

DECATUR COUNTY FSA NEWSLETTER

July 2010

COUNTY COMMITTEE

Robert Henningson, Chairperson
David Meitl, Vice Chair.
Michael Coleman, Reg. Member
Natasha Carman, Advisor

OFFICE STAFF

Diane Barrett, CED
Sue Hillebrand, PT
Candi Ketterl, PT
Megan Carter, PT

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
8:00 AM-4:30 PM
Phone: (785) 475-3131

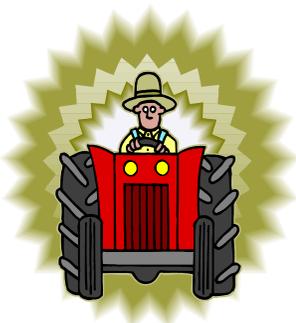
County Committee Meeting Times

The Decatur County Committee meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 9:00 AM, in the Decatur County USDA Service Center Conference Room.



Special Accommodations

For individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment, we will make special accommodations upon request. If special accommodations are required, please contact the FSA office and we will make any arrangements that are needed.



Reporting Crop Losses

Producers are reminded that if they have a NAP policy they must report crop losses to the county office within 15 days that the loss becomes apparent. Failure to report these losses within this timeframe may result in a loss of program benefits.

If you have crop insurance be sure to contact your agent as soon as possible after the crop is damaged and revise your acreage reports at the FSA office if the crop is determined to have failed due to adverse weather.

If you do not have crop insurance you must report these failed acreages to the FSA office within 15 days of the loss becoming apparent. Our office will complete a field visit. Do not destroy the failed acreage until the field visit has been completed.

Transition Incentives Program

A new program has begun to encourage retired or retiring owners or operators to transition their land to beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers.

The Transition Incentives Program (TIP) is one more tool to protect family farms and support beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers.

If all program requirements are met, TIP provides annual rental payments to the retiring farmer for up to two additional years after the date of the expiration of the CRP contract, provided the transition is not to a family member. To be eligible, the retired or retiring farmer must have land enrolled in CRP that is in the last year of the contract or the contract expired in 2008 or 2009. They must also agree to allow conservation and land improvements to be made, agree to sell or have a contract to sell the land, or agree to a long-term lease of the land under the CRP contract to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer by October 1 of the year the CRP contract expires. For more information please contact our office.

Conservation Reserve Program Signup

The county office is preparing for the next general CRP signup that is to be held later this year. The enrollment dates have not been announced at this time. However, producers should begin now thinking about possible areas that they are currently farming that may be better suited to being taken out of crop production. CRP is a program that will provide assistance to farmers to take the most highly erodible land out of production and convert it to wildlife habitat. Cost share assistance is available for installing the practice and annual rental payments are issued for a period of 10 to 15 years. Keep your eyes and ears open for the announcement of the CRP enrollment dates.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

July 5	Office closed Independence Day Holiday
July 15	Final Date to Late File 2008 Acreage Reports without paying a fee
August 1	Final Date to Report 2010 Spring Seeded Crops, CRP Acreage, NAP Crops
Continues	Supplemental Revenue Assistance Signup for 2008 losses
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program enrollment

2010 Crop Acreage Reporting

Producers are reminded that several programs administered thru USDA require an annual acreage report to be eligible for program payments. Our office is taking appointments to complete the reporting of all cropland acreages for 2010 at this time.

The final date to report all crops on the farm is August 1, 2010. If you fail to meet this deadline a late filing fee will be assessed. Call (785) 475-3131 to schedule your appointment now.

2010 Marketing Assistance Loans

The Farm Service Agency has available warehouse and farm stored marketing assistance loans. In order to be eligible for loans the producer of the crop must comply with annual program requirements including reporting of acreage, complying with Highly Erodible Land provisions, and certifying to Adjusted Gross Income. The producer must also maintain beneficial interest in the crop throughout the loan period and share in the risk of producing the crop. Loan rates are no longer adjusted on warehouse or farm stored loans due to premiums and discounts at the time the loan is issued. For warehouse loans you are required to have in-handling charges associated with the quantity on the receipt to be prepaid or provided for. In addition, you are no longer required to pay storage in advance to get the loan. Farm stored loans may either certify to the quantity or request a measurement service to have it measured.

The commodity pledged as collateral for the loan must have been produced by an eligible producer, be in existence and in a storable condition, and cannot be substituted, purchased, bartered or received as a gift. Loan availability for the 2010 crops is March 31, 2011 for wheat, oats, barley and May 31, 2011 for corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, and sunflowers. The commodity loans mature on demand, but no later than the last day of the ninth calendar month after the month in which the loan is disbursed.

Marketing assistance loans provide producers interim financing at harvest time to meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are typically at harvest-time lows.

The interest rate in effect for loans disbursed in July is 1.375%. Loan rates for 2010 are Wheat, \$2.65/bu; Oats, \$1.43/bu; Barley, \$1.95/bu; Corn, \$1.93/bu; Milo, \$3.18/cwt; Soybeans, \$4.67/bu; and Sunflowers, (oil and non-oil) \$10.70/cwt.

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