



Missouri DISTRICT 4 NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2009



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Missouri FSA State Executive Director Announced

The Obama Administration has appointed Edward J. Hamill of Perry, Mo., to serve as the Missouri State Executive Director for USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). Hamill, previously the Ralls County Executive Director in New London, Mo., assumed the duties on July 13, 2009.

"Edward Hamill has a solid understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our rural communities and will help build on the Obama Administration's efforts to rebuild and revitalize rural America," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack.

Hamill has been with the Farm Service Agency since 1979. In the position as County Executive Director, he has delivered all major farm bill legislation to Ralls County farmers and landowners, managed County FSA staff, and worked with the County FSA Committee to implement programs.



▲ Edward J Hamill

"Missouri farmers and landowners have my commitment to receive the best service to their needs that FSA has to offer," said Hamill. As Missouri's State Executive Director, Hamill will oversee the delivery of the Agency's income support, disaster assistance, conservation and farm loan programs through Missouri's 97 county FSA offices.

Hamill operates a row-crop and cattle operation on the family farm near Perry, Mo.

Deadlines Extended

Due to another challenging planting season this year, three important deadlines were extended by USDA.

Sign-up for the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP), as well as the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program, has been extended to August 14, 2009.



Additionally, the deadline to report your 2009 crops was also extended to August 14.

Contacting your county office to see if an appointment is needed prior to your visit can save you time and make the sign-up easier.

Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holding to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government officials, realtors, attorneys, and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

DISTRICT 4 OFFICES

Jasper Grant · District Director
Cooper County · 660.882.5647

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Annette Steelman · CED
535 N Hwy 65
Lincoln, MO 65338
660.547.2351
8:00-4:30 M-F

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Charles Riley · CED
Annette Brandt · FLM
1405 Hwy 65 N, Suite A
Carrollton, MO 64633
660.542.8732
7:00-4:30 M-F

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Julie Stoecklein · CED
Jared Weydert · Actg FLM
104 S JFK Ave
Keytesville, MO 65261
660.288.3279
7:45-4:30 M-F

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Connie Gibson · CED
17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233
660.882.5647
8:00-4:30 M-F

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William Spry · CED
1306 N 2nd Street
Clinton, MO 64735
660.885.5567
8:00-4:30 M-F

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Brian McDonald · CED
743 State Route DD
Fayette, MO 65248
660.248.3384
7:45-4:30 M-F

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Kyle Meyer · CED
727 PCA Road Suite A
Warrensburg, MO 64093
660.747.8400
7:30-4:30 M-F

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Brian Bagnell
Acting CED/FLM
120 W 19th Street
Higginsville, MO 64037
660.584.8732
8:00-4:30 M-F

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Jay O'Bannon · CED
Steven Lair · FLM
1407 W 32nd Street
Sedalia, MO 65301
660.826.3339
8:00-4:30 M-F

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Eddie McKeown · CED
2995 County Rd 1325
Moberly, MO 65270
660.263.1169
8:00-4:30 M-F

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Jarrell Foreman · CED
500 Wollard Blvd.
Richmond, MO 64085
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8:00-4:30 M-F

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Jared Singer · CED
704 N Miami
Marshall, MO 65340
660.886.7447
7:45-4:30 M-F

Livestock Indemnity Program Sign-up

Producers with livestock losses during 2008 and 2009 can now apply for compensation through the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

LIP is geared at aiding producers who have above average livestock losses resulting from natural disasters. Animals lost due to weather events including floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, tornados, lighting and extreme heat or cold are eligible for payment. However, animals lost due to drought, malnutrition, poor handling practices, or diseases not related to adverse weather, are *not* eligible.

In order to receive benefits through LIP, a producer must maintain their herd for commercial use. Animals held for recreation or self consumption are not eligible for payment. Eligible livestock include dairy and beef cattle, buffalo and beefalo, equine, elk, reindeer and deer, sheep, alpacas, emus, swine, goats, llamas and poultry.

Livestock Indemnity Program Deadlines

Date of Livestock Death	Final Date to file a Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit 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 the death is apparent	Jan. 30, 2010

Contact your county office staff for details about the program.

