to install firelines and how to get a prescribed burn plan. This workshop should help prepare landowners to conduct prescribed burns on their property, including on CRP lands that require Mid-contract Management, such as prescribed fire.

Jamestown Community Center	Blind Pony Conservation Area	Davisdale Conservation Area Shop
Thursday January 29 Jamestown Chris Newbold 573-796-0286	Friday March 6 Sweet Springs Brent Vandeloecht 660-886-7447 ext 112 Steven Noll 660-248-3358 ext 119	Friday, April 3 Fayette Brent Vandeloecht 660-886-7447 ext 112 Steven Noll 660-248-3358 ext 119

District 4 Committee Election Results			
County	LAA	Townships	Elected Member
Benton	1	Alexander, Fristoe, Union, Tom	Brenda Joyce Arnett
Carroll	3	Ridge, Rockford, Carrollton, Combs, DeWitt, Eugene, Miami	Gary Sanders
Chariton	3	Clark, Musclefork, Keytesville, Bowling Green, Chariton	George Schupback
Clay	4	Lawson, Excelsior Springs, Missouri City, East 1/2 of Liberty, East 1/2 of Kearney	Ronald H. Bogue
Cooper	1	Boonville Rural 4, Clarks Fork, North Moniteau, Prairie Home, South Moniteau	Warren Graff
Henry	2	Walker, Davis, Clinton, Deepwater, Bearcreek, Fairview	Stanley Nold
Howard	1	Prairie, Burton, Bonne Femme	Robert G. Kirby
Johnson	1	Jackson, Columbus, Hazelhill, Simpson, Grover	Wallace Collett
Lafayette	2	Sin-A-Bar, Washington, Freedom	Robert Ramey
Pettis	3	Cedar, Bowling Green, Sedalia, Smithton, Lake Creek	Thomas Oelrichs
Randolph	1	Clifton, Jackson, Salt River, Salt Springs	Joel Land
Ray	2	Polk, Fishing River, North 1/2 of Richmond	Michael Taylor
Saline	1	Arrow Rock, Cambridge, Clay, Salt Fork	Edna Durham

Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE)

Beginning in 2009, producers will have a new option available through the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE). ACRE is a component of the Farm Bill safety net that protects against crop revenue shortfall resulting from price and production declines at the state and farm level. This program provides “counter-cyclical” protection on crops a producer plants, not on the farm’s historical plantings.

If a producer chooses to participate in ACRE, then he or she agrees to the following: no Direct & Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP) counter-cyclical payments, a 20 percent reduction in DCP direct payments, and a 30 percent reduction in marketing assistance loan rates. A farm must have base acres to participate. A producer may participate in ACRE on one farm not on another farm, but **ALL** producers on a farm must choose the same option. Requirements of ACRE include five years of production data and an annual submission of production records.

How can farmers decide if ACRE payments will be higher or lower than payments under traditional programs? Payments will be contingent upon what occurs for that particular year. For payments to be issued, two triggers must be met. First, the State Level Guarantee must exceed the Actual State Revenue. Secondly, the expected Farm Revenue Benchmark must exceed Actual Farm Revenue. If one of the two benchmarks is not met, no payment will be issued.

An election must be made by June 1 of the contract year. Enrollment in ACRE is similar to enrollment in DCP. In addition to DCP rules, ACRE participants must report production. The election to participate in ACRE is irrevocable after June 1 of the year of election through Fiscal Year 2012.

The sign-up and additional details will be announced as they become available. For any additional questions please feel free to contact your local FSA office.

**GENERAL RULE:
ONCE IN ACRE,
ALWAYS IN ACRE!**

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

To remain eligible for disaster assistance under the SURE program, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) coverage for all their insurable crops and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for all their non-insurable crops. **In order to remain eligible for the new disaster programs, every crop in every county that a producer has an interest in must be covered by either CAT or NAP coverage, unless one of the following exemptions apply.**

- ♦ Acres that are **grazed only** do not require insurance.
- ♦ Any crop valued at less than 5% of the total expected value of all crops grown by the producer does not require insurance.
- ♦ Any NAP crop with a total value less than \$9,090.90 does not require

insurance.

