



September 2006

Cloud County FSA Office

1501 E 7th Street
Concordia, KS 66901
(785)243-4438
(785)243-3602 – FAX

Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee (COC)

Gail Ethridge
Rick Hanson
Gary Holbert
Virginia DeGraff, Advisor
COC meets the 1st Thursday of the month

Staff

Jackie Koch, PT
Jolene Kindel, PT
Colleen Larsen, PT
Jana Carlson, PT
Wayne A. Akers, CED

Internet web sites

USDA-www.usda.gov
FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov
NRCS-www.nrcs.usda.gov

Loan Rates

	2006
Wheat	\$2.80
Corn	\$1.96
Soybeans	\$4.89
Oats	\$1.34
Gr. Sorghum	\$3.29
Sunflowers	\$9.09

The September interest rate is 6.125%.

Special Accommodations

Special accommodation will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA office and we will be happy to make arrangements that are needed.

Dates to Remember

Sept. 29-Deadline to enroll into the 2006 DCP Program to remain eligible for payments (with late-filing fee of \$100 since June 1 deadline has passed).

October 9 – Office closed in observance of Columbus Day.

November 10 – Office closed in observance of Veterans Day.

November 23 – Office closed in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

Weekly – Radio information spot every Monday at 6:50 am, 11:35 am, and 4:50 pm on AM 1390 KNCK.

Cloud County FSA News

2006 Commodity Loans

Nine month nonrecourse loans are available for warehouse and farm stored grain. The loan can be repaid at the PCP (Posted County Price) or principal plus interest.

Marketing Authorizations (CCC-681-1) – Producers may request that a commodity pledged as collateral for a CCC farm stored loan be released for delivery to a buyer before repayment of the loan. The entire loan quantity will be released and the delivery period is normally for 15 or 30 calendar days. At the time of the request, the producer must inform the office where the grain will be delivered. The repayment of the loan purchased by the buyer must be received from the buyer; otherwise, the buyer is violating the clear title provisions.

You must have authorization before moving any farm stored grain under loan.

LOCK-IN Rate (CCC-697) – Once a CCC loan is issued, producers have the option to lock-in the daily PCP as the amount for repayment. This lock-in rate is effective through the earlier of 14 calendar days before the loan maturity date, or 60 days from the date of approval of the rate. A producer may repay the loan any time during the 60 days at the locked-in rate. The Lock-in expires the earlier of 60 days or 14 days prior to loan maturity. After expiration the producer may repay the loan at the current PCP. *Only one initial 60 day lock-in rate is allowed on the same bushels.*

LDP's & CCC-633EZs

Current market prices indicate we will be doing corn, sorghum, and soybean LDP's this fall. To be eligible for LDP's, you must have completed page one of the CCC-633EZ which should have been signed when you signed up for the 2006 Farm Program. Form CCC-633EZ can be used to secure an LDP on production; 1) delivered to a buyer and **beneficial interest (BI)** has been retained, 2) delivered to a buyer and **BI** has been lost, or, 3) stored on the farm or other location and **BI** has been maintained.

As long as a CCC-633EZ, page 1 is on file before **BI** is lost, many LDP options exist. To request an LDP, page 2 of the CCC-633 EZ must be used, and can be filed; 1) before harvest begins to provide an LDP based upon the date of delivery (as a CCC-709 previously provided), or, 2) after harvest of the crop, whether **BI** has been retained or not. There are many options with the new form. If you have questions please call BEFORE you begin harvest. For grain crops harvested as silage and delivered to a feedlot or other buyer, **BI** is lost upon delivery, as is grain delivered to a feedlot or unlicensed warehouse.

NEW for 2006 LDP's

Beneficial interest (BI) requirements have changed for 2006 and subsequent crop year for Commodity loans and LDP's. Producers must have control of the commodity or title to the commodity. A producer has control of the commodity if the producer retains: 1) the ability to make all decisions affecting the commodity, 2) all risk of loss associated with producing and maintaining the quality and quantity of the commodity. A producer may be considered to have title to the commodity if the producer has not sold or delivered the commodity for market, including the delivery of a warehouse receipt. If either of these conditions is not true, the producer has lost control of the commodity, therefore, the producer does not have **BI** in the commodity. So, how does this affect us? For warehouse stored grain, we are now required to have a statement on the production evidence (ledger sheet, settlement sheet, etc.) signed by a warehouse representative that states, "Title and control remains with the producer and a negotiable warehouse receipt can be issued to the producer for the quantity physically delivered to the warehouse." We understand that this put an additional burden on the warehouse and producer, but this is national procedure.

Reminders

Check the condition of your farm stored grain on a regular basis.

Control noxious weeds, especially on CRP. Sericea Lespedeza is gaining a foothold in Cloud Co. It is classified as a NOXIOUS WEED by the State of Kansas. Failure to control it violates both Kansas Law and CRP contract provisions. This time of year is an excellent time for attempting control. Contact the Cloud Co. Weed Department for identification and control information.

If you are delinquent on any non-tax debt to the federal government, you are ineligible for Loans, LDP's, Guaranteed & Direct FLP Loans, and Farm Storage Facility Loans.

Report intentions to break up land before doing so. Large or small, altering wetlands or breaking up highly erodible land can cause payment ineligibility on all land you farm. A determination beforehand is critical.

Producers planning to move CCC loan grain should contact our office for additional information prior to moving the grain

Consider obtaining Level 2 e-Authentication Access. This allows you to perform many functions on-line from your home computer, including filing e-LDPs, enrolling in DCP, checking program payment info, etc. Contact FSA for more information, including handouts and detailed instructions.

Producers with 2006 NAP Coverage must remember to file a "Notice of Loss" **within 15 days** of the date a loss occurred or the damage to a covered crop was apparent.

FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

The election of responsible agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every producer take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will offer. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws. Committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

The 2006 election for Cloud County Committee will be in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2, the middle area of the county. This includes the townships of Summit, Arion, Center, Lincoln, Nelson, Aurora, and Shirley. On the ballot for this election will be Brad Berk, Gary Holbert, and Lowell Thoman. The ballots for the 2006 County Committee Elections will be mailed to all eligible producers in LAA-2 by November 3. The ballots must be returned to our office by December 4.

Farm Storage Facility Loans

It is not too late for producers to apply for a Farm Storage Facility Loan if you would like to use the storage structure for fall harvest. These 7 year loans for up to \$100,000 are available for 85% of the cost of eligible equipment and repayable in 7 equal installments. Call for an appointment if you are interested in a Farm Storage Facility Loan. There is a \$45 application fee to begin the application process.

Record Changes

If you have bought, sold, or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the FSA Office as soon as possible after the change occurs. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in could lead to possible ineligibility for USDA benefits.

NAP INFORMATION

***December 1, 2006** is the final application date for 2007 Apples, Alfalfa, oats, and all grasses for hay or forage.

***March 15, 2007** is the final application date for 2005 fruits, vegetables, sorghum for forage and other spring planted forage crops.

NAP production evidence –

**** Producers** with losses are to notify FSA within 15 days of the loss.

**** Producers** who do not have a loss are required to provide production evidence to report and verify 2006 production. The producer must pay the cost of a field reporter to verify the production in the field. The production must not be fed before reporting to FSA. If production is fed and therefore not verifiable the production is not acceptable as eligible production evidence and will not count towards the APH (actual production history).

Producers are to provide bale counts and weights when reporting production of baled crops. We must have verifiable weights of the bales. The time to verify production is at the completion of harvest. Last year many producers waited until December to report bale counts; the production needs to be reported earlier so it is verifiable and not fed.

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