



# Wyandot FSA News

June 2010

## County Committee Elections "FSA Counts on You"

Wyandot County  
USDA Service Center

**Wyandot County FSA**  
97 Houpt Drive, B  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351  
419-294-2127 (phone)  
419-294-2474(fax)  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/oh](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/oh)

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**  
Jerry Murphy  
Charles Bigler  
Henry Bils  
Connie Iles

County Committee  
meets monthly 8 am  
on third Wednesday

**Staff**  
Vicki Orians  
Brenda Blair  
Rinda Kraus  
Brent Gottfried  
Susan Sampson  
Joel Castanien  
Dave Demler  
Kelby Weaver

From **June 15 through August 2**, farmers can nominate eligible peers as candidates for election to the Wyandot County Farm Service Agency County Committee (COC). COC elections happen only once a year, so following is a refresher.

For election purposes, counties are divided into **local administrative areas**, or LAA's. Each LAA selects one producer to serve a three-year term on the Farm Service Agency county committee. Each year, an election is held in a LAA to replace the committee member whose three-year term is expiring. LAA #1 is Crawford, Ridge, Tymochtee and Sycamore townships; LAA #2 is Richland, Salem Crane, Eden; LAA #3 is Mifflin, Jackson, Marseilles, Antrim and Pitt townships.

An election will be held for the Wyandot County Committee expiring position in LAA #3 for which Henry Bils serves as member of the committee. Others who are currently serving on the committee are Jerry Murphy (LAA #2), Chuck Bigler (LAA #3) and Connie Iles-advisor.

The Wyandot County Farm Service Agency is looking for individuals interested in serving on the County Committee. Any eligible person residing in one of these townships who is interested in running for the County Committee, or would like to nominate an individual to run for the County Committee, must complete a nomination form. The nomination form for County FSA Committee Election (FSA-669-A) is available at any FSA office. You may also go on-line and download the form at Ohio FSA website [www.fsa.usda.gov/oh](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/oh). The document is located under the "I Want To" section on the right side of the screen.

This is an important time for LAA communities, because county committee members make decisions that have significant effects on you and the area's agricultural sector as a whole. For example, committee members make decisions on applications for federal farm program and disaster payments. Committee members play a vital role by helping local farmers and ranchers manage tough financial times and natural disasters.

Talk to those serving on the Committee, or Vicki Orians, County Executive Director at 419-294-2127 or stop in the office located at 97 Houpt Drive, Upper Sandusky for details on the types of decisions county committee members make. Or visit the County Committee Elections website to learn more about the County Committee Election process and read over the fact sheets at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

Remember, the nomination period runs **June 15 through August 2**. The completed nomination form must be returned to the county office by the close of business on Aug. 2, or postmarked by midnight Aug. 2, 2010. Voting takes place in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by Nov. 5. Dec. 6 is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office Jan.1, 2011.

## Final Acreage Reporting Dates

Once all crops are planted, it is time to report 2010 acreage to Farm Service, which is required for program participants enrolled in DCP, ACRE, SURE, CRP and for Marketing Assistance Loans and LDP's. By June 30, 2010, small grains (wheat and oats) need to be reported, and by July 15, soybeans, corn and CRP acreage reports are due. CRP participants were mailed form CRP-817-U and if this has been completed and returned to FSA, CRP acreage is considered reported timely. A late file fee of \$46.00 per farm will be charged for those who do not meet the above deadlines.

Map layouts are provided to operators who do certifications by farm, and by tract. Anyone on the farm with a crop share can sign to report acreage. To save staff time, we encourage operators to keep a clean, unmarked set of maps. Watch for map duplicates and if you have two maps for a tract, use the most recently dated version and discard the old map. From copies of each tract map, please use a prominent, readable pen and mark needed information as follows: Name and phone number at the top of the first map; Indicate crop share percentages by field or if all fields are the same, enter shares at the top of each map; Show crop (Soybeans, Corn, Wheat, etc.) with number of acres; If fields are split show acreage to the tenth; Indicate date of planting on each field; Indicate no-till (NT), minimum-till (MT), or conventional till (CT); **IMPORTANT:** Match FSA acreage certifications, dates, crop usage, etc. with acreage that is reported for Crop Insurance.

