



June 2010

Livingston FSA Office News

Livingston County USDA Service Center

Livingston County FSA

1100 Morton Parkway
Chillicothe, MO 64601
660 646 6220 (phone)
660 646 4894 (fax)

Hours

Monday - Friday
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
The office will be closed
on all Federal holidays.

County Committee

David Williams
Mary Smith
Ben Beetsma

County Committee meets
the third Thursday each
month at 8:30 a.m.

Staff

Program Technicians
Dianna Sewell
Anissa Johnson
Jeannette Straker
Diana Briscoe

County Executive Director
David Meneely

Farm Loan Manager
John McKinny

Farm Loan Officer
Gary Elrod

Transition Incentives Program

The Transition Incentives Program (TIP) was created to encourage retired or retiring owners or operators to transition their Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres to beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers. TIP sign up began on May 17, 2010. If all program requirements are met, TIP provides annual rental payments to the retiring farmer for up to two additional years after the date of the expiration of the CRP contract, provided the transition is not to a family member. To be eligible, TIP requires that the retired or retiring farmer or rancher:

- Have land enrolled in CRP that is in the last year of the contract.
- Agree to allow the beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher 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.

To learn more about this program, producers interested in applying and participating in TIP should visit their USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

Tree Assistance Program Signup

Tree Assistance Program (TAP) signup for orchardists and nursery tree growers began May 10, 2010, at county Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. Signup ends July 6, 2010, for 2008, 2009, and 1/1/2010 – 5/7/2010. From 5/8/2010 – 9/30/2011, producers must apply within 90 days. TAP provides help to orchardists and nursery tree growers who produce trees, bushes and vines for commercial purposes, to replant or rehabilitate trees, bushes and vines damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. The 2008 Farm Bill expanded eligibility to include Christmas tree and nursery tree growers that were ineligible under prior legislation. Trees grown for pulp or timber are not eligible. To be eligible producers must have suffered more than a 15 percent death loss due to the natural disaster after adjustment for normal mortality. TAP is a cost-reimbursement program, with payments covering up to 70 percent of replant costs and 50 percent of pruning, removal and other salvaging costs for replacing or salvaging damaged trees. Producers can receive assistance for up to 500 acres of trees, bushes or vines. Producers must also have purchased a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, or for 2008, obtained a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through the buy-in provision for all crops and on all farms, with the exception of socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmers. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1,





2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011. For more information on the new TAP program, contact your county FSA office or the website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/tap>

personal labor and active personal management to the farming operation;

*Note: there are exceptions for spouses.

COC Election Nominations

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committee starts with the nomination of eligible candidates. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. This form is available at USDA Service Centers and online at: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa0669a_commiteelectform.pdf

Nomination forms for the 2010 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 2, 2010. Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer's farm records.

Payment Limitations

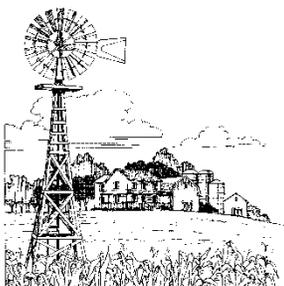
Anyone who plans to participate in 2010 programs is required to submit a completed CCC-902, CCC-926, and CCC-901, if applicable, for payment eligibility and payment limitation purposes. The form used prior to 2009 was named CCC-502.

Contributions

All partners, stockholders, or members with an ownership interest in the legal entity must make a contribution, whether compensated or not compensated, for active--*

- Personal labor,
- Active personal management,
- Or a combination of active

| Person or Legal Entity Payment Limitations | Limitation (in Dollars) |
|---|-------------------------|
| Program Payment Type | 2010 / 2011 / 2012 |
| Commodity Programs | |
| Counter-cyclical and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE), except peanuts | 65,000 <u>1/</u> |
| Counter-cyclical and Average ACRE payments on peanuts | 65,000 <u>1/</u> |
| Direct payments on covered commodities except peanuts | 40,000 <u>2/</u> |
| Direct payments on peanuts | 40,000 <u>2/</u> |
| Conservation Programs | |
| Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) annual rental payment. | 50,000 |
| Cost Conservation Stewardship Program (CSTP) for FY 2009-2012 | 200,000 |
| Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) FY 2009-2012 | 300,000 |
| Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) | 50,000 |
| Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) | 50,000 |
| Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) | 50,000 |
| Disaster Assistance Programs | |
| Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) | 100,000 |
| Tree Assistance Program (TAP) | 100,000 |





| | |
|--|-----------|
| Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP); <u>Livestock Forage Disaster Program</u> (LFP); <u>Livestock Indemnity Program</u> (LIP); <u>Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program</u> (SURE) | 100,000 |
| Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP); Marketing Assistance Loans; Marketing loan gain (MLG) | No limits |

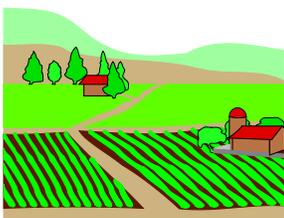
1/ Under ACRE, this amount will be a combined limitation for counter-cyclical and ACRE payments. If a person or legal entity has a direct or indirect interest in payments earned on a farm participating in ACRE, this limitation will reflect an increase for the amount that direct payments are reduced.

2/ If the person or legal entity has a direct or indirect interest in payments earned on a farm that is in ACRE, this limitation will reflect a 20 percent reduction in direct payments on each farm that is participating in ACRE.

Additional information on payment limitations is available at FSA county offices or on line at: www.fsa.usda.gov

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).



CRP & NAP Certification

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

Prevented Planting:

Prevented planting is to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage:

Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to 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.

Farm Loan Programs

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers loans for farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are also available through FSA. For details, just contact the county office staff for an appointment with a farm loan officer.

Banking Changes?

Almost all Farm Service Agency



[Banking Changes? Continued]

payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours. 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 institutions. If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

| Dates to Remember | |
|-------------------|---|
| June 30 | Final acreage reporting date for wheat and oats. |
| July 5 | Fourth of July Holiday observed – County Offices closed. |
| July 15 | Final late filed crop reports for the 2008 SURE program. |
| July 16 | CRP haying, only with approved requests , can begin. |
| July 31 | Final Reporting Date for CRP, NAP, and all other crops (NAP crops must be reported by final reporting date or 15 days before harvest) |
| Continues | Facility Loan Program |
| Continues | CRP Continuous Signup |

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

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.