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*"dedicated to achieving
an economically and
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future for American
Agriculture"*

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) – Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program has been **extended to August 14, 2009**. Secretary Vilsack has responded to producers' concerns about needing time to make an informed decision on the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications after this date. Producers eligible for the DCP Program may instead choose to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. The enrollment period for the ACRE Program will begin **April 27th**. You may first enroll in the DCP Program, receive advance direct payments and then later modify your enrollment to the ACRE program or you may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time on multiple farms.

Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) - Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up-to-date. Production summaries must be submitted by **June 1, 2009**.

NAP Coverage Deadlines - Noninsured Crop Disaster applications are due at different times according to the crop being insured. Producers should apply for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage using form CCC-471 (Application for Coverage). Related service fees are due when the application is filed. The application and service fee must be filed by the crop deadline date. Contact your local FSA office for the filing dates for your crops. The service fee is \$250 per crop per county or \$750 per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$1,875 per producer for individuals with farming interests in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver for

service fees. To qualify, a producer must be a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop.

Acreage Reporting - Timely and accurate annual reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments. Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported. Producers need to file their acreage reports by **April 30, 2009** for Fall planted crops and **July 15, 2009** for Spring planted crops. Any prevented-planting acreage needs be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date. 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 and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

The sign-up period has not yet been announced for the much-anticipated disaster programs for the 2008 crop year (ie: SURE, TAP, LCP, drought). Once sign-up is announced, producers will be notified immediately.



Disaster Buy-In Waiver Extension – The deadline has been extended for producers who did not obtain crop insurance or Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2008 who can now pay a buy-in fee through **May 18, 2009** to become eligible for 2008 disaster assistance programs authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) - Farm stored commodity loans are available for 2008 Corn, Grain Sorghum, and Soybeans, through May 31, 2009 to provide interim financing for eligible producers, allowing for storage of crops at harvest during lower prices then marketing the crop when prices rise. MAL's can now be repaid at any time during the loan period at the lesser of several rate calculations. 

Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program - Producers who are eligible for the DCP Program will also be eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program beginning on **April 27, 2009**. The enrollment period for the ACRE Program will begin in the spring. Producers may first enroll in the DCP Program and then later modify their enrollment to include the ACRE program or they may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time. **The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on State revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP.** The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year. Sign-up can be accomplished by making an appointment at your USDA Service Center.



Dates to Remember!

- April 27, 2009 - Sign-up begins for the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program.
- May 6, 2009 - Next scheduled meeting of the County Committee (7:30 pm)
- May 31, 2009 - Final date to report fall planted small grains; also last day to apply for a Commodity Loan on Corn, Soybeans, and other grains.
- July 15, 2009 - Final date to report all 2009 crop acres.
- August 1, 2009 - Final date to request farm reconstitutions.
- August 14, 2009 - Deadline to sign contracts for Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program.



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