



Missouri DISTRICT 4 NEWSLETTER

MAY 2010



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DCP and ACRE Sign-up ends June 1

Sign-up for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program ends on June 1, 2010. There will not be an opportunity to late-file for these two programs after June 1.

Producers who elected the ACRE program in 2009 should keep in mind that they are still required to enroll in the program annually. If you want to elect ACRE for one or more farms in 2010, the election must be made by the June 1 deadline. This includes all persons on the farm signing the election form.

Also those who elected ACRE in 2009, must certify 2004 through 2009 production for that farm by submitting form FSA-658. Crop production for the ACRE program must be certified by the last crop reporting deadline the following year. Therefore, all 2009 production must be certified by July 31, 2010. Because July 31 falls on a Saturday this year, the deadline is moved to August 2, 2010.

Participants are encouraged to get this enrollment taken care of as soon as possible to avoid a last minute rush. A 22% advance of your direct payment is available as soon as the farm is enrolled, and all other eligibility paperwork is completed.

No late-filing period for 2010

County Committee Nominations

County Committees are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. From June 15 through August 2, 2010, 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.

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 or cooperate in a program administered by FSA.

Review the table to the right to see which area in your county is up for election this year.

County	LAA	Townships
Benton	2	South Williams, Lindsey, Cole
Carroll	2	Prairie, Trotter, Egypt, Moss Creek, Wakenda, Cherry Valley, Sugar Tree
Chariton	2	Cunningham, Yellow Creek, Salt Creek, Mendon, Triplett, Brunswick
Cooper	3	Clear Creek, Kelly, Lebanon, Otterville, Pilot Grove
Henry	1	Bogard, Big Creek, Fields Creek, Honey Creek, Shawnee, White Oak
Howard	3	Boonslick, Franklin, Moniteau
Johnson	3	Washington, Rose Hill, Chilhowee, Post Oak, Jefferson
Lafayette	1	Clay, Lexington
Pettis	2	Dresden, Elkfork, Flat Creek, Green Ridge, Prairie, Washington
Ray	3	Knoxville, Grape Grove, Crooked River
Clay	4	Lawson, East 1/2 Kearney, East 1/3 Liberty, Excelsior Springs, Missouri
Randolph	3	Union, Sugar Creek
Saline	3	Blackwater, Elmwood, Liberty, Salt Pond

Final Planting Dates and Crop Reporting Deadlines

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) recently revised certain final planting dates. Generally, these revisions moved the final planting date up. Producers are advised to contact their insurer or local FSA office, as the final planting dates vary from county to county. The table below provides 2010 final planting dates for major crops in our area.

Also keep in mind you must **report any prevented planted acres within 15 calendar days after the final planting date**. Any prevented planted applications filed beyond those 15 days will be subject to a late-filing fee and a field visit.

In addition to the final planting dates, also remember the final reporting dates for your crops. The final date to report planting of small grains to your local FSA office in Missouri is June 30, 2010. All other crops must be reported by July 31, 2010. Because July 31 falls on a Saturday this year, the deadline is moved to August 2, 2010.

Reporting Deadlines
 Small grains **JUNE 30**
 All other crops **JULY 31**

County	Final Planting Date			
	Corn	Soybeans	Grain Sorghum	Wheat
Benton/Cooper/Pettis/Saline	May 25	June 20	June 20	November 15
Carroll/Chariton/Howard	May 25	June 20	June 20	October 31
Henry/Johnson/Lafayette	May 25	June 25	June 20	November 15
Randolph	May 31	June 20	June 20	October 31
Ray/Clay	May 25	June 15	June 20	October 31

Report prevented planting within 15 calendar days of the final planting date.

Conservation and Wetland Compliance Penalties

It is critical for USDA program participants to follow their conservation plan. Failure to do so can result in a loss of USDA benefits and affect eligibility for future benefits.

The 2008 Farm Bill revised certain conservation compliance provisions, particularly financial penalties even when it has been determined that the participant acted in good-faith.

For example, if a violation of Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELIC) provisions is determined, and good-faith relief is granted by the FSA County Committee, a payment reduction will still apply. This reduction will be \$1,000 at a minimum, or a maximum of \$10,000, depending on the severity of soil loss caused by the violation.

Additionally, county committees' good-faith determinations must now be reviewed and approved by FSA's State Executive Director, with the concurrence of NRCS's State Conservationist. Avoid this process all together by ensuring you are compliant with your conservation plan.