FSA Farm Loans for Beginning or Socially Disadvantaged Farmers

FSA assists beginning farmers and/or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Loans are available for operating expenses or to purchase or make improvements to a farm. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the median acreage of farms in the county where the property is located.

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 a member of the group, without regard to his or her individual qualities. For the purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

If operating as an entity, each member of the entity must meet the eligibility requirements.

For more information on either of these programs, contact your local FSA office. Loans are only available to applicants who meet all eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the credit elsewhere.

Producer Spotlight

Tom Oelrich's family dairy operation is producing more than milk. Tom, his brother Randy Oelrich, and nephew Russell Oelrich run a 120 head dairy and 1200 acre row-crop Century Family Farm in southeast Pettis County. By producing their own diesel, they have made their farming operation more efficient, self-reliant and friendly to the environment.

Like many producers the Oelrich's have dealt with rising input costs, especially fuel, which has led to higher transportation cost of getting farm commodities to and from the farm. The Oelrich's were looking for a way to decrease their input costs and they found their answer half way around the world. The Oelrich's were visiting with family friends from Germany. The brothers found out their friends were producing their own fuel from crops they raise in Germany.

So, Tom and Randy did many hours of research on the process of making biofuels and came to the conclusion they could produce their own fuel from the soybeans they raise. Next, the Oelrich's ordered a press from Europe, which squeezes the oil out of the beans. They gathered some stainless steel tanks from around the farm, bought some pipe, and built a two story building next to their grain bins. Within a few months, the Oelrich's were producing soy diesel. Currently the Oelrich's are producing 300 gallons of soy diesel a month and are in the process of adding a second press to double their capacity. So far, they have used the diesel in their tractors and a grain truck.

But, producing fuel isn't the only cost-savings for their farming operation. The Oelrich's are also able to produce their own soybean meal, a protein source for their dairy cows. Glycerin (a by-product of the process of making soy diesel) is used as a feed additive in the dairy cow feed ration. The Oelrich's have no waste product left from the raw soybean they crush, which is very environment friendly.

This Century Family Farm has become more efficient and at same time, environmentally friendly. The Oelrich Family continues American agriculture's tradition of finding opportunity in challenging times.



▲ Oelrich's two-story production facility



▲ Soybeans are pressed and extruded



▲ Resulting pellets to be fed to dairy cows

◀ Tom Oelrich, Vice Chairperson of the Pettis County FSA Committee, describes the process of producing bio-diesel.

Official Business

Civil Rights

As a participant or applicant for programs or activities operated or sponsored by USDA you have a right to be treated fairly. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of your race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability, or marital or familial status, you may file a discrimination complaint. The complaint should be filed with the USDA Office of Civil Rights within 180 days of the date you became aware of the alleged discrimination. To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD), USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs 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, audiotope, 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.

Special Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact their FSA office in person or by phone.

Spousal Signature

Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the FSA from either spouse. Claim settlements and lien filings are excluded.

County	District 4 Rainfall (inches)					
	April		May		June	
	Actual	Average	Actual	Average	Actual	Average
Benton	5.78	4.20	5.36	5.45	8.15	3.85
Carroll	7.49	3.76	5.25	4.89	5.45	4.37
Chariton	7.17	3.62	3.31	5.10	5.89	4.54
Clay	5.03	3.29	6.01	4.60	8.23	4.56
Cooper	5.74	4.14	4.30	5.14	6.83	4.84
Henry	8.62	3.88	5.03	5.34	9.62	4.80
Howard	6.96	3.73	4.22	4.82	5.87	4.18
Johnson	6.54	4.00	4.60	5.18	8.24	4.96
Lafayette	6.09	3.61	5.18	4.78	6.30	4.23
Pettis	7.26	3.92	6.44	5.32	6.79	5.04
Randolph	7.22	4.01	3.11	4.88	5.76	4.20
Ray	6.58	3.80	5.33	5.00	6.46	4.47
Saline	6.07	3.94	5.20	4.90	4.25	4.11
District Average	6.67	3.84	4.87	5.03	6.76	4.47