

# Anderson County News

County Committee meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
Members - Duane Kipper, Keith Hirt, and Randal Beckmon  
Committee Advisor - Sandra Kueser

Farm Loan Programs – By Appointment

Phone (785)448-3128 Fax (785)448-5559



Jolene Alexander, County Executive Director

**December 18, 2006**



Michelle Rockers, Brenda Hubler, and Denise King  
TEMPORARY – Howard Tush  
FIELD ASSISTANTS – Glen Bures and Ryan Tastove

## 2007 DCP SIGNUP

We are currently taking appointments to enroll farms in the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP). We will print the contracts prior to your arrival in order to make your visit as brief as possible. When you call to schedule your appointment, please let us know if you have any changes to your farming interests or payment entity so we can print them correctly. We are also reviewing your eligibility papers for accuracy, so you may have to complete and sign new eligibility papers if they're not accurate.



## DCP PROGRAM CHANGES

2007 is the last year of the current farm bill. There are some changes from the 2006 crop year. At the beginning of 2006, the advance payment rate for the Direct payment was 50% of the projected payment. The advance payment percentage was reduced to 40% in February, 2006. For the 2007 crop year, this has been further reduced to 22%, and you will still earn the balance of the payment in October. The advance payment may be requested when the farm is enrolled and may be any month from December 2006 to September 2007.

Another change for 2007 is the timing and percentage of the counter-cyclical advance payment. Counter-cyclical payments are authorized when the effective price for the commodity is less than the target price of the commodity. Most producers in Anderson County do not request an advance counter-cyclical payment since it may have to be refunded if the estimate is higher than the final rate determined after the end of the 12 month marketing period for the crop. For 2006, the first 35% advance payment could be requested in October of 2006, and the second 35% could be requested in February 2007. For the 2007 crop year, there will only be one advance counter-cyclical payment of 40% after the first six months of the crop's marketing period. If a final rate is determined at the end of the 12 months, these payments will be issued to all eligible producers, regardless of your advance payment selection. Many of you received counter-cyclical payments in October for the 2005 crop year.



## SHARED MANAGEMENT WITH LINN COUNTY

Beginning November 26<sup>th</sup>, Jolene is now responsible for managing both Anderson and Linn counties. This is a temporary arrangement, expected to last 6-8 months. It is the intent of the State Executive Director and the State Committee to have both counties stand on their own with a manager in both locations. The Linn County FSA Office was previously in a shared-management arrangement with Bourbon County, but was reassigned due to a change in district boundaries.

## NEW TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE

Howard Tush will be assisting our office for the next few months. Howard is a lifelong Anderson County resident, and has a bachelor's degree in History and Political Science from Ottawa University. He and his wife Dawn currently live in Garnett, and are building a new home near Kincaid.



## NEW MEASUREMENT SERVICE RATES

Several years ago, measurements service rates increased for the first time in a long time, going from \$20 to \$25 for the first hour, and from \$7 to \$10 for each additional half hour. The national FSA office has raised these rates again, and given the State FSA Committees two options for charging measurement services. The option chosen by the Kansas State FSA Committee is to charge a basic farm fee of \$30, plus \$16 for the first hour and \$8 for each additional half hour. Therefore, a measurement service that takes less than an hour will cost \$46 for each farm.

Most of our measurement service requests are for grain loans or for production evidence. If you would like to have the measurements to turn in to crop insurance, you may want to weigh the benefit against the increased cost. If you want the measurement for a grain loan with us, another option is to certify the quantity based on weight tickets, your measurements of the bin, or your best guess of what the bin has historically held. This option is not available to producers who have had loan violations in the last two years. If you use the certification option, you will also need to certify the test weight and moisture of the grain. Penalties may apply if your estimate is not within 10% of the certified quantity, and it will be considered a loan violation. Contact the office if you have questions about the increased measurement service rates.

## IMPORTANT DATES

December 25 – Office Closed for Christmas  
January 1 – Office Closed for New Year's Day  
January 15 – Office Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday  
March 31 – Last Day to Request Loan or LDP for Wheat, Oats, and Barley  
May 31 - Last Day to Request Loan or LDP for Corn, Milo, and Soybeans  
May 31 – Last Day to Report Wheat, Oats, and Barley Acres  
June 1 – Last Day to Sign up for DCP Program (Annual Farm Program)  
August 1 – Last Day to Report Corn, Milo, Soybeans, CRP, and All Other Land Uses  
Ongoing - Signup for Habitat Buffers for Upland Birds & other Continuous CRP Practices



*May your holiday season  
and year to come be  
safe and prosperous*

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