



## District 8

USDA Service Center  
Website Address  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/mo](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo)

Barry County FSA  
Cassville, MO 65625  
417-847-2862

Barton County FSA  
Lamar, MO 64759  
417-682-3571

Bates County FSA  
Butler, MO 64730  
660-679-6112

Cass County FSA  
Harrisonville, MO 64701  
816-884-4432

Cedar County FSA  
Stockton, MO 65785  
417-276-4712

Dade County FSA  
Greenfield, MO 65661  
417-637-5991

Hickory County FSA  
Hermitage, MO 65668  
417-745-6496

Jackson County FSA  
Blue Springs, MO 64015  
816-229-5113

Jasper County FSA  
Carthage, MO 64836  
417-358-8198

Lawrence County FSA  
Mount Vernon, MO  
65712  
417-466-7107

Newton/ McDonald FSA  
Neosho, MO 64850  
417-451-1007

St. Clair County FSA  
Osceola, MO 64776  
417-646-8107

Vernon County FSA  
Nevada, MO 64772  
417-667-8137

## FSA eALERTS

Missouri FSA introduces FSA eAlerts—a new way to receive FSA program reminders via e-mail or text. You can sign up for eAlerts at your County Office and choose whether you would like to receive information via e-mail, text or both. If you elect to receive information by text, remember standard text messaging rates apply. Consult with your cellular carrier to discuss your text plan details. You can opt out of receiving FSA eAlerts at any time.

You will still receive your FSA newsletter, but Missouri FSA will discontinue sending post-card reminders for upcoming sign ups and deadlines. FSA eAlerts are provided as an additional service to Missouri FSA producers. Always refer to your county office newsletter for program information and bookmark [www.fsa.usda.gov/mo](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo) to check back frequently for program deadlines and information.



If emails or texts fit your life style, please stop by or call your local FSA office and a friendly FSA employee will take your account information and set the wheels in motion to get your operation on the information highway.

## SURE SIGNUP

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) **began Jan. 10, 2011, and ends July 29, 2011.** SURE provides benefits for 2008 - 2011 crop year farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. A farm enrolled in SURE may be eligible for benefits when either:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, have incurred crop production or quality losses, or both, and includes all crops grown by a producer nationwide, **except** grazed crops.
- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production of the farm, because of disaster related conditions, is less than 50% or less than normal production of the farm.



Please check with your local office and also indicate if you have other interest in other counties or states.

## CROP REPORTING REQUIREMENT

Your local Farm Service Agency would like to encourage producers to report their planted acres to stay eligible for benefits. 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. A report of acreage must account for all cropland whether: row crop, grass, CRP, idle or failed. **The deadline to report small grains is June 30th and all other crops by July 31 (August 1 for 2011).** Please bring your planting dates with you.

**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 due to natural disaster conditions. Failed acreage can be reported after it has been planted to another crop if insurance verification is received before the crop reporting deadline.

## DOWNPAYMENT LOAN PROGRAM

A downpayment loan is a type farm ownership loan made to beginning and socially disadvantage farmers to finance a portion of a real estate purchase.

The financing will include:

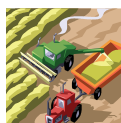
- Minimum 5% downpayment from the borrower
- Financing from FSA for up to 45% of the purchase price, appraised value or \$500,000; whichever is less.
- Financing from another eligible lender for the remaining amount.

The FSA's portion of the loan can be financed at the current, July 2011 interest rate of 1.50% over a term not to exceed 20 years.

**To find out more about the Downpayment Loan Program and all the FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.**

## RISK MANAGEMENT

FSA and RMA strive to prevent fraud, waste and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program.



- FSA will assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions during the season.
- FSA will refer all suspect cases of fraud, waste or abuse to FCIC or RMA.
- Producers may report suspect cases of fraud, waste or abuse to FSA, RMA or OIG.
- FSA will assist RMA with auditing claims as necessary.

Risk management also requires the producers be notified of FCIC sales closing dates.

## IRS FORM 1099-G

Producers annually receive CCC-1099-Gs detailing payments producers have received from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on CCC-1099-Gs is a service intended to help our customers report taxable income.



It is not intended to replace the producers' 2 responsibilities to report income to IRS. FSA staff cannot interpret IRS regulations or advise producers about which payments to report on their income tax returns. However, county office staff can review payments for accuracy.

