

# HOLT COUNTY NEWS

JULY 2010



## Special points of interest:

- Crop Reporting
- COC Election Nominations
- Facility Loans
- CRP Management Provisions
- CRP General Signup
- Transition Incentives Program (TIP)
- Deadlines to Remember
- SURE
- ECP

## Holt County Farm Service Agency

**CROP REPORTING DEADLINE~ Small Grains June 30, All Other Crops July 31**

### **ECP- Emergency Conservation Program**

USDA Farm Service Agency provides emergency funding for farmers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters such as flooding. ECP cost share practices include: removing debris from farmland, grading, shaping, re-leveling farmland; and restoring conservation structures and installations. Based on a site visit, FSA will determine eligibility of land for ECP.

Subject to availability of funds, ECP participants may receive cost-share assistance of up to 75% of the cost to implement approved ECP practices. Eligible participants are subject to a payment limitation. Funding for ECP is appropriated by Congress so it is not an entitlement program where eligible producers are guaranteed funding.

Holt County has not been approved for the ECP program at this point; however, FSA is required to inspect the damage **before** the work is done to be eligible.

So please contact the office **before** beginning any restoration work!

**Crop Reporting** The annual requirement of reporting to the FSA office can be referred to as crop reporting, acreage reporting, or crop certification. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Payments.

The certification form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. The producer certification deadline for fall- and spring-seeded **small grains is June 30**, and the final reporting date for CRP, NAP, and all **other crops is July 31**, (NAP crops must be reported by the final reporting date or 15 days before harvest).

**Prevented Planting needs to be filed within 15 days of RMA Final Planting Dates. The date to file for PP Corn was June 9 and the date to file timely for PP beans is June 30. Any filed past this date will be considered late-file. There will be a \$46 late charge/producer.**

## Holt County USDA Service Center

### Holt County FSA

118 W. Davis Street  
Mound City, MO 64470

Phone: (660) 442-3134  
Fax: (660) 442-5376  
Hours: 8:00 - 4:30 M-F

### County Committee

Karl Noellsch  
Karen Ingram  
Dean Johnson

### District Director

Jim Nance



### Staff

Kami Hubach, PT  
Kim Meyer, PT  
Wendy Tubbs, PT  
Marica Geib, Temp  
Mark Buntz, FA  
Stan Seitz, FA  
Bob Dreyer, FLM  
Jackie VanGundy, CED

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## Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

- Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL) provides low-interest financing for producers to **build or upgrade** farm storage and handling facilities. FSA is authorized to implement the program through USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).
- **Eligible Facilities and Upgrades**  
An FSA farm storage facility loan must be approved by the local FSA County Committee before any site preparation and/or construction can be started.
- **Facilities** can be used to store a wide variety of grains, hay, renewable biomass, and cold storage for fruits and vegetables.
- **Maximum loan amount** cannot exceed \$500,000 and interest rates will vary



Grain Bins

### Cost of Obtaining a Loan

- Each applicant will be charged a nonrefundable \$100 application fee.
- CCC will pay all collateral lien searches and recording fees for filing Form UCC-1 and credit reports.
- Applicants pay all other fees, such as severance agreements, attorney fees, real estate lien search fees, and instrument filing fees.
- For loans over \$50,000, applicants will be required to pay the cost of obtaining title insurance.

### Eligible Cost Items

The net cost for building or upgrading farm storage and handling facilities and equipment may include the following:

- Purchase price and sales tax.
- Shipping and delivery charges.
- Site preparation costs.
- Installation costs.
- New material and labor for concrete pads, electrical wiring, and electric motors.
- Off-farm paid labor.
- New on-farm material approved by FSA.

### Interest Rates

#### Interest Rates for June

- 3.00% for 7-year Loan
- 3.625% for 10-year Loan
- 3.875% for 12-year Loan
- 1.375% Commodity Loans

#### Notes

1. Scales, portable equipment, used bins, and used equipment are not eligible for financing.
2. Facilities built for commercial purposes and not for the sole use of the borrowers are not eligible for financing.

For more info visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/mo](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo) or visit your local FSA

### 2010 County Committee Elections

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to all farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long established, with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees (COC) are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. COC members are a critical component of FSA operations. This year we have one committee member, Karen Ingram, that is up for re-election. She represents LAA 2 which is comprised of Bigelow, Hickory, Benton, and Minton Townships. Nomination forms are available in our office and must be signed by the nominee, agreeing to be a candidate. **Deadline for signup is Aug. 2, 2010.** Ballots will be mailed out in November for this area.