DISTRICT 4 OFFICES

Jasper Grant · District Director
 Cooper County · 660.882.5647

BENTON	Annette Steelman · CED 535 N Hwy 65 Lincoln, MO 65338 660.547.2351 8:00-4:30 M-F
CARROLL	Charles Riley · CED Annette Brandt · FLM 1405 Hwy 65 N, Suite A Carrollton, MO 64633 660.542.8732 7:00-4:30 M-F
CHARITON	Julie Stoecklein · CED Jared Weydert · Actg FLM 104 S JFK Ave Keytesville, MO 65261 660.288.3279 7:45-4:30 M-F
COOPER	Randon Leathers · CED 17066 Highway 87 Boonville, MO 65233 660.882.5647 8:00-4:30 M-F
HENRY	William Spry · CED 1306 N 2nd Street Clinton, MO 64735 660.885.5567 8:00-4:30 M-F
HOWARD	Brian McDonald · CED 743 State Route DD Fayette, MO 65248 660.248.3384 7:45-4:30 M-F
JOHNSON	Kyle Meyer · CED 727 PCA Road Suite A Warrensburg, MO 64093 660.747.8400 7:30-4:30 M-F
LAFAYETTE	Brett Gilland · CED Brian Bagnell · FLM 120 W 19th Street Higginsville, MO 64037 660.584.8732 8:00-4:30 M-F
PETTIS	Jay O'Bannon · CED Steven Lair · FLM 1407 W 32nd Street Sedalia, MO 65301 660.826.3339 8:00-4:30 M-F
RANDOLPH	Eddie McKeown · CED 2995 County Rd 1325 Moberly, MO 65270 660.263.1169 8:00-4:30 M-F
RAY · CLAY	Jarrell Foreman · CED 500 Wollard Blvd. Richmond, MO 64085 816.776.5861 8:00-4:30 M-F
SALINE	Jared Singer · CED 704 N Miami Marshall, MO 65340 660.886.7447 7:45-4:30 M-F

Youth Loan Program at work in Johnson County

Each morning before heading out to do his morning chores, Bob Arnold tunes in to his favorite radio station, 100.7FM, "The Farm". This spring while listening to the morning radio program, he heard FSA discussing the Youth Loan Program on the stations weekly broadcast of "FSA Helpful Hints". After hearing of the details of the program, he right away called his son Robbie, with his grandson Russell in mind. Two months later, his grandson, Russell Arnold, is the proud owner of an excellent herd of Angus-cross cattle, which were financed with FSA's youth loan program.

"It's important to get started young," said Mr. Arnold. "I want my grandson to have this lending experience early on in life. It takes more to make it in agriculture today, and this program has a lot to offer a young person who wants to get started," Bob said. With FSA's \$5,000.00 loan, twelve-year-old Russell was able to purchase five young third period cows to add to the one cow he already owned. "I bought my first cow with money I earned working for my dad and grandpa on the farm," said Russell. Today, Russell has five healthy calves on the ground, with the goal of continuing to build his herd throughout high school and into college.

Russell is a member of the local Mt. Moriah 4-H Club, and chose a cow/calf operation for his 4-H project. Russell's grandfather and father both farm locally in Johnson County. They each started their livestock operations with hogs, but the tough hog market eventually forced them to transition from hogs and convert entirely to a cattle operation, supplementing their row crop production. Robbie said, "We all want more for our kids, and I believe Russell will be successful with a cow/calf operation, just as we have been. The low interest rate that you offer will really help him get his foot in the door."

Russell maintains his cattle on one of his grandfather's farms. This summer he will be busy not only working with his own cattle, but has also helping with the hay harvest and taking care of the rest of the cattle. "It is rewarding to see an excellent family like the Arnolds take advantage of our youth loan program," said Kyle Meyer, Johnson County CED. "We're looking at three generations of cattle producers here, and I'm glad to be a part of Russell's success."

After discussing Russell's project with Stephanie Matthews, Russell's 4-H leader, the Arnolds determined that a three-year term loan would work best for Russell's project. Meyer said, "We work with the family and the project advisor to determine what will work best for the youth involved. Russell's goal of increasing the size of his herd is what we'll focus on in the next few years." Twelve-year-old Russell Arnold is off to a good start with his herd of six young cows.

For more information on this or any FSA loan program, contact your local FSA office.



▲ Russell Arnold

It's important to get started young.
-Bob Arnold



▲ Robbie, Russell, & Bob Arnold

The low interest rate that you offer will really help him get his foot in the door.
-Robbie Arnold



▲ The Arnolds visit with CED Kyle Meyer

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 county FSA office.

Correction

The November 2009 newsletter incorrectly stated that honey was not eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) Program. Honey losses may be included if all other eligibility criteria is met. We regret the error.

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, audiotape, 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.

Hay Barn Loans – Change in security requirements

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) Program to include structures for hay storage. Initially, Missouri FSA required these loans be secured by a first deed of trust on real estate, or an irrevocable letter of credit.

A recent determination by the State Committee has revised this requirement. If the County Committee, in consultation with the County Director and Farm Loan Manager, determine FSA is not exposed to excessive risk, the loan may be made without requiring a first deed of trust or irrevocable letter of credit.

The structure itself would still be pledged as collateral.

Payment Limitations and Eligibility

USDA payments and benefits are subject to producer eligibility and limitation provisions as defined by law. Documents and forms to determine eligibility and limitations, once completed by the applicant, are reviewed on an annual basis. It is the participant's responsibility to report changes in the farming operation which may affect payment eligibility and payment limitations.

Entities such as corporations, limited partnerships, limited liability companies, trusts and estates are required to provide the names, addresses and tax identification numbers of their members. Benefits earned in programs subject to the provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill are directly attributed through entities to its members. Annual payment limitations for certain USDA programs are outlined below:

Program	Limit	Program	Limit
Direct	\$40,000*	MAL Market Gains & LDPs	None
Counter Cyclical	\$65,000	CRP Annual Rental	\$50,000
ACRE	\$65,000*	SURE, LFP, LIP, ELAP	\$100,000
EQIP	\$300,000	NAP	\$100,000

*The Direct payment limitation is adjusted if you participate in ACRE. The Direct limitation is reduced by 20% of the Direct payment for your ACRE farm(s). Your ACRE limitation increases by the same amount.