

January 2008

Adair County News



Adair] County
USDA Service Center

Adair County FSA
2410 S Franklin St
Kirksville, MO 63501
660-665-3274 (phone)
660-665-0266 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
David Kittle
Burrel Harris
Frank Collop
Rosena Davison

County Committee meets
1st Wednesday of each
month

Staff
Program Techs
Penny Boulware
Barb Snyder
Dana Thompson
Jennifer Triplett

County Executive Director
Philip Ayers

Farm Loan Manager
Curt Corbett

County Committee Election Results

Congratulations to David Kittle. David was re-elected to his third consecutive term representing farmers from Liberty, Morrow, Ninevah, and Polk Townships on the county committee.

FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

The committee members held their organizational meeting on January 2nd and determined David Kittle will serve as the county committee chairman, Frank Collop as vice-chairman, and Burrel Harris, member.

LDP Deadline on Wool, Mohair and Unshorn Lamb Pelts

Eligible producers have **until Jan. 31, 2008**, to apply for LDPs for wool, mohair and unshorn pelts produced during the 2007 crop year.

Eligible producers must:

- have beneficial interest in the wool or unshorn pelts
- owned the lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of shearing or slaughter
- sold the unshorn lambs for immediate slaughter or slaughtered the lamb for personal use
- comply with wetland conservation and highly erodible land conservation provisions on all lands they operate or have interest in.

Disaster Payments For Crop, Livestock And Feed Losses-Big Change-Now All Of 2007 Is Considered A Disaster Year

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) has begun issuing payments to tens of thousands of farmers and ranchers across the country who suffered losses because of natural disasters.

USDA is currently processing about \$1 billion in payments under the Crop Disaster Program, Livestock Compensation Program and Livestock Indemnity Program. Sign-up for these programs is ongoing. The programs provide payments to agricultural producers who suffered crop, livestock and feed losses in 2005, 2006, and 2007. But, producers must choose one year for which to receive payments.

Farmers and ranchers can apply to receive benefits through these and other disaster programs by visiting their local FSA service center. Find more information about FSA disaster programs online at: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

Spousal Signatures

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) programs in which either has an interest. In most cases, this option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

Loans for Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches. While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has targeted funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged Applicants. A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women,



African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

For detailed information on loan eligibility or the different loan programs available, contact your local FSA office to setup an appointment with a Loan Approval Official. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.



Applications for FSA Loans

Farmers and ranchers that intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Filing early will help ensure that your loan is processed and approved as early as possible so that planting decisions can be made. Failure to apply early can result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications that must be processed in date order. Contact your local FSA Loan Approval Official for more details and assistance in applying.

Financial Inquiries

As we begin the new year its time to start thinking about gathering financial records and filling out a 1040. Currently, producer financial information is not available on the USDA Customer Statement under FSA Benefits Summary. Producers can view his or her financial information on the Financial Inquiries website **using their-Level 2 account authorization**. Producers who want to inquire about a particular electronic deposit, program payment, debt or 1099G should go to www.fsa.usda.gov and select Online Services, then Financial Inquiries for FSA Producers.

Controlled Substance

Any person who is convicted under federal law of planting, producing, cultivating, harvesting, growing, or storing a controlled substance will be ineligible to participate and receive payments under USDA programs. Marijuana, opium poppies, and other drug producing plants are controlled substances.

County Committee Minority Advisors

FSA County Committee (COC) Advisors are a valued voice for under represented groups and

socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. County committee members and their county executive directors, actively reach out to producer groups who are under-represented on county committees.

Eligibility requirements for COC advisor nominee include:

- be actively participating in farming or ranching in the county or area;
- be willing and able to serve as an advisor, if appointed; and
- indicate in writing their willingness and ability to serve.