***NOMINATE AND VOTE!!***

### CRP Management Provisions

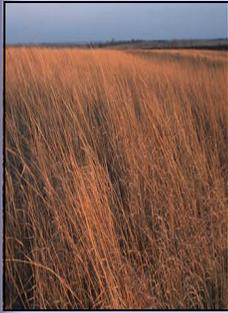
- CRP contracts with grass cover practices that were enrolled prior to the 26th Sign Up (5/5/03) were allowed to mow up to one half of each field each year between **July 16 and August 15**. The mowing provisions should be included in the Conservation Plan of Operation (CPO) along with other management guidance. Mowing outside of this period is prohibited without the consent of the local FSA County Committee. Producers should consult their local FSA County office if they have questions about these provisions. Contracts that began with or after the 26th Sign Up also need a CPO. This includes burning, disking, spraying. Mowing is only allowed in conjunction with disking and spraying.



Hay Storage

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**MCM Dates**



Native Warm Season  
Indian Grass



Warm Season Grass  
Big Blue Stem



Cool Season  
Orchard Grass

## CRP Management Provisions Continued

Cool Season Grass-Burning	March 15-April 30
Cool Season Grass-Spraying	March 15 - April 30 OR October 1 - December 1
Warm Season Grass-Burning	July 16 - March 15
Warm Season Grass-Spraying	July 16 - September 15
Disking for Warm and Cool Season Grasses	July 16 - March 15

Producers should review their CPO and/or consult with NRCS or the MDC Private Land Specialist to determine the best methods to achieve the desired results. The goals of MCM practices are to achieve stand diversity along with 25-40% bare ground. May 1 through July 15 is considered the primary nesting season, and management activities are prohibited during this time-frame.

All required food plots and management practices need to be **completed and reported** to our office. Papers and maps have been sent out for you to complete and return. If you have misplaced them, you can stop by the office and report this to us.

***If you have any questions at all regarding your CRP, please give us a call at 660-442-3134.***

## CRP General Sign Up Expected

FSA anticipates a **CRP general sign up in 2010**. As a reminder, a producer's land must physically be capable of being cropped to be eligible. This means (no trees). The sign up will consist of a points system for eligible producers. More information will be sent out as time permits. We anticipate more information in July or August.

## TIP

**Transition Incentives Program (TIP)** was established within the 2008 Farm Bill. The Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, authorized \$25 million for the transition of expiring CRP land from a retired or retiring owner or operator to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher to return the land to production for sustainable grazing or crop production. TIP provides annual rental payments for up to two additional years to the landowner after the expired date of the CRP contract, provided the transition is not to a family member.

- **To be eligible**

- Must have land enrolled in CRP that is in the last year of 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.

- **Generally, TIP**

- only applies to contracts that expire on September 30, 2010, or later. However, retired or retiring owners or operators with CRP contracts that expired on September 30, 2008, and September 30, 2009, may be eligible to enroll in TIP provided all of the following apply:
  - The land has not been sold or leased before signing a CRP-TIP Contract
  - Producers are otherwise eligible under TIP provisions
  - The conservation plan is modified to require sustainable grazing or crop production methods.

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Visit our website at:  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/mo](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo)



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## Deadlines to Remember

- **June 30**, Final date to Report Prevented Planting Soybeans
- **June 30**, Final Day to Report Small Grains (wheat, oats)
- **July 5**, USDA offices Closed for Independence Day
- **July 31**, *Crop Reporting Deadline* for all other commodities (hay, pasture, corn, soybeans, CRP)
- **July 31**, Final day to submit production evidence for ACRE farms
- **August 2**, COC nomination forms due
- **Continuous CRP sign up**
- **Loans for grain bins and storage facilities continues**
- **Have you mailed your completed IRS/USDA Consent Form?**

### SURE

#### Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

- We are currently still taking applications for the SURE Program
- If you were insured in 2008 with at least a CAT level Insurance and had a 10% loss or greater on crop revenue, you should apply for potential benefits.
- One would also need to carry a NAP coverage on all non-insurable crops (hay) that has an economic significance of 5% or greater.

### ECP

#### Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

- For producers who have had damage done to their cropland due to a natural weather related event ( Flood and Excessive Rain) resulting in sand, sediment deposits, cutting of ditches, or broken terraces. Please contact the Local FSA office prior to doing any work.
- Holt County has not yet been approved for the ECP program; however FSA is required to inspect land before work is done because we could possibly approve ECP in the future.

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