



NEWSLETTER



May 2011

Gentry and Worth County Producers,

Gentry County FSA Office

512 E Highway 136
Albany, MO 64402
660-726-5525 phone
660-726-3254 fax

Hours

Monday - Friday
7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Office Staff

Mary Ann Gibson, PT
Kathy Ward, PT
Brenda Walker, PT
Barbara Ratliff, PT

County Committee

Mike Sager
David Waltemath
Donnie Stevens
Nancy Findley

Worth County FSA Office

19 West 3rd
Grant City, MO 64456
660-564-3341 phone
660-564-3443 fax

Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Office Staff

Veronica Craven, PT
Ann Gilland, PT

County Committee

Mary Ewing
Bernard Runde
Helen Foster

County Executive Director

Mark Cadle

Farm Loan Manager
Charles Meissen,

Fieldman
Bill Grabb

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

You are all aware by now that the budget is a huge issue with the federal government. Budget constraints within the federal government have already caused the Farm Service Agency to change the way we do business and the level of service we can offer the producers we serve. One of the changes we have made is that we will not be mailing as many reminders as you are accustomed to getting. Because of this it will be important for you to watch our newsletters and other media sources very closely to keep yourself informed of our programs and those program deadlines. To help keep producers informed Missouri FSA has introduced **FSA eAlerts**, a new way to receive FSA program reminders via e-mail or by text on your cell phone. It may be a great way to help keep yourself better informed of FSA deadlines and activities. See the article on FSA eAlerts later in this newsletter for more information.

I have also included in this newsletter a section on CRP Updates. If you have CRP acreage read this section carefully. It contains information concerning many items and issues affecting CRP acreage. As always if you have specific questions concerning CRP contact your local office.

Information concerning the County Committee election and nomination process is also contained. If you want to become a candidate for a Committee position or wish to nominate someone else complete the FSA-669A included in the newsletter and return it to your local FSA office.

Other information concerning the signup deadline for the annual farm program and crop reporting is also contained in the newsletter. Remember that we will not be sending additional reminders about these items so save the newsletter to help you remember these dates and save the expense of late-filed contracts and crop reports.

I know it's a busy time. In the rush of the spring season remember to be careful and work safe! Here's hoping for warm sunshine and timely rains.

Sincerely, Mark Cadle, CED

DCP Signup & Advance Payments

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Countercyclical Program (DCP) commonly known as the annual farm program has begun and 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**. If you have not already enrolled contact your local FSA office as quickly as possible.

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 all **Missouri FSA Counties will discontinue sending postcard reminders for upcoming sign-ups and other deadlines because of budget concerns.**

County Committee Nominations

County Committees are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They direct the delivery of FSA farm programs at the local level and work within national guidelines to help programs fit the needs of their local communities. Committee members provide general oversight, review and act on appeals from program participants, keep the Missouri State FSA committee informed of issues in their county, and provide a link between the Agency and local producers.



From June 15 through August 1, 2011, FSA offices will begin accepting nominations for candidates from the Local Administrative Areas (LAA) holding this year's election. USDA and FSA is committed to increasing the participation of all farmers including women, minorities and beginning farmers. You may nominate yourself or someone else as a candidate.

Candidates must:

- Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch.
- Live or farm in the LAA holding the election.
- Participate in a program administered by FSA.

In 2011, the LAA up for election in Gentry County is LAA-2 which is made up of Cooper, Huggins, and Wilson townships. Mike Sager is the current Committee person from this area and is completing his second 3 year term. In Worth County LAA-2 is also up for election. That area includes Fletchall and Middlefork Townships. Mary Ewing is the present Committee person in LAA-2 and she is also completing her second 3 year term.

If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else to run for a County Committee position, you may complete the FSA-669A Nomination Form on the last page of this newsletter or come to your local FSA office for help completing the form. If you have any questions about the nomination or election process feel free to contact your local office or any County Committee member.

Crop Reporting Deadlines

The deadline for reporting 2011 crops is **June 30th** for small grains (wheat, oats) and **July 31st** for all other crops (corn, soybeans, grain sorghum, CRP, hay & pasture). Crop reports are required for most FSA programs including CRP, DCP/ACRE, and commodity loans. If not filed timely, a late-filing fee of at least \$46 per farm is required. As with other programs, due to budgetary items, reminders will not be mailed as they have been in the past. **To save yourself time please call for an appointment to certify your crops (including CRP if not yet done).** This way we can have farm folders and maps ready so you will not have to wait.

