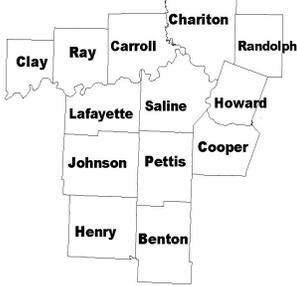




Missouri District 4 February 2011



DCP & ACRE Sign-up Underway

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program has begun and will continue through June 1, 2011. You can elect to receive 22% of your direct payment at the time you sign-up. The remaining 78% of your direct payment will be issued after October 1, 2011. DCP and ACRE contract signatures for enrollment are due by the sign-up deadline of June 1, 2011.

Those who elected the ACRE program in a previous year must still enroll their farm(s) each year to receive payments. Participants may also execute the ACRE election for 2011 and 2012 by June 1, 2011. For more information, producers can contact their local FSA office.

In this issue:

- CRP general sign-up
- SURE sign-up for 2009 crop year
- Report weather-related livestock losses
- Sorghum checkoff referendum
- Form to be sent to the IRS
- CRP transition incentive program
- February interest rates

www.fsa.usda.gov/mo



County Committee Election Results

In December, ballots were tallied at FSA offices across the nation to determine who would serve on the local FSA County Committee. Then in January, the newly elected, or in some cases re-elected, members held their 2011 organization meeting.

The results of COC elections in District 4 are provided in the table below. Each member will serve a three-year term, and is ineligible for re-election after serving three consecutive terms.

County	LAA	Townships	Elected member
Benton	2	South Williams, Lindsey, Cole	Kenneth Eckhoff
Carroll	2	Prairie, Trotter, Egypt, Moss Creek, Wakenda, Cherry Valley, Sugar Tree	Roger Kaiser
Chariton	2	Cunningham, Yellow Creek, Salt Creek, Mendon, Triplett, Brunswick	James Stewart
Clay	4	Lawson, East ½ Kearney, East ½ Liberty, Excelsior Springs, Missouri	T Renee Rhodus-Cull
Cooper	3	Clear Creek, Kelly, Lebanon, Otterville, Pilot Grove	Darrell Spaedy
Henry	1	Bogard, Big Creek, Fields Creek, Honey Creek, Shawnee, White Oak	John Phillip Howerton
Howard	3	Boonslick, Franklin, Moniteau	J Eric Colvin
Johnson	3	Washington, Rose Hill, Chilhowee, Post Oak, Jefferson	Lisbeth Jean Thomason
Lafayette	1	Clay, Lexington	Howard Block
Pettis	2	Dresden, Elkfork, Flat Creek, Green Ridge, Prairie, Washington	Charles Elliott
Ray	3	Knoxville, Grape Grove, Crooked River	Kenneth K Burns
Randolph	3	Union, Sugar Creek	Ed Miller
Saline	3	Blackwater, Elmwood, Liberty, Salt Pond	Donald Boland

FSA appreciates each voter taking the time to complete and return the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

FSA also appreciates the elected individuals' willingness to serve on their local County Committee.

Without their service, FSA's unique system of local oversight of federal farm program delivery would not be possible.

Congratulations to all County Committee members throughout the District.

UPCOMING CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) SIGNUP

The 41st CRP General Sign-up will be held from *March 14th through April 15th, 2011*. During sign-up, producers can offer acreage to be established to wildlife friendly conservation cover. Accepted offers will be eligible for cost share to establish cover, and will also receive annual payments based on the rental rates of predominant soil types of the ground.

Eligible land for offer includes:

- land that was row-cropped a minimum of four years from 2002 thru 2007,
- grasses grown in a rotation, not to exceed 12 years, and
- expiring CRP contracts (provided they are free from trees and shrubs that are large enough to prevent normal tillage).

Offers will be ranked based on their erosion benefits, cover, location, and cost in order to determine acceptance.

TRANSITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TIP)

The 2008 Farm Bill authorized TIP: a program offering payments to transition expiring CRP land from retired or retiring producers to either beginning farmers or Socially Disadvantaged (SDA) farmers, who then return the CRP acreage to production using sustainable grazing or crop production methods.

Under the TIP program, retired *or* retiring producers with expiring CRP acreage may receive annual rental payments for two additional years after the contract expires, while the land is put under production. *The TIP payments are in addition to any rental or sales agreements with the beginning or SDA farmer.*

In order to qualify for TIP payment, the retired or retiring producer must:

- transition expiring CRP ground to a beginning or SDA farmer, provided he or she is not a family member, through either a long term lease (5 years or more) or sales agreement; and
- allow the beginning or SDA farmer to start making conservation and land improvements according to an approved conservation plan.

2009 SURE SIGN-UP UNDERWAY

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) sign-up for the 2009 crop year has begun. The SURE program is available to producers in counties or contiguous counties that have received a Secretarial Disaster Declaration due to a natural disaster in 2009. Counties in District 4 that have a primary or contiguous 2009 Secretarial disaster designation include Carroll, Chariton, Lafayette, Ray and Saline. Producers in counties without a primary or contiguous disaster designation must have suffered at least a 50% production loss in 2009 to be eligible for the program.

Producers must have had all crops, including hay, covered by crop insurance or a non-insured assistance program (NAP) policy for the 2009 crop year. (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.) Additionally, at least one crop of economic significance on the farm must have a production loss of 10% or greater.

To initiate an application, please contact your local FSA office. Office personnel can access federal crop insurance information applicable to your farming operation and download it to SURE software for calculations. A significant change in the implementation of this program from the 2008 crop year is that no economic stimulus provisions apply for 2009. Sign-up for the 2009 SURE program ends on July 29, 2011

DISTRICT 4 OFFICES

Jasper Grant
District Director
Cooper County · 660.882.5647

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Annette Colvin · CED
535 N Hwy 65
Lincoln, MO 65338
660.547.2351
8:00-4:30 M-F

C
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Charles Riley · CED
Annette Brandt · FLM
1405 Hwy 65 N, Suite A
Carrollton, MO 64633
660.542.8732
7:00-4:30 M-F

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Julie Stoecklein · CED
Jared Weydert · Actg FLM
104 S JFK Ave
Keytesville, MO 65261
660.288.3279
7:45-4:30 M-F

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Randon Leathers · CED
17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233
660.882.5647
8:00-4:30 M-F

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William Spry · CED
1306 N 2nd Street
Clinton, MO 64735
660.885.5567
8:00-4:30 M-F

H
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W
A
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D
Brian McDonald · CED
743 State Route DD
Fayette, MO 65248
660.248.3384
7:45-4:30 M-F

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Kyle Meyer · CED
727 PCA Road Suite A
Warrensburg, MO 64093
660.747.8400
7:30-4:30 M-F

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Brett Gilland · CED
Brian Bagnell · FLM
120 W 19th Street
Higginsville, MO 64037
660.584.8732
8:00-4:30 M-F

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Jay O'Bannon · CED
Steven Lair · FLM
1407 W 32nd Street
Sedalia, MO 65301
660.826.3339
8:00-4:30 M-F

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Eddie McKeown · CED
2995 County Rd 1325
Moberly, MO 65270
660.263.1169
8:00-4:30 M-F

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Jarrell Foreman · CED
500 Wollard Blvd.
Richmond, MO 64085
816.776.5861
8:00-4:30 M-F

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Jared Singer · CED
704 N Miami
Marshall, MO 65340
660.886.7447
7:45-4:30 M-F

VARIANCE AVAILABLE FOR HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND PROVISIONS

During the 2010 growing season, much of Missouri received excessive amounts of rainfall. Many landowners and operators were forced to complete their farming practices under extremely wet conditions, and the excessive moisture caused producers significant loss of residue.