After you have annotated all maps, drop these off, and FSA will date-stamp. Once acreage certifications are printed, you will be called so a visit can be made for signing FSA-578 forms. We can mail your acreage reports, so you can review data carefully, then sign/date and promptly return.



## Staff Time Saver-Cost Cutting Assistance

FSA needs to preserve staff time and operating costs, so if you have not already done so, please provide your email contact information so important news items can be sent to you by email message to customers on our distribution list. Online news is updated monthly at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) by selecting State Offices, Ohio, Newsletters, and Wyandot County. We appreciate your patience and consideration with a process which can sometimes be challenging.

## Adjusted Gross Income

USDA has a Memorandum of Understanding with Internal Revenue Service to establish an electronic information exchange for verifying compliance with adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent is required from each payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report IRS sends to USDA.

The average AGI verification and data comparison processes begin with participants providing consent to IRS for the use and disclosure of tax information to FSA for AGI compliance purposes. By completing the CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) forms, it authorizes CCC/FSA to share program participant information with IRS. This also allows IRS to use and disclose certain tax information to CCC/FSA for AGI compliance verification purposes.

To safeguard privacy of all participants and confidentiality of information, program participants are required to complete CCC-927 and/or CCC-928; mail the completed forms directly to IRS at the address specified within 60 calendar days of the signature date to the IRS no later than **June 15, 2010**.

Completed CCC-927's and CCC-928's **will not to be accepted or retained** in any FSA office. Participants that choose **not to submit** a completed CCC-927, or CCC-928, as applicable, will be determined noncompliant with AGI limitations for the 2009 and 2010 crop, and program. Copies of the CCC-927, CCC-928 forms are available at your local FSA office. Participants can also visit the Ohio FSA State website and download the forms at: [www.fsa.usda.gov/oh](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/oh) under the "I Want To" section. The AGI factsheet is available at: [http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/irmsou10.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/irmsou10.pdf).

Selected Interest Rates for June 2010	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	3.125%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.125%
Farm Ownership Loans — Beginning Farmer Down Payment	1.500%
Emergency Loans	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 7 year	3.000%
Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 10 year	3.625%
Farm Storage Facility Loan -- 12 year	3.875%
Sugar Storage Facility Loans	4.125%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.375%

## Sign-up Continues For Tree Assistance Program

Orchardists and nursery tree growers may apply to receive Tree Assistance Program (TAP) benefits beginning May 10, 2010, for losses suffered during calendar years **2008** and **2009**, and for losses suffered during **January 1, 2010, to May 7, 2010**. TAP provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines that were lost by natural disasters occurring on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.

To qualify for TAP, orchardists and nursery tree growers must:

- suffer qualifying tree, bush, and vine losses in excess of 15 percent mortality (after adjustment for normal mortality) from an eligible natural disaster for the individual stand
- have owned the eligible trees, bushes, and vines when the natural disaster occurred; however, eligible growers are not required to own the land on which eligible trees, bushes, and vines are planted
- replace eligible trees, bushes, vines within 12 months from the date the application is approved.

The following table provides the final dates to submit a TAP application and supporting documentation.

DATE OF LOSS	FINAL DATE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION
Calendar Year 2008	July 6, 2010
Calendar Year 2009	July 6, 2010
January 1, 2010, to May 7, 2010	July 6, 2010
May 8, 2010, to Sept. 30, 2011	Within 90 calendar days of the disaster event or date when the loss of trees, bushes, or vines is apparent.

For more information about the TAP, please visit your local FSA office or to read the TAP factsheet go to: [http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/tap051010.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/tap051010.pdf)

## Maintaining Stored Grain Quality

With the high temperatures this spring, producers are reminded to keep an eye on the condition and quality of the stored grain. Remember to contact your local FSA office if you notice changes in the condition and quality of the stored grain.

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## April MILC Payments Dairy Producers

Producers participating in USDA's Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program will receive payments for the month of April. USDA makes MILC payments on a monthly basis when the Boston Class I milk price falls below \$16.94 per hundredweight as adjusted for feed costs.