Prevented Planting – Because of weather conditions in some areas of Missouri, for 2011, the deadline to file prevented planting has been extended to July 31 for spring seeded crops.

Failed Acres - Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Producers must 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.

Dates to Remember	
May 30	Memorial Day – offices closed
May 31	Final date to obtain a commodity loan on 2010 crop year spring seeded crops (corn, soybeans, etc)
June 1	DCP & ACRE enrollment deadline
June 30	Final day to report 2011 small grains (wheat, oats, etc)
July 4	Independence Day –offices closed
July 29	Final Day to apply for 2009 SURE
July 31	Final Day to report all spring seeded crops (corn, soybeans) and CRP
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program sign up
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

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

Mid-Contract Management (MCM)

Practices - Producers who have enrolled acreage in CRP since the 26th sign up (2003), are required to complete a round of MCM practices, per the guidelines of their conservation plan. MCM practices are typically completed in years three to six of the CRP contract. Types of MCM include chemical application, strip disking, and burning. Cost share of 50% is available once the practice has been completed and all bills are submitted to the office.

Be advised, in the past this office has contacted producers by letter to inform them they have MCM practice to complete during the year. Due to budgetary constraints we will no longer follow that policy. Producers should take care to ensure they don't miss any required MCM on their contract as penalties are severe. They can range from \$40 to \$64 per acre.

Wildlife food plots are also required on many contracts. In the past we have often sent reminders and maps concerning food plots. This will not be done this year. When your food plot is planted please stop by your local office to sign that you have completed this requirement.

If you have questions about your contract and its required mid-contract management practices please contact your local office.

2012 (& beyond) Expiring CRP Contracts

FSA has had two general sign-up periods recently, the first in August 2010, and the second this past mid-March to mid-April 2011. These were the first general CRP sign-up periods FSA had offered since 2006. Both of these sign-up periods allowed producers who had contracts that were going to expire that year to re-offer their expiring acres. New acreage was also allowed to be offered. While it is not official, we assume that there will be another general sign-up period next year that will allow contracts expiring on September 30, 2012 to be reoffered. Again, this is only an assumption on my part. **A general sign-up period for next year has not been announced.**

During those last two general sign-up periods the Gentry and Worth County offices have found expiring CRP contract acreage that had tree and gully issues. For your CRP acreage to be eligible to be re-offered if or when a sign-up period is available it must meet all CRP eligibility criteria.

Acreage with trees and gullies is not be eligible for re-enrollment. CRP regulations state that for land to be considered as eligible to be offered into CRP it must "be physically capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity." The Gentry and Worth County Committees do not consider CRP acreage with tree and gully issues as being physically capable of being planted in a normal manner and as such will deem those acres ineligible to be re-offered.

I encourage producers that have CRP acreage under contracts that will expire in 2012 and beyond to evaluate their acreage for potential issues and make decisions as to whether or not you wish to offer the land for re-enrollment if a sign-up period is held. If you have trees and/or gullies on CRP acreage that you wish to re-offer for CRP this summer is the time start to work addressing these problems. Think to yourself what a corn or soybean field looks like, and then determine would your CRP acreage be planted to a crop and look like crop fields in the area or do you have trees and gullies that would not allow the acreage to be planted or to resemble other crop fields. The acreage must be capable of being farmed at the time of re-offer or it will not be eligible. If you have any questions about your CRP acreage feel free to contact me and we can discuss your options.

Rental rates from the last two general sign-ups have averaged around \$120 to \$125 per acre in Gentry and Worth counties. Don't miss out on these increased rental rates because your CRP acreage no longer meets eligibility requirements. Contact the office for more in-depth details.

Continuous CRP Practices Available In addition to the CRP general sign ups, like the one that just ended last month, 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 practices such as filter strips and riparian buffers. Contact your local FSA office for details.



If you want to become a candidate for a Committee position, or if you wish to nominate someone else for the Committee, complete the FSA-669A and return it to your local FSA office. This form is also available online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

FSA-669A (03-31-11) Page 2 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Form Approved - OMB No. 0560-0229
 Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)		TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION: <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.		5. COUNTY	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE		6. LAA 2	7. STATE MO
3B. DATE		8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION: <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	
		8B. DATE <i>(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).</i>	

9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

ITEM 1 Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
 A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
 B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
 C. Willing to serve if elected.

ITEM 2 Enter the nominee's current address.

ITEM 3 The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.

ITEMS 3A & 3B The nominee must sign and date.

ITEMS 8A & 8B The nominator must sign and date. *(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)*

ITEM 9 Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2011.

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.

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).