



BROWN COUNTY FSA
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HOURS:
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee:
Douglas Meyer
Douglas Rodvelt
Randall Korthanke

Advisor:
Evelyn Lierz

COC MEETINGS:
2nd Wednesday of each
month at 8:30 A.M.

Staff:
Kim Kee, CED
Linda Kelsey, PT
Rosemary Kopp, PT
Lucinda Schilling, PT
Barbara Shefferd, PT
Martha Gill, TPT
Nancy Hisle, TF

Loan Manager:
Bruce Nutsch
(913) 833-533-5460

Internet Web Sites:
USDA-www.usda.gov
FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov
NRCS-www.nrcs.usda.gov

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2008 Loan Rates

WHEAT	\$3.09
CORN	\$1.86
SOYBEANS	\$4.91
OATS	\$1.32
GR SORGHUM	\$3.36
SUNFLOWERS	\$8.76

April Interest Rates

Commodity Loans – 1.625%
Farm Stored Facility Loans –
2.5%



BROWN COUNTY FSA FARMLINE

April/May 2009



ACRE & DCP Enrollment

Beginning April 27, 2009 producers can elect and enroll in Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE). ACRE is a provision of the 2008 Farm Bill and was created to give producers an option in lieu of traditional counter-cyclical payments. Producers may elect and enroll in ACRE for the 2009 crop year even if they have already accepted advance direct payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program. To elect ACRE for a farm, producers must complete Form CCC-509 ACRE, which irrevocably elects ACRE for the farm through crop year 2012. Form CCC-509, the contract to participate in ACRE, must then be completed each year the producer intends to participate and receive benefits.

Producers who elect the ACRE program for a farm agree to:

- Forgo counter-cyclical payments
- Accept a 20-percent reduction of the direct payments; and
- Accept a 30-percent reduction in loan rates for all commodities produced on the farm.

Producers have until August 14, 2009 to make their decision for the 2009 crop. The signup deadline for the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) has been extended from June 1, to August 14, 2009.



CRP MAINTENANCE ISSUES

All Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants are required to maintain the CRP practices they have. This means on all practices that did not have trees or shrubs planted in them according to a CRP Plan of Operations, trees and shrubs must be controlled by whatever means will accomplish the control. Cutting, spraying and burning are all allowed. However, please check with FSA personnel before burning to make sure it will not impact other CRP issues. *Always refer to your Plan of Operations to determine what operations are required and when.* **REMEMBER – There can be no disturbance to cover during the primary nesting season (April 15 – July 15)**

Over the past several years intense reviews have been completed and it was apparent some CRP fields were not being properly maintained. Not completing the required maintenance measures will cause non-compliance and monetary penalties to be assessed.

Trees and shrubs on CRP are not the only examples of violations. Non-control of noxious weeds such as musk thistle, Johnson grass, Sericea lespedeza, and bindweed among others, is also a violation.

Some other examples of violations are: permanent roads or trails, trash and brush disposal areas, parking or storage of junked machinery and autos, livestock hay or feed storage, buildings or houses, mowing strips for hunting, or cosmetic mowing to make it look nice.



DISASTER BUY-IN WAIVER EXTENSION FOR 2008 CROPS

Producers who did not obtain crop insurance or Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2008 can pay a buy-in fee through May 18, 2009 to become eligible for 2008 disaster assistance programs authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

If producers have not already taken the necessary steps to become eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP), they are encouraged to complete the following steps by May 18, 2009 to remain eligible:

- Pay a \$100 "buy-in" fee per crop. The maximum fee is \$300 per county, per producer, not to exceed \$900 for multi-county producers.
- In the case of each insurable crop, excluding grazing land, agree to obtain a policy or plan of insurance for the next insurance year for which crop insurance is available; coverage level should equal 70 percent or more of the yield at 100 percent of the price.
- In the case of each noninsurable crop, agree to file the required paperwork and pay the applicable administrative NAP coverage fee by the applicable state application closing date for the next available year.

Those who choose to "buy-in" under this provision will be considered, for insured crops, to have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for the 2008 crop year at a level of coverage not to exceed 70 percent of the yield at 100 percent of the price. For noninsurable crops, producers will be considered to have a level of coverage equal to 70 percent of the yield. These levels of coverage will be used to calculate the 2008 SURE guarantee. However, producers shall realize that this "buy-in" provision does not provide any insurance or NAP coverage; it only provides eligibility for SURE, ELAP, and TAP.



FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

FSA offers seven-year, low interest loans to grain producers to build new or upgrade existing storage facilities and related essential, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment. Loan opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- New conventional-type cribs or bins, oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures, and flat-type storage structures designed for whole grain storage.
- Perforated floors, safety equipment, electrical equipment and concrete components considered essential for a fully functional storage facility
- Remodeling existing storage facilities.

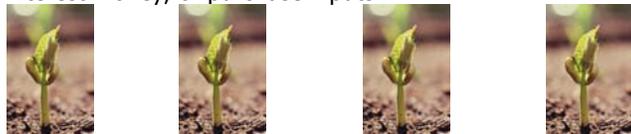
Farm storage facility loans must be approved prior to site preparation, equipment purchase or construction, and must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. Special provisions apply for loans exceeding \$50,000.

The maximum loan amount will be 85 percent of the net cost of the applicants needed storage or handling equipment, not to exceed \$100,000 per borrower. A minimum down payment to the supplier or contractor is required to bridge the gap between the net cost of the storage facility and the loan amount. Fixed interest rates on farm storage facility loans are equivalent to the rate of interest charged on U.S. Treasury Securities of comparable maturity on the date the loan is approved. There is a \$45 application fee.



2008 COMMODITY LOANS & LDPs

The deadline to request a 2008 corn, grain sorghum, soybean, or sunflower loan or loan deficiency payment is May 31, 2009. Low interest, 9-month loans are a great marketing tool to utilize working capital while you wait for local prices to rise, pay off higher interest notes with low interest money, or purchase inputs.



ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINES

Producers must report acreage by applicable deadlines to maintain eligibility for FSA programs. All cropland on the farm must be certified on FSA-578 to remain eligible. All farmland, including hay and grazing land must be certified to remain eligible for disaster programs.

The deadline to report 2009 wheat, oats, and barley is May 31, 2009.

The deadline to report 2009 corn, CRP, grain sorghum, soybeans, and sunflowers is August 1, 2009.

NAP Crops – August 1, 2009 or 15 days prior to the onset of harvest or grazing for all other crops.

2009 COC Election

This years COC election will be for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1 which includes Morrill, Walnut, and Powhattan townships. Nominations will be accepted by the county office beginning June 15 through August 3, 2009.

Any producer who lives in this area and participates in FSA programs can be nominated to run in this election. Nominees must be 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen. Nominees must sign Form FSA-669A, which must be filed in our office by August 3, 2009 in order to be placed on the ballot. Producers may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. The nomination form may be obtained at the county office or online at

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections>.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

April 27	ACRE Enrollment Begins
May 18	Disaster Buy-In Deadline
May 25	Office Closed in Observance of Memorial Day
May 31	Deadline for 2008 Commodity Loans
May 31	Small Grain Acreage Reporting Deadline (Barley, Oats, Wheat)
June 15	COC Election Nomination Period Begins
July 3	Office Closed in Observance of Independence Day
August 1	Acreage Reporting Deadline (Corn, CRP, Sorghum, Soybeans, & Sunflowers)
August 14	ACRE & DCP Enrollment Deadline



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