



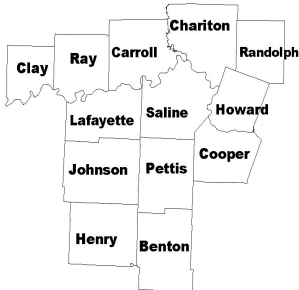
NEWSLETTER



September 2011

Farm Service Agency

Missouri District 4



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FSA Disaster Assistance Programs

Producers throughout Missouri experienced a variety of challenging weather events this year. From excessive snow and wind this winter and flooding of Missouri River bottoms, to excessive heat and lack of rain, high winds, hail, and tornados, many farmers in Missouri experienced crop, livestock, and other losses.

FSA may be able to help. The **Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE)** program provides assistance for revenue losses due to natural disasters. To be eligible, participants must have:

- had crop insurance or NAP coverage on all economically significant crops in their operation;
- experienced a revenue loss on their farm (the SURE program defines a farm as all crops in all counties a producer has an interest in);
- experienced a minimum production loss of either:
 - 50% on a crop of economic significance, or
 - 10% on a crop of economic significance if they farm in a county which has received a Secretarial disaster declaration.

The majority of FSA offices in District 4 have completed disaster assessment reports at the request of the Governor. It is not yet known if the Governor's requests have resulted in a Secretarial designation for our area, but determinations should be made soon.

Because calculations for the SURE program include the national average market price for each crop, applications for SURE are not processed until the crop marketing year has ended the following fall. Accordingly, SURE payments for 2011 crops will not be available until the fall/winter of 2012. FSA anticipates processing 2010 crop SURE applications this fall.

In addition to the SURE program for crop losses, FSA also offers programs for livestock producers. The **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)** compensates livestock producers for deaths in excess of normal mortality rates. The deaths must have been a direct result of weather conditions, and must be reported to the FSA office within 30 days of the death becoming apparent. If you reported losses throughout the year, and those losses exceeded normal mortality, don't forget to also file an application for payment. As currently written, this program only covers losses occurring prior to October 1, 2011.

Emergency Loans are available in many counties throughout Missouri due to disaster declarations for flooding. Emergency loans provide low interest financing due to physical and production losses caused by a qualifying disaster condition. Loans for physical losses may be used to replace or repair buildings or fences, or to compensate for losses of basic livestock, stored crops, supplies on hand, or equipment. To qualify, the producer must have suffered at least a 30% loss in production, or an actual physical loss that was essential to the farming operation. For more information on loan programs, contact the Farm Loan Team serving your county.

Watch future newsletters and other media outlets for more information about FSA disaster assistance programs.

Women Landowners Ag Conference in Concordia

The 12th annual Women Landowners Ag-Conference will be held Thursday, November 10, 2011 at the Community Center in Concordia, MO. The conference is co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of Missouri Extension, and the Concordia Tourism Committee. The conference will begin with registration at 8:45 a.m. The program will begin at 9:15 a.m. and will end at approximately 3:15 p.m.

The keynote speaker this year is Mrs. Chris Chinn, who will be speaking about the importance of standing up for agriculture. Chris resides on her family's hog farm near Clarence, Missouri with her husband Kevin, and their two children, Rachelle and Conner. Chris manages the production and financial records for the family's 1,500 sow farrow-to-finish hog operation, as well as the family feed mill. She and her husband also have a small cow-calf herd. Chris is a member of the Board of Directors for the Missouri Farm Bureau, the Missouri Pork Association, ALOT (Ag Leaders of Tomorrow) Class 13, American Farm Bureau PAL (Partners in Agricultural Leadership) Class 5, and the Shelbina Christian Church, where she volunteers with the youth program.

In addition to Mrs. Chinn's remarks, participants will be able to choose 3 breakout sessions to attend. The sessions will cover a wide variety of agricultural topics including: farm rental agreements, commodity futures, fence and water systems, estate planning, USDA programs, agri-tourism, and nutrition. Participants will also be presented with information regarding the current financial outlook for agriculture.

The Women Landowners Ag Conference is held annually for the purpose of providing women in agriculture with targeted information. A steering committee of 18 women representing Clay, Johnson, Lafayette, and Ray Counties plans and executes the conference with the help of USDA, University of Missouri Extension, and Lincoln University staffs.

For registration information for the Women Landowners Ag-Conference, participants may call 660-584-8732 (ext. 2) or 660-584-3658. The fee for this year's conference is \$15.00, and the registration deadline is Friday, November 4th, 2011.

ACRE Payment for 2010 Wheat & Oats

Missouri producers enrolled in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program may soon receive a payment on 2010 planted wheat at an average rate of \$40.01 per acre. To be eligible, producers must have enrolled in the ACRE program for 2010, planted wheat, and experienced a loss of revenue on their 2010 wheat crop for that particular farm. The payment rate may vary from \$40.01 per acre due to a factor which compares a farm's average yields to the state's average and adjusts the payment accordingly.

Missouri 2010 ACRE participants who planted oats are eligible for a payment at \$28.01 per acre, if the parameters outlined above apply for oats as well.