Duties and Responsibilities of COC Advisors include:

- attending each COC meeting, including executive sessions;
 - participating in all deliberations;
 - increasing awareness of and participation in FSA activities, including elections, by eligible voters to ensure that socially disadvantaged group problems and viewpoints are understood and considered in FSA actions;
 - helping to develop interest and incentives in socially disadvantaged group members for considering FSA work as a career;
 - actively soliciting candidates from socially disadvantaged groups for nomination during the election process; and
 - able to perform special duties at COC s request.
- Note: Advisors do not have authority to sign documents.
- COC Advisor terms are 1 year running from March 1 through February 28.

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. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the 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 others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.



Selected Interest Rates for January 2008	
90-Day Treasury Bill	3.625%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	4.375%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.125%
Limited Resource Loans	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans Beginning Farmer Down Payment	4.000%
Emergency Loans	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loans	3.625%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	4.250%

Special Accommodations



Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the County Executive Director of their local Farm Service Agency office.

Power of Attorney

We have a power of attorney form available for those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. This can be done by completing an FSA-211, Power of Attorney. The form is available at your local USDA Service Center or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov>.

Forms obtained and completed outside the USDA Service Centers offices must be notarized. To find out more, call the office.

Faxed Signatures

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

Dairy Disaster Assistance Program Sign-up Continues

Eligible dairy producers can still sign-up for the Dairy Disaster Assistance Program (DDAP-III) at your local FSA Service Center. DDAP-III will compensate producers for production losses that resulted from cattle and yield losses and produced milk that had to be dumped because of lack of electricity, closed milk plants and damaged containment equipment.

A producer's operation must be in a county designated a major disaster or emergency area by the President or declared a natural disaster area by the Secretary of Agriculture **between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007**. Counties contiguous to such counties will also be eligible. Producers in counties declared disasters by the President may be eligible, even though agricultural loss was not covered by the declaration, if there has been a FSA Administrator's Physical Loss Notice covering such losses.

Eligibility Requirements

Under proposed DDAP-III regulations, the following are some of the eligibility requirements producers must meet to receive benefits:

- Producers must have produced and marketed milk any time between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007;
- Producers must have suffered dairy production losses attributed to the declared natural disaster during the eligible period in an approved area; and
- Producers must provide proof of monthly milk production commercially marketed by all persons in the eligible dairy operation during the applicable milk marketing calendar year and claim period (Jan. 2, 2005 - Feb. 27, 2007).

To find out more information about the DDAP- III visit our website at: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov> or to apply for the program, contact your local FSA Service Center

Adair SWCD News

The Adair County Soil and Water Conservation District appreciates all of the contributions and help in making last year successful. There are many things on the agenda for continuing our county's success. Keep your eyes open for some of the following that you might want to participate in:

- On March 5th, the Macon County SWCD will be hosting the annual Adair/Macon Contractors workshop. If you are interested in attending please let one of the two offices know, so they can keep you up to date with attendance information as it becomes available.
- On the agenda for March is the cost-share sign-up for the Adair SWCD.



If you have an erosion problem on your farm this would be the time to stop by our office and see how we might be able to assist you. The actual signup will run from March 3rd through March 14th.

Our staff is currently busy preparing plans for construction this spring on the FY-08 funds. If you are a landowner that falls into this category, you have probably already been notified. Please work with us so we can be sure to get all of our money spent well before June of 2008.

Lastly, we are conducting quality reviews on structures that were built six years ago and seeding practices that were established three years ago. As farms change hands so often over the course of time, it is nearly impossible to contact everyone that will be having a review this year. Please be patient with our Technician. He will do his best not to disrupt your daily activities as he conducts his reviews. Thanks again for your help in 2007, and for your continued support in 2008.

Dates to Remember	
Jan. 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. FSA Offices Closed.
Jan. 31	Deadline on 2007 LDPs for wool, mohair and unshorn lamb pelts.
Feb. 18	President's Day Holiday. FSA Offices Closed.
Mar. 15	Deadline to obtain 2008 NAP coverage on spring planted crops.
Mar. 31	Final Availability for 2007 crop wheat, barley, oats, honey loans and LDPs.

Visit our website at: www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

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