

USDA FSA

Bay County

4044 S Three Mile Rd
Bay City, MI 48706
Ph (989) 686-0430
Fax (989) 686-7925

Program Staff

Sharon Guoan
Donna Jacobs
Cathy Krengielski
Jodi Lahar
Floyd Fischer

Executive Director

John Porath

County Committee

Gene VanDriessche
Dan Schultz
William C. Meylan

Advisor

Joyce Helmreich

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00am – 4:30pm
We are closed on
National Holidays

JUNE/2007

CROP CERTIFICATION

It is that time of year again, when all of your crops have been planted. Please call and make an appointment to certify what you have planted this year. The deadline for doing this for producers with wheat, oats and barley is June 30th, and all other crops is July 15th. It is always easier to call ahead so that all of your maps can be pulled and outlined and please remember your planting dates.

Producers that participate in any of the farm programs are required to certify by these deadlines. Also, if you have crop insurance you will need the same information that you are certifying here for your crop agent. Please do not wait until the end of the month to make your appointment. If you are done planting and can make it in you will avoid the rush.

CRP participants that have all of their land into the program will be receiving a postcard to certify. This is the same as other years and all that is needed is to sign the postcard and mail it back to the office. If you get a postcard please take the few moments to sign and return it. If you have any questions on your CRP please feel free to contact us.

2007 CROP YEAR DCP SIGN-UP EXTENDED

The deadline for enrolling into the DCP has been extended to August 3rd. If you have not enrolled into the program, you can do this at the same time that you certify your crops. Please call ahead in case of any changes; you will also need your leases for 2007.

RECORD CORRECTIONS

Producers are being reminded to let us know as soon as possible if there will be any changes to your farming operation. The sooner we are made aware of changes, the sooner we can update our records to prevent any delays in enrolling into the farm programs.

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

We are very close to mailing out your new aerial photos for you to review and we are asking that you look at the lines on your photos very carefully. If you are in agreement with the lines then no further action is needed. Depending on the placement of the line for field boundaries, new acreages for fields are likely. These new acres will be used for future certifications after the 2007 crop year. Please take the time to look at the boundaries closely when you receive the photos.

Bay County FSA Office
4004 S. Three Mile Rd
Bay City, Mi. 48706

PRSTRT. STD.
U.S. Postage Paid
Lansing, MI
Permit #19

COC ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS

County Committee elections will be taking place soon. Now is the time to nominate someone in your area to serve. The area up for election consists of the following townships: Merritt, Hampton, Frankenlust and Portsmouth. If you reside in these townships you will receive a ballot later this year to vote for a candidate, however, you have until August 1, 2007 to nominate a candidate from this area.

Each producer on our mailing list should receive a newsletter from the Michigan State FSA Office which will include a nomination petition (FSA-669A). More information on the elections, including nomination forms is available at the county office or online at www.fsa.usda.gov under the "News and Events" tab.

Any additional information on the COC or nominating someone to serve please contact us at the county office.

OFFICE CLOSED JULY 4, 2007, FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

Producers are reminded that we will be closed on the above date, and should schedule appointments appropriately. Please call ahead to schedule an appointment with this date in mind.

2007 Compliance Process

Starting this year a new compliance and spot check selection process will be implemented for the 2007 crop year. Instead of locally selecting farms, contracts, deficiency loans, etc. for spot check and review, a nationwide selection of producers will be made using a statistical sampling method. Spot check selections are to be conducted based on a producer's participation in Conservation Reserve Program, Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, Loan Deficiency Program, etc.

State and County Offices shall view and print their producer spot check lists as posted on the designated web site. If an entity is selected from the national database that is no longer farming or participating in the 2007 crop year, a notation shall be made on the spot check list. For more information about the new spot check selection procedure, feel free to contact your local Farm Service Agency office for additional clarification.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of Discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.