



## Holt County FSA Office

118 W Davis Street  
Mound City, Mo 64470

660-442-3134 phone  
660-442-5376 fax

### Hours

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

## May 2011

### County Office Staff

Jackie J VanGundy  
County Executive Director

Bob Dreyer  
**Farm Loan Manager**  
Tuesday Mornings

Kami Hubach  
Kim Meyer  
Wendy Tubbs  
Marci Geib, Temp  
**Program Technicians**

Mark Buntz  
Stan Seitz  
**Field Assistants**

Karl Noellsch  
Karen Ingram  
Dean Johnson  
**County Committee**

Jim Nance  
**District Director**

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

## DCP/ACRE Sign up Continues

FSA offices continue to sign producers up for the 2011 DCP (Direct & Counter Cyclical) and ACRE (Average Crop Revenue Election) annual programs. The sign-up period will end **June 1**. Contracts are approved after all producers have signed the contract. For 2011, eligible producers may request to receive an advance payment based on 22% of their direct payment. 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**. For more information producers can contact their local FSA office.

Most operators have signed the contract for 2011. However, there are several owners who still have not been in to sign. The farm will not be enrolled in the program if we do not have all signatures by the June 1 deadline.

## ACRE Program Production Needed by July 15<sup>th</sup>

Producers who are enrolled in the ACRE program are reminded that they must certify production for the 2010 crop year by July 15<sup>th</sup>. Actual production figures must be submitted by the deadline for 2010 in order to maintain program eligibility. Plug yields cannot be utilized for a farm in place of actual production once enrolled in the program.

It is the program participant's responsibility to report the yield and sign the FSA-658 form. The County Office staff will be more than happy to assist producers by providing them with the acres reported for the crop year. However, the staff will not assist in calculating the yield.

## 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 signups and deadlines due to budget. 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](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo) to check back frequently for program deadlines and information.

If emails or texts fit your life style, please stop by or call your local FSA office and a friendly FSA employee will take your account information and set the wheels in motion to get your operation on the information highway.

## Crop Reporting

Producers are reminded that as you finish 2011 planting, to report your acres with **planting dates** to the office. Crop reporting is a yearly requirement for all programs receiving payments. 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. The report of acreage must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. The producer certification deadline for small grains is **June 30** and the final reporting date for all other crops is **August 1**. Acres and shares should accurately reflect the farming operation and be consistent with USDA Farm programs, crop insurance, and crop sales receipts. Program benefits depend on shares being reported correctly. Producers should consider reporting at FSA **prior** to reporting to their crop insurance agent.

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

Producers who file Prevented planting, will establish that all cropland feasible to plant but prevented from being planted was affected by a natural disaster rather than a management decision. Intentions to plant a crop will need to be provided. These intentions might include disking the land, orders for purchase of seed, delivery of seed and fertilizer, or financing documents.

**Failed acres** must be reported to FSA **before** destroying and replanting to allow time for a field check.

This simple act of insuring that failed acres are documented could be the determining factor in whether or not a farmer is eligible for future crop disaster program payments. Producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the County Committee that the crop failed or was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period. Which is **May 25** for Corn and **June 15** for beans.

Producers who have their crops insured through a private crop insurance company are also required to contact their insurance agent. Crops not covered with private insurance should still be reported to the local FSA office. This will provide FSA with a historical record of your crop for eligibility for various programs.

## CRP Management Provisions

For CRP contract participants whose contracts began with the 26<sup>th</sup> Sign Up or after, are subject to the Mid contract Management provisions. These provisions should include options for burning, disking or spraying. Producers should contact their local FSA office if they have any questions about their CRP contracts.

Please take note that the primary nesting season for Missouri is from May 1 thru July 16 and **no** maintenance can be performed in this time period.

## SURE Signup

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program ends **July 29, 2011**. SURE provides benefits for 2008 – 2011 crop year farm revenue losses due to natural disasters.

Producers must have all crops, including hay, covered by crop insurance or a non-insured assistance program (NAP) policy. (Exclusions may apply for crops that are not of economic significance to the farming operation, or for applicants meeting USDA's definition of socially disadvantaged, limited resource or beginning farmer.)

A significant change in the implementation of this program from the 2008 crop year is that no economic stimulus provisions apply for 2009.

## HAY NET

Producers are encouraged to use Hay Net on the FSA website <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet>. This online service allows producers with hay and those who need hay to post ads so they can make connections. Hay Net is a popular site for farmers and ranchers who have an emergency need. Individual ads can be posted free of charge by producers who complete a simple online registration form the first time they use the site.

## Changing Banks

Almost all FSA payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institution.



## County Committee nominations

Since COC elections happen only once a year, here is an election refresher. For election purposes, counties are divided into local administrative areas, or LAAs. Each LAA selects one producer to serve a three-year term on the Farm Service Agency County Committee.

Each year, an election is held in an LAA to replace the committee member whose three year term is expiring. In counties with three LAA's, one seat is up for election.

Producers who are residents in the LAA holding the election and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the County Committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Also, organizations representing socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates.

The nomination form, FSA-669A, is available at the county office or may be downloaded online at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov). To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. The completed nomination form must be returned to the county office by the close of business on **Aug 1**, or postmarked by midnight Aug 1, 2011.

## Rural Youth Loans

FSA makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.

## ECP

Producers who have been approved for ECP to repair damage caused by the 2010 Flood are reminded to submit their bills to the office when the work has been completed.

## Farm Reconstitutions

When changes in farm ownership or operation take place, a farm recon is necessary. The recon is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation.

Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by Aug 1 for farms enrolled in the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program. If DCP direct payments have already been issued on a particular farm, the recon will be effective for the next year, unless the payments are refunded.

The Designation by Landowner method is the division of bases in the manner agreed to by both the buyer and seller.

The land must be owned for 3-years to qualify for this option. This option allows both the seller and buyer the opportunity to choose how the base acres associated to the farm are divided and both the seller and buyer of the land sign to the agreement (Form FSA-155), unless a memorandum of understanding is provided. This memo must also be signed by both parties outlining how base acres are to be distributed.

Anytime land is sold, producers should report the sale to the county office timely. Failure to report sales could result in program payment refunds or penalties on participating program farms.

## Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a minimum down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. Loan terms of 7, 10, or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Fixed interest rates for each term may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. A FSFL must be approved **before** any site preparation or construction can begin.

For more information on the FSFL program, contact your local FSA office.

**Selected Interest Rates for**

**May 2011**

Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.625%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.00%
Limited Resource Loans	5.00%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Emergency Loans	3.75%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7-yr.	2.875%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 10-yr.	3.5%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 12-yr.	3.75%
Commodity Loans	1.25%

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**Dates to Remember**

May 30	Office closed in observance of Memorial Day
May 31	Deadline to obtain 2010 loan on Corn & Beans
June 1	DCP/ACRE sign up ends for 2011
June 9	Deadline to report Prevented Planting Corn
June 30	Deadline to report Prevented Planting Beans
June 30	Final day to report small grain acres planted
July 4	Office closed for Independence Day
July 15	Deadline to certify 2010 production for ACRE
July 29	2009 SURE sign up ends
Aug 1	Crop reporting deadline
Aug 1	COC nomination forms due
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program.
May 1 thru July 16	Primary Nesting Season – No mowing or maintenance on CRP

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).