



# Jackson-Vinton FSA News

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## **August 2010**

## **GENERAL CRP SIGN-UP**

A general sign-up for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has been announced and will run through August 27, 2010. A general sign-up allows for whole fields to be offered for enrollment to be effective for program year 2011 which begins October 1, 2010. Contracts will be 10 to 15 years in length depending on the practice to be established. Fifty percent cost share is available for establishing the approved cover. The rental rate is determined by the soils in the offered acreage. Fifty percent cost share is available for establishing the approved cover.

To be eligible, the land must:

- have been owned for at least 12 months to meet the ownership provisions.
- have been cropped 4 of the 6 year period of 2002 to 2007. This can include being cropped in a rotation with hay or in some cases grassland meeting the seeding requirements will be considered as having crop history.
- have a soil erosion index of 8 or greater.

This sign-up will be a competitive process to accept the most cost effective offers to meet the program goals based on an environmental benefit index (EBI) score. Various options are available to enhance and increase each offers environmental benefit index (EBI) score.

Anyone interested can call for details or schedule a time to stop in and discuss the program.

## **CONTINUOUS SIGN-UP CRP CHANGES**

The continuous sign-up provisions remain largely unchanged. However, the cropping history requirements have now moved forward to match the general sign-up requirements as listed above. Therefore, filter strips and waterway practices must now have been cropped during the 2002 through 2007 period. The warm season grass wildlife and riparian buffer strips remain available for fields that do not have crop history.

The acreage available for the Scioto River Watershed CREP is nearing 99% of the 70,000 acre limit. Therefore, anyone within the Scioto River watershed having an interest in enrolling buffer and/or filter strips along streams on their property should stop by the office soon.

The quail strip option is also still available for putting warm season grass strips along crop fields to provide habitat and cover for quail.



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## **FARMERS CLUB – FIELD DAY PLANNING**

The next Farmers Club meeting will be held August 16, 2010 and will be the planning session for the Field Day. The meeting will be held in the meeting room at Ponderosa Steakhouse on Main Street in Jackson starting at 7:00 p.m. for those wanting to eat. For those coming for the planning, it should get started around 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

The 2010 Farm City Field Day will be held at the Coriell Farm on Riegel Ridge Road on September 9, 2010. So, mark your calendars and plan to attend. Watch for specific details after the planning meeting.

## **NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)**

This program offers crop insurance like coverage for crops not eligible for Federal Crop Insurance. The application deadlines for the 2011 crop year are as follows:

- August 31, 2010 – Aquaculture, Christmas Trees, Floriculture, Ginseng, Mushrooms, and Ornamental Nursery
- September 30, 2010 – Wheat, Rye, Barley, and Speltz
- November 20, 2010 – Peaches, Nectarines, Strawberries, Caneberries, Cherries, Plums, Grapes, Pears, Blueberries, Asparagus, Honey, and Forages for Hay and Pasture

This coverage is now required in order to maintain eligibility for the disaster program contained in the 2008 Farm Bill such as the SURE program. Considering the weather of the past three years, this coverage could be most beneficial by providing the insurance coverage plus eligibility for other disaster programs. Contact the office for specific details and applicable fees.

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Carl A Nelson, County Executive Director

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