FSA offices will begin processing these payments after October 1. The ACRE Program is an alternative to the Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP). Instead of counter-cyclical payments which are based solely on national average prices and base acres, the ACRE payment provides revenue protection when both state and farm level revenues fall below historic averages for crops producers have actually planted. The national average price is used in the calculation, so payment availability is not known until the crop marketing year has ended the following year.

Missouri is not anticipated to qualify for ACRE payments for any other crop, though final calculations for other crops are not yet available.

Are you enrolled in 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.

If you decide eAlerts isn't right for you, 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.



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!

Keep your FSA Records Updated

It is imperative FSA program participants keep their records up to date with their FSA office. Make sure any changes to your farming operation are reported. This includes any land changes, address changes, or banking information if you take advantage of direct deposit. If you have created an entity or trust, or if the members, shareholders, trustees, or beneficiaries have changed in an existing entity or trust, be certain the FSA office is notified.

Also notify the office if land has been deeded to a trust or other entity. Participants sometimes assume if the land is transferred to an entity or trust of which they are a member, there is no need to update the FSA office. This is not the case.

Successors in Interest

Many FSA programs will allow payments to be made to heirs or successors when a program participant passes away. Contract agreements for programs such as CRP must be revised to reflect the successor(s) for a deceased participant's interest.

In the event of an FSA program participant's death, it is important that FSA be notified of any changes to verify the continued eligibility of the pending benefit. Business entities and joint operations that participate in FSA programs also need to inform FSA of changes such as when a shareholder or member passes away. FSA benefits are reported to IRS and maintaining current, accurate records is vital to ensuring that those payments are correctly issued and reported.

Marketing Assistance Loans Available

A Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) is available to producers who share in the risk of producing a crop. To be eligible, a producer must maintain continual beneficial interest in the crop from harvest through the earlier of the date the loan is repaid or CCC takes title to the commodity.

Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan — even if the producer regains beneficial interest.

Commodity loan eligibility also requires compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements; beneficial interest requirements, acreage reporting and ensuring that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards. For commodities to be eligible they must have been produced by an eligible producer, be in existence and in a storable condition and be merchantable for food, feed or other uses as determined by CCC. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan.

Producers do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical and/or ACRE Programs to be eligible for commodity loans.

Violating provisions of a marketing assistance loan may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing liquidated damages, calling the loan, and denial of future farm-stored loans.

Section 1291 of the Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act of 2011 does not authorize funding to provide nonrecourse MALs for mohair for the remainder of FY 2011. Effective April 14, 2011, County Offices are no longer authorized to accept requests for mohair marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments.

September interest rates are available on the back page of this newsletter.

Crop Insurance Fraud and Abuse

FSA works with the Risk Management Agency (RMA) to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program. FSA will be assisting RMA and insurance providers in monitoring crop conditions during the season. FSA will refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste, or abuse to RMA. Producers may report suspected cases of fraud, waste, or abuse to FSA, RMA, or OIG. FSA will assist RMA with auditing claims as necessary.

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District Director
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Jarrell Foreman · CED
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Marshall, MO 65340
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17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233-9640



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Official Business

Highly Erodible Land & Wetland Conservation Compliance

Landowners and operators are reminded that in order to receive payments from USDA, compliance with Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions are required. Farmers with HEL determined soils are reminded of tillage, crop residue, and rotation requirements as specified per their conservation plan. Please contact your USDA Service Center prior to conducting land clearing or drainage projects to ensure compliance. Failure to report these activities on form AD-1026 could result in a loss of your USDA benefits.

Interest Rates for September 2011

Farm Operating	2.125%
Farm Ownership	4.625%
Farm Ownership Down Payment	1.500%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7-yr.	1.875%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 10-yr.	2.500%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 12-yr.	2.875%
Commodity Loans	1.125%

2011 District 4 Rainfall

County	June		July		August	
	Actual ¹	Average ²	Actual ¹	Average ²	Actual ¹	Average ²
Benton	3.94	3.85	1.68	3.78	4.42	3.49
Carroll	5.84	4.37	2.18	4.24	4.13	3.79
Chariton	5.01	4.54	3.19	4.01	2.94	3.85
Clay	3.10	4.56	4.06	3.96	4.62	3.50
Cooper	2.90	4.84	1.44	3.74	4.41	4.25
Henry	3.10	4.80	0.60	3.86	3.55	3.91
Howard	3.52	4.18	3.14	3.53	2.86	4.01
Johnson	3.37	4.96	2.28	4.13	7.16	3.80
Lafayette	2.98	4.23	2.20	4.25	4.27	3.56
Pettis	3.08	5.04	1.55	4.44	5.04	3.58
Randolph	5.17	4.20	1.41	4.10	1.45	3.67
Ray	4.00	4.47	3.31	4.37	5.45	3.60
Saline	3.39	4.11	3.68	3.78	3.33	3.50
District 4 Average	3.80	4.47	2.36	4.01	4.13	3.73

¹Observed at county FSA offices

²NASS 30-year average precipitation 1971-2000

Controlled Substance Convictions

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.

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).