## PAYMENT LIMITS & DIRECT ATTRIBUTION



For commodity and disaster programs under the new farm bill, the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) limitation was reduced from \$2.5 million from all sources to a three-year average **non-farm AGI of \$500,000** such that a person or entity shall not be eligible for such programs if the non-farm AGI exceeds \$500,000. Also, under the new regulations, an individual or entity must have a 3-year average AGI less than or equal to \$750,000 per year from farm income in order to qualify for direct payments issued under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program. For conservation programs, the average nonfarm AGI limitation is \$1 million or less for eligibility. However, an individual or entity who has non-farm AGI in excess of \$1 million remains eligible for conservation programs only if 66.66 percent or more of the total AGI is derived from farming, ranching and forestry operations. Program payments are limited by direct attribution to individuals or entities. A legal entity is defined as an entity created under Federal or State law that owns land or an agricultural commodity, product or livestock.

Through direct attribution, payment limitation is based on the total payments received by the individual, both directly and indirectly. Qualifying spouses are eligible to be considered separate persons for payment limitation purposes, rather than being automatically combined under one limitation.

Individuals and entities must be "actively engaged in farming" with respect to a farming operation in order to be eligible for specified payments and benefits. To be "actively engaged in farming," the individual or entity must make significant contributions to the farming operation of: (1) capital, equipment, land, or a combination; and (2) personal labor or active personal management, or a combination. Every stockholder or member of a legal entity, such as a corporation, does not have to contribute labor or management if 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 that altogether qualifies as a significant contribution to the farming operation;
- the total direct payments received, both directly and indirectly, by the legal entity and each of the members does not exceed \$40,000.

## FAX SIGNATURES

Certain faxed signatures shall be accepted for all applicable forms or other documents approved for faxed signatures, if all other requirements are met.



## 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 the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.



## FOREIGN BUYERS NOTIFICATION

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of 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 offices, realtors, attorneys and other involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.



## REPORTING FARMING CHANGES

If you have sold or bought land, changed the way you do business (formed or changed a trust, partnership, corporation, etc.) or assumed operation of a new farm for 2011, please let us know so we can update our records to better serve you in the future. We also need you to notify us of any address or banking changes.

## CIVIL RIGHTS/DISCRIMINATION PROCESS

As a participant or applicant for programs or activities operated by USDA you have a right to be treated fairly. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of your race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability, or marital or familial status, you may file a discrimination complaint. The complaint should be filed with the USDA Office of Civil Rights within 180 days of the date you became aware of the alleged discrimination. To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD), USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## LANDOWNER DESIGNATION

If you are a landowner and you plan to sell a portion of your land, this provision may apply to you. The Designation by Landowner method is the division of bases in the manner agreed to by both the buyer and seller. The

land must be owned for 3-years to qualify for this option. This option allows both the seller and buyer the opportunity to choose how the base acres associated to the farm are divided and both the seller and buyer of the land sign to the agreement (Form FSA-155), unless a memorandum of understanding is provided. This memorandum must also be signed by both parties outlining how base acres are to be distributed. Anytime land is sold, producers should report the sale to the county office timely. Failure to report sales could result in program payment refunds or penalties on participating program farms.

Additional information on payment limitations is available at FSA county offices or online at: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).



## FARM LOAN PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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. 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 \$1,119,000. To qualify for assistance, applicants must meet all loan eligibility requirements, including:

- Must not be ineligible for loans as a result of a conviction for controlled substances;
- Be of legal capacity to enter into a contract;
- For direct Operating Loans (OL), must be operator of a family-size farm. For direct Farm Ownership (FO) loans, must be owner and operator of a family-sized farm;
- Have an acceptable credit history;
- For direct OL, have sufficient education; training, or at least 1-year's experience in managing or operating a farm/ranch. For direct FO loans, applicants must have participated in the business operation of a farm/ranch for at least 3 of the last 10 years;
- Be a citizen of the United States, a U.S. non-citizen national, or a qualified alien under federal immigration law;
- Be unable to obtain credit elsewhere at reasonable rates and terms to meet credit needs;
- Not be delinquent on a Federal debt;
- Not been disqualified for Federal benefits due to federal crop insurance fraud;
- Must agree to complete borrower training courses if required;
- Not have caused FSA a loss by receiving debt forgiveness; and
- Be within the time restrictions as to the number of years they can receive FSA assistance.

<b>Selected Interest Rates for July 2011</b>		<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.375%	July 29	Final date to apply for the 2009 SURE disaster program.
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	4.75%	August 1	Final date to report CRP, NAP and all other crops (except small grains).
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%	August 1	Final date to return COC nomination forms.
Emergency Loans	3.75%	September 1	Final date to provide 2010 production for ACRE farms.
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7-year term	2.375%	September 5	Labor Day Holiday, FSA Office Closed.
Farm Storage Facility Loans 10-year term	3.000%	Continuous	Signup for email or text alerts!!
Farm Storage Facility Loans 12-year term	3.250%		
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.250%		

Visit our website at: [www.fsa.usda.gov/mo](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo)

### **NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital status. (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 202-702-2600 (voice and TDD).

### **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.

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).