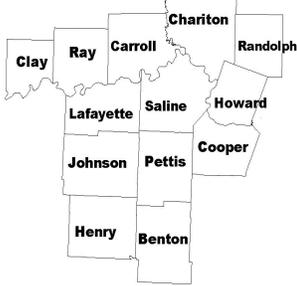




Missouri District 4 May 2011



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www.fsa.usda.gov/mo



DCP & ACRE Sign-up Deadline June 1

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.

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

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.

Actively Engaged in Farming

USDA has amended the rules that govern the requirements to be 'actively engaged' in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program administered by FSA. Normally the stockholder or a member of a legal entity **must** make contributions of active personal labor and/or active personal management for the farming operation. The contributions are to be performed on a regular basis, must be identifiable, and separate from the contributions of others. The exception to this rule for a stockholder or member of a legal entity only occurs when both of the following apply:

- At least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management; and
- The total direct payments received by the entity and each member can't exceed \$40,000.

FSA eAlerts

Missouri FSA has launched eAlerts to provide program updates to subscribers through text message and/or email.

To subscribe, contact your local FSA office, choose if you want to receive texts, emails, or both, and provide your contact information.

You can cancel your subscription at any time. Text messaging rates apply. If you have questions about charges for text messages, contact your cellular provider.

*convenient,
brief program
updates at
your fingertips*

This service is intended to provide convenient, brief updates about upcoming deadlines and other program reminders at your fingertips. For more in-depth information, continue to refer to your FSA newsletter, FSA's website, or contact your county office.

Stay up to date on FSA programs by taking advantage of this valuable service!

Agriculture Secretary Vilsack Announces Process to Resolve Discrimination Claims of Hispanic and Women Farmers

As part of continued efforts to close the chapter on allegations that discrimination occurred at USDA in past decades, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and Assistant Attorney General Tony West have announced the establishment of a process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who assert that they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans. The claims process offers a streamlined alternative to litigation and provides at least \$1.33 billion in compensation, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers.

This announcement follows the Obama Administration's settlement of longstanding litigation brought by African American farmers and Native American farmers. In conjunction with this announcement, USDA is launching an outreach effort to potential claimants that will include a call center for farmers and ranchers, a website, public service announcements, and in-person meetings around the country.

Individuals interested in participating in the claims process may register to receive a claims package, or may obtain more information by visiting www.farmerclaims.gov.

Beginning February 25, 2011, individuals can register to receive a claims package by calling the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429.

USDA cannot provide legal advice to potential claimants. Persons seeking legal advice may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider.

Spousal Signature Authority

A husband and wife may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest. Exceptions include claim settlements and lien filings. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county FSA office from either spouse.

FSA Accepting Plans for Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) Project Areas

The BCAP program has provided matching payments to eligible producers who deliver biomass to an approved facility. The program is now being expanded to provide cost-share and annual payments to growers of eligible biomass crops. To be eligible, the grower must produce biomass in an approved project area. FSA is now accepting proposals to establish project areas through May 27, 2011.

BCAP encourages the use of organic materials to produce heat, power, and bio-based products or bio-fuels. Through the program, assistance is provided for growing, harvesting, storing and transporting eligible biomass crops on land within approved BCAP project areas. Organizations currently utilizing biomass in their operations are encouraged to submit a project area proposal. In order to apply, BCAP Form 20, which can be found at www.fsa.usda.gov/bcap must be submitted to the following address:

Missouri State FSA Office
Parkade Center Suite 225
601 Business Loop 70 West
Columbia, MO 65203.

To learn more, contact the Missouri State FSA office at 573.876.0932. Applications must be received by May 27th, 2011.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) is a federally-funded program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed.

If you have a NAP policy, and have crops that have been affected by drought, flooding, or other adverse weather conditions, you must file a notice of loss within 15 days of the event. Do not wait until it is too late to receive assistance. Production records for all crops must be reported to FSA no later than the final acreage reporting date for the crop for the following year.

FSA requires that any production reported in a loss year be verifiable according to Agency specifications. NAP losses must be reported within 15 days of a disaster event or the date the loss becomes apparent.

County Committee Nominations

County Committees are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They direct the delivery of FSA farm programs at the local level and work within national guidelines to help programs fit the needs of their communities. Committee members provide general oversight, review and act on appeals from program participants, keep the state FSA committee informed of issues in their county, and provide a link between the Agency and local producers.

