



November 2009

Whitman County FSA News

Whitman County FSA

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Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

David Swannack, Chair
Larry Schroetlin, Vice-Chair
Greg Hall, Member
Gracie Miller, Committee
Advisor

Office Staff

Mike Mandere, CED
Ann Holbrook, CPT
Fred Hendrickson, PT
Bonnie Riebold, PT
Kathy Carothers, PT
Doreen Riedner, PT
Nancy Doege, PT
Jonelle Olson, PT
Kelley Betts, PT

Farm Loan Manager

Steve King
(509) 924-7350

Important Dates

November 11 – Office Closed,
Veterans' Day

November 18 – County
Committee meeting

November 26 – Office Closed,
Thanksgiving

Get Your Payments Timely & Accurately

Changes in your Bank Account
or has your Bank merged or
changed names?

Don't Forget – Update your
Direct Deposit Form.

Handicapped

Accommodations: Special
accommodations will be
arranged for those persons
with a physical, vision, or
hearing impaired disability. If
special accommodations are
needed, please contact our
office.



DCP and CRP Payment Problems

Producers are encouraged to closely monitor your farm program payments for fiscal year 2009. FSA has transitioned to an online system for making payments. The transition to the new system has created temporary problems for issuing payments, as some of you may have experienced. Payments to entities and joint operations were particularly plagued with problems. In some cases partial payments were issued to entities and joint operations and in others the payment wasn't issued at all. FSA is aware of many of these issues and is working to correct how the payment software interacts with eligibility software to ensure payments are issued in their entirety.

Final 2009 DCP and ACRE direct payments were issued in full this October. **If you received an advance DCP or ACRE direct payment earlier this year, that amount was offset from your final direct payment.** However, it may have been offset from a different farm or by a different FSA county office if you farm in more than one county. Also, if you received multiple advance payments, they may all have been offset from one farm. We apologize for any inconvenience and confusion this may have caused. However, when advance direct payments were issued this year the payment limitation Direct Attribution software was not yet programmed. To ensure the direct payments are properly attributed for payment limitation purposes FSA made the decision to re-issue the advances with the final payments and offset the advance amount. The 2009 CCC-1099's will not reflect the offset but they also will not reflect the original advance direct payments only the direct payments issued in October (final and the re-issued advance that was offset).

In limited cases, these advance payments may have been offset from one or more of your CRP annual rental payments. Individual payment amounts may look different than you expect, but the total of all your payments should be similar to previous years, if nothing has changed. Keep in mind; your 2009 direct payments will be a little less than 2008, even if you did not opt to go into ACRE. In 2008 FSA paid on 85% of your base acres and in 2009 payments were issued on 83.3% of your base acres.

Please know that we are trying to issue your payments as quickly as possible. Transaction statements are mailed directly from our Financial Services Center in Kansas City and may reach you after your payment is deposited into your bank account. If the total of all your payments is not what you expect, let us know and we can review them with you.

2010 DCP/ACRE Signup Underway

We are currently taking appointments for 2010 DCP/ACRE signup. Advance direct payments can be issued at 22% beginning in December for participation in either ACRE or DCP. Remember electing ACRE still allows for direct payments but the direct payments are at 80% of what the payment would be if it was participating in DCP.

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 re-authorized the DCP program, providing an income safety net in the form of annual direct payments. The counter-cyclical payments add an additional safety net during depressed market conditions. Eligible crops include: wheat, barley, oats, corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, rice, canola, crambe, flax, mustard, rapeseed, safflower, sesame, and sunflowers. **Pulse crops are now covered for Counter-Cyclical purposes only. Direct payments are not authorized under the 2008 Act for pulses.** The 2008 Act reduced payment acres from 85% of base acres to 83.3% of base acres for direct payments in crop years 2009-2011. Paid acres return to 85% of base acres in crop year 2012. Paid acres for Counter-Cyclical payments under DCP remain at 85% of base acres for crop years 2009-2012.

Contrary to previous years, CCC-509's not signed by the June 1 deadline will not be considered submitted to CCC for any purpose and will not be accepted or approved; there is no longer a late filing option. Erosion and weeds are required to be controlled on DCP acreage. Wild rice and fruits and vegetables, with certain exceptions, are restricted from DCP acreage. The 2008 Act changed the status of large and small chickpeas (garbanzo beans) from vegetable crops to covered commodities. There are no longer fruit & vegetable planting restrictions on garbanzo beans under the 2008 Act. **(cont. on next page)**