- ♦ Socially disadvantaged producers, limited resource producers, and beginning farmers are exempt from paying the fees, but still must request coverage

CAT coverage can be obtained from a FCIC agent. NAP coverage can be obtained at your local FSA office. **The deadline to obtain CAT and NAP coverage for spring-seeded crops is March 15th. No late-filed applications will be accepted.**

The fees for NAP coverage are \$250 per crop, but not more than \$750 per county, or \$1875 total per producer, for all counties. Contact your crop insurance agent for CAT fee rates.

Contact your local FSA office for additional information on the SURE program.

DISTRICT 4 SERVICE CENTERS

Jasper Grant, District Director
(573)876-0925

(All offices are open Monday thru Friday)

Benton County

Annette Steelman, CED
535 North Hwy 65
Lincoln, MO 65338
(660)547-2351
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Carroll County

Chuck Riley, CED
Annette Brandt, FLM
1405 Hwy 65 North, Suite A
Carrollton, MO 64633
(660)542-8732
Office Hours: 7:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Chariton County

Julie Stoecklein, CED
Robert K. Hardwick, FLM
104 South J.F.K. Avenue
Keytesville, MO 65261
(660)288-3279
Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Cooper County

Connie Gibson, CED
Jct. 87 & I-70 17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233
(660)882-5647
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Henry County

Bill Spry, CED
1306 North 2nd Street
Clinton, MO 64735
(660)885-5567
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Howard County

Brian McDonald, CED
743 State Route DD
Fayette, MO 65248
(660)248-3384
Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Johnson County

Kyle Meyer, CED
727 PCA Road Suite A
Warrensburg, MO 64093
(660)747-8400
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Lafayette County

Vacant, CED
Brian Bagnell, FLM
120 W. 19th Street
Higginsville, MO 64037
(660)584-8732
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Pettis County

Jay O'Bannon, CED
Steven Lair, FLM
1407 W. 32nd Street
Sedalia, MO 65301
(660)826-3339
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Randolph County

Eddie Mckeown, CED
2995 County Rd 1325
Moberly, MO 65270
(660)263-1169
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Ray/Clay County

Jarrell Foreman, CED
500 Wollard Blvd.
Richmond, MO 64085
(816)776-5861
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Saline County

Jared Singer, CED
704 N. Miami
Marshall, MO 65340
(660)886-7447
Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Missouri District 4
Jct. 87 & I-70
17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233-9640

Official Business

District 4 Employee News

Carroll County

Katie Wilson is the new Conservation and Emergency Program's technician for the Carroll County FSA. Katie graduated from Carrollton High School in 2005. She then attended State Fair Community College in Sedalia. Katie started with the Carroll County office in October 2007, so you may recognize her face.

Carroll County will also have a new employee starting on January 20th: Tarah Hilbrenner. We wish her good luck as she is fresh to the new programs.

Cooper County

Cooper county welcomes to their staff Linda Young. Linda is not new to the workings of the USDA, but she is new to FSA. Linda began at the Cooper County office in June 2008; previously she worked for the Cooper SWCD for 21yrs. Linda is tackling the Conservation Program for Cooper County. Linda and her husband live south of Boonville, and have three grown children and five of the cutest, smartest grandchildren in the world. Linda is excited about her career change and is looking forward to serving the producers of Cooper County.

1099-G Mailed End of January

A summary of all earned payments during the 2008 calendar year will be mailed to program participants during the last week of January. If you do not receive a 1099-G and believe that you should have, or if you have questions about your 1099-G, contact your local FSA office.

Saline County

Rebecca Malter started in Saline County September 2008, but became a permanent employee in late December. Rebecca is handling the Conservation program for Saline County. Rebecca graduated from Central Methodist University in Fayette, Mo. She and her husband live in rural Malta Bend with their two young children. They are also involved in the family farm of row crops and livestock.

Johnson County

Kyle A Meyer is the new County Executive Director for Johnson County. Kyle is a Johnson County native, growing up on a small farm northeast of Warrensburg. He is a graduate of Concordia High School and Central Missouri State University. Kyle worked for the FSA in the past, as the Farm Loan Officer for the Pettis County FSA office before making the move to County Executive Director. Kyle is thrilled to work with the staff and producers of Johnson County.

Randolph County

Program Technician Sammie Cross retired January 2, 2009. A reception was held at the office in celebration of his 31 years of service.



CONGRATULATIONS SAMMIE!