From June 15 through August 1, 2011, 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. You may nominate yourself or someone else as a candidate.

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 below to see which area in your county is up for election this year. Nomination forms may be obtained at your FSA office, or on FSA's website, www.fsa.usda.gov.

Nominate and vote! 2011 election timeline

June 15	Nomination period begins.
August 1	Nomination period ends.
November 4	Ballots mailed to eligible voters.
December 5	Last day to return voted ballots to your FSA office.
January 2, 2012	Elected committee members take office.

County	LAA	Townships	Regularly scheduled meeting*
Benton	1	Tom, Alexander, Fristoe, Union	3rd Thursday at 8:30 AM
Carroll	3	Ridge, Rockford, Carrollton, Combs, DeWitt, Eugene	Varying Thursdays at 8:30 AM
Chariton	3	Clark, Musselport, Keytesville, Bowling Green, Chariton	1st Tuesday at 8:30 AM
Clay	5	Kearney, Platte, Chouteau, Liberty	See Ray County
Cooper	1	Palestine, Clarks Fork, Prairie Home, North Moniteau, South Moniteau	2nd Tuesday at 8:30 AM
Henry	2	Walker, Davis, Clinton, Deepwater, Bear Creek	2 per month, varies
Howard	1	Prairie, Burton, Bonne Femme	2nd Tuesday at 1:00 PM
Johnson	1	Jackson, Columbus, Hazel Hill, Simpson, Grover	3rd Thursday at 8:00 AM
Lafayette	2	Sni-A-Bar, Washington, Freedom	3rd Thursday at 8:00 AM
Pettis	3	Cedar, Bowling Green, Sedalia, Smithton, Lake Creek	2nd Tuesday at 9:00 AM
Randolph	1	Chariton, Jackson, Salt River, Clifton, Salt Springs	3rd Thursday at 8:00 AM
Ray	2	Polk, Fishing River, Northern Half Richmond	1st Tuesday at 8:30 AM
Saline	1	Arrow Rock, Cambridge, Clay, Salt Fork	2nd Thursday at 9:00 AM

*Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Contact your local office for scheduling updates.

DISTRICT 4 OFFICES

Jasper Grant
District Director
Cooper County · 660.882.5647

BENTON
Annette Colvin · 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 · 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
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

Official Business

Interest Rates for May 2011

Farm Operating	2.625%
Farm Ownership	5.000%
Farm Ownership Down Payment	1.500%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7-yr.	2.875%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 10-yr.	3.500%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 12-yr.	3.750%
Commodity Loans	1.250%

Agriculture Foreign Investment Disclosure Act

The Agriculture Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of US agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government officials, realtors, attorneys, and others involved in real estate transactions are encouraged to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

Crop Reporting Deadlines

The deadline for reporting 2011 crops is **June 30** for small grains and **July 31** for all other crops. Crop reports are required for most FSA programs including CRP, DCP/ACRE, and commodity loans. If not filed timely, a late-filing fee of at least \$46 is required.

Report Prevented-planted and Failed Crops

Producers who are unable to plant their crops by the final planting date due to a natural disaster need to file a prevented planting report within 15 days of the crop's final planting date. If not filed within 15 days of the final planting date, the producer will have to pay a late-filing fee of \$46.00. Reporting prevented planting is required for crop insurance purposes.

If crops were planted timely with the intent to harvest and then failed due to disaster-related conditions, then producers need to file a failed acreage report. The failed acreage must be reported before disposition of the crop, unless crop insurance documentation is provided. The crop must have been planted timely under normal conditions and failed as the result of a natural disaster and not a management decision. Reporting failed acres is also required for crop insurance purposes.

County	Final Planting Date			
	Corn	Soybeans	Grain Sorghum	Wheat
Benton, Cooper, Pettis, Saline	May 25	Jun 20	Jun 20	Nov 15
Carroll, Chariton, Howard	May 25	Jun 20	Jun 20	Oct31
Henry, Johnson, Lafayette	May 25	Jun 25	Jun 20	Nov 15
Randolph	May 31	Jun 20	Jun 20	Oct 31
Ray/Clay	May 25	Jun 15	Jun 20	Oct 31

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

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).