The MILC payment trigger price of \$16.94 is adjusted upward when the National Average Dairy Feed Ration Cost for a month is greater than \$7.35 per cwt. USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service recently released the data for determining the Average Dairy Feed Ration Cost for the month of April on May 28, 2010. Using this information, the MILC payment trigger for the month of April has been adjusted to \$16.94, for a final MILC payment rate of \$0.2115000.

For more information about the MILC program, please visit your local FSA office or go online to: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA>.

## 2009 ACRE Program Production Reports

Producers that participated in the ACRE program for 2009 are required to report 2009 production to be used to compute 2009 ACRE payments, if applicable, and 2010 benchmark farm yields. The reporting deadline date for 2009 production reports has been extended **until July 15, 2010** for small grains and other crops. Production reports may be submitted by the 2009 crop year operator, owner or other producer with an interest in the reported acreage. Failure to file a production report (FSA-658) for a farm enrolled in ACRE will result in the farm's producers being ineligible for any ACRE contract payments and the actual yield used to determine future benchmark farm yields will be zero.

## 2009 ACRE Benchmark Farm Yields

Producers that participated in the ACRE program for program year 2009 must establish a benchmark farm yield for each covered commodity that was planted. A benchmark farm yield is the Olympic average of the average yield per planted acre for the farm for the 5 most recent crop years. For 2009, the benchmark farm yield is comprised of data from crop years 2004 through 2008. Because of situations where producers did not have control of farms for the preceding 5 years or a specific covered commodity may not have been planted on the farm in 1 or more of the preceding 5 crop years, "plug yields" were established by commodity and county. Producers may use the ACRE plug yield to establish the benchmark farm yield or may report production evidence.

Production must be reported on form FSA-658. Producers will be required to certify, but not submit, the documents to support their production at the time FSA-658 is filed. However, the documentation will be required at a later date to verify the reported production. The production reporting deadlines to establish the 2009 benchmark farm yields has been extended **until July 15, 2010 for small grains and other crops**.

## Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program will allow producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. Loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount, not to exceed \$250,000.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

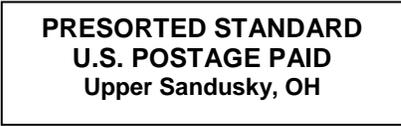
The following commodities in Ohio are eligible for FSFL:

- Corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, oats, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain;
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain;
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas;
- Hay;
- Renewable biomass; and
- Fruits (including nuts) & vegetables-cold storage

For more information about the FSFL program, contact your local FSA office or visit the FSA Price Support website at: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

## Removing CCC Loan Collateral

Producers are reminded: grain under Commodity Credit Corporation loan cannot be removed or disposed of without prior county office authorization or repayment. FSA staff may issue release authorizations based on a telephone or in person request when you are ready to move the grain. A loan violation is subject to monetary and administrative penalties, such as repaying the loan at principal plus interest, liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans and loan deficiency payments. All commodity loans are subject to spot check. Locking in a market loan repayment rate is not a marketing authorization. If you are planning to move CCC loan grain, call the county office staff, before you HAUL!



## Banking Changes?

If you have changed banks and not notified FSA, your payment could be delayed. Payments are electronically transferred into your bank account, if we are not aware of changes to your account and routing numbers, there could be problems. In order to make timely payments, you need to notify the office if you close your account or if another financial institution purchases your bank. It is important that any changes in producer's account such as type account, bank mergers, routing number or account numbers, be provided to the county office promptly to avoid possible payment delay.

## Special Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call the FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.

Dates to Remember	
June 1	Deadline to apply for 2009 commodity loans and LDP's on feed grains, soybeans, pulse crops.
June 1	<b>Deadline</b> to sign-up for 2010 ACRE and Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program. <b>USDA will not accept any late-filed applications.</b>
June 15	County Committee Nomination period begins.
June 15	Deadline to submit the CCC-927 and CCC-928 consent forms to the IRS.
June 30	Final certification date for small grains.
July 5	Independence Day Holiday. <b>FSA Offices Closed.</b>
July 15	Final certification date for all crops except small grains.
Aug. 2	<b>Final date</b> to request farm reconstitution for current fiscal year.
Aug. 2	<b>Last day</b> to file County Committee Nomination forms.
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loan Program.
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program.

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