Those that participate in USDA programs are required to comply with the highly erodible land conservation provisions of the Farm Bill. One means to maintain compliance, and resolve problems with erosion issues involves the USDA program participant requesting a temporary variance due to excessive rainfall.

As deemed appropriate, NRCS District Conservationists can grant such a variance that would allow the landowner or operator to restore the affected areas prior to planting, and avoid noncompliance.

All tracts granted this variance will be placed on the 2012 compliance review list. Producers must request a variance from NRCS prior to beginning field work. Contact your local NRCS office for more information.

CONSERVATION LOAN PROGRAM

The Farm Service Agency makes and guarantees conservation loans on farms and ranches to help conserve our natural resources. The Conservation Loan (CL) Program provides farmers with the credit necessary to implement conservation measures on their land.

The direct CLs loan limit is up to \$300,000 and guaranteed CLs up to \$1,119,000 (amount adjusted for inflation), may be available by applying with lenders working with FSA to obtain a guarantee.

Conservation practices must be approved by NRCS before FSA can provide financing. Producers who do not currently have an existing conservation plan should visit NRCS to develop one prior to requesting Conservation Loan Program assistance. Examples of conservation practices include installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; transitioning to organic production; manure management, and more.

REPORT CHANGES TO YOUR FARMING OPERATION

If you have bought or sold land, or if you have added or dropped rented land from your operation, make sure you report the changes to the office as soon as possible. You need to provide a copy of your deed or recorded land contract for purchased property. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and penalties. Making the record changes now will save you time in the spring. Update signature authorization when changes in the operation occur. Producers are reminded to contact the office of a change in operations on a farm so that records can be kept current and accurate.

PROGRAM AVAILABLE FOR LIVESTOCK DEATHS

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) is available to compensate producers for eligible livestock deaths due to adverse weather conditions.

Most of Missouri was impacted by the recent harsh winter weather, which caused serious harm to livestock due to heavy snow, ice, and extremely cold temperatures.

LIP helps producers recover from livestock deaths that are beyond normal mortality rates. To be eligible, producers must first file a notice of loss at their local FSA office within 30 calendar days from the when the loss is apparent to the producer. An application for payment must be filed before October 30, 2011.

IRS FORM REQUIRED

Producers who participated in 2009 or 2010 programs subject to adjusted gross income limitations (AGI) had to certify compliance with AGI rules. The average AGI verification process for 2009 and 2010 payment eligibility requires all program participants to provide written consent to IRS for the disclosure of certain information to FSA.

On October 6, 2010, a letter was mailed to producers who have not submitted:

- CCC-927: "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-Individual Form"
- CCC-928: "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-Legal Entity"

Individuals and legal entities, including members of legal entities, that certified to average AGI compliance for 2009 and/or 2010 payment eligibility must submit a completed CCC-927 or CCC-928 to IRS regardless of whether they received program benefits directly or as a member of a joint operation or entity. These forms must be submitted to IRS in order to avoid a demand for refund of program payments and benefits received.

BANKING CHANGES

If changes to your banking information have occurred, be certain to update your direct deposit information at the FSA office to prevent delays in receiving payments.

Missouri District 4
17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233-9640



PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBIA, MO
PERMIT #230

Official Business

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

Any person who is convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits.

Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium, poppies and other drug producing plants.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

Interest Rates for February 2011

Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.250%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	4.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7-yr.	2.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 10-yr.	3.375%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 12-yr.	3.625%
Commodity Loans	1.250%

YOUTH LOANS AVAILABLE

The Farm Service Agency 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.

LOANS FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED & BEGINNING FARMERS

FSA has loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches. While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided targeted funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged groups.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of a group.

Loans are also available for beginning farmers who have not operated a farm for more than 10 years; does not own a farm greater than 30 % of the median size farm in the county.

FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of 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, political beliefs, genetic information, 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, 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). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.