



# Allegan County FSA News

## Allegan County USDA Service Center

Allegan County FSA  
1668 Lincoln Road  
Allegan, MI 49010  
(269) 673-6940 ext 2  
(269) 673-9671 (fax)

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

**Website**  
www.fsa.usda.gov

**County Committee**  
Robert Hoffmaster  
Earl Collier  
Raymond Brenner

**County Committee Advisor**

Larinda Miller

### Office Staff

Penny Andrews  
Brenda Carroll  
Janis Chestnut  
Patricia Powers

### County Executive Director

Linda L Rector

### Farm Loan Manager

Leslie Wills  
Ottawa County FSA  
(616) 842-5852 ext 2  
(616) 842-2820 (fax)

### County Committee Meetings

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month.

## Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) for 2007.

- Sign-up each year between Oct. 1 and June 1. Please call for an appointment. A \$100.00 late fee applies after June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Base acres must be planted to an annual crop, be in hay, or idle grasses. Fruits & vegetables (FAV) cannot be planted on base acres unless the farm or producer has FAV history. In cases where FAVs can be planted, producer will receive an acre-for-acre reduction in their program payment.
- Payments can only be earned by the person who has the risk in the crop.
- Annual crop certification of all cropland on the farm is required.
- Lease agreements will be needed if your payment is requested prior to June 30. **Please have your 2007 leases with you when you sign up.**
- HEL and Wetland provisions apply

### Record review prior to sign-up:

Farm Changes – report any changes in landownership, tenants or crop share arrangements. This also includes land development.

Reconstitutions – changes that require farm combination or separations should be reported as soon as possible.

Eligibility Forms - all basic eligibility forms will be reviewed for accuracy at the time of sign-up. These forms affect your ability to earn program payments. Partnerships / LLCs / Corp. will need to provide Social Security number and address for all members holding greater than a 10% interest if we do not already have that information on file.

**Please allow extra time at sign-up to review update your eligibility forms.**

## 2007 DCP Program Payment

The payments have changed for 2007.

**Direct Payment** is a guaranteed payment. Payment is calculated using the farm base & yield. Payment rates are: corn .28, wheat .52, barley .24, oats .02, and soybeans .44 (payment = base x 85% x yield x share x payment rate)

**22%** of the direct payment is available starting Dec1 and the final 78% of the payment will be issued in October 2007.

**Counter-cyclical payment** is a payment that is based on a 12-month marketing cycle in comparison to the target price. This is **not** a guaranteed payment. An advance payment may be requested. However, at the end of the marketing cycle any unearned payment will have to be refunded.

Advance – 40% of the projected payment will be issued 6 months after harvest.

Final payment will be issued 12 months after harvest.

## COC Committee Elections

This years County Committee Election will be held in voting area 1. Ballots have been mailed to owners and operators in Overisel, Salem, Dorr, Leighton, Hopkins, and Wayland Townships so they can elect a representative to sit on the Allegan County FSA Committee.

The candidates for this three-year position are:

**Isla Mae Compagner**  
**Jeffry Lenhart**  
**Scott Vanderkolk**

Ballots must be signed and returned (or post-marked) by December 4, 2006. The County Committee will be counting the ballots on December 06, 2006 at 10:00 am.

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**Dates to Remember**

- Dec 04** Last day to turn in Election Ballot
- Dec 06** Election Ballots will be counted
- Dec 25** Office Closed Christmas Break
- Jan 01** Office Closed New Year Break

***2007 Prevented Planted Wheat***

Due to the wet fall and the delayed soybean harvest we have received reports of producers not being able to get wheat planted.

We will still accept preventive planting reports from producers that were prevented from planting 2007wheat due to the wet fall.

You will need to provide proof that you had intentions of planting wheat ( i.e. seed receipts, seed purchase arrangements, seed treating receipts)

***Delay In Issuing MILC Payments***

October 1, 2006 started the beginning of the 2007 program year for the MILC program. Due to a software problem, the system could not distinguish between the 2006 and 2007 program. Therefore all payments were put on hold.

This was followed by some changes in administering the program.

Payments can once again be processed. All 2006 MILC payments that were not processed prior to October 1st will be issued shortly.



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***Special Accommodations***

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call Linda L Rector at (269) 673-6940 ext. 2.