



December 2009

GREELEY COUNTY FSA NEWS

Greeley County FSA

129 E. Greeley Ave
PO Box 708
Tribune, KS 67879-0708
Ph. - (620) 376-4332
FAX - (620) 376-4303
www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Thomas Bergner, Chairperson
Alan Wineinger, Vice-Chairperson
Allen Kail-Regular Member
Beverly Dittmer, Advisor
Committee Meets on the 2nd Thur. of
the Month at:
Winter Months - 8:00 a.m.
Summer Months – 7:30 a.m.

Staff

Linda Wendelburg, PT
Sandy Lewis, PT
Scott Brown, PT
George Schmidt, CED



DATES TO REMEMBER

Through 6/1/10

- Sign up for the 2010 Farm Program (DCP or ACRE)

February 1- Last day to return ballots for COC election.

March 15 – NAP application closing date for most spring planted crops, ie, forage crops, millet (except proso), coarse grains

March 31 – Final date to request a 2009 crop small grains and honey loan or LDP.

May 31 – Final date to request a 2009 crop feed grains and oilseeds loan or LDP

Office Closed for the Holidays on

- December 25
- January 1 & 18
- February 15

DCP & ACRE Signup Deadline

Signup for the 2010 DCP & ACRE Program started in Greeley County on December 1, 2009. During this signup process, the DCP/ACRE contracts, Average Gross Income (CCC-926), Farm Operating Plans (CCC-902), and LDP Agreement (CCC-633EZ) forms will be completed. Sign up will end June 1, 2010 and FSA will not accept any late-filed applications. For 2010, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. USDA will issue advance direct payments if requested. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price. The FSA office is preparing the above stated forms in preparation for enrollment. Contact the FSA office at 620-376-4332 or visit the Tribune USDA Service Center with your desire to enroll.

Livestock Forage Program

FSA's Livestock Forage Program (LFP) provides financial assistance to producers who suffered grazing losses due to drought on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011, during the calendar year in which the loss occurs. January 30, 2010 is the deadline to file for 2009 grazing losses. To be eligible the producer on a farm must provide pastureland or grazing land for covered livestock, including cash-leased land that is physically located in a county affected by drought during the normal grazing period for the county. The US Drought Monitor will update drought maps by county on a weekly basis. These maps can be found on FSA's internet Web site at:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=lfp>

County Committee Election

A County Committee election will take place with ballots being mailed to producers in Local Administrative Area (LAA) #2 on or about January 4, 2010 with the ballot filing deadline of February 1, 2010. All producers that receive a ballot are encouraged to vote in this election. The Committee plays a large part in administering the FSA programs so it is very important to vote for the candidate of your choice.

Farm Loan Programs

FSA is an agriculture lender. We make loans directly to borrowers, or guarantee loans made by commercial lenders. We specialize in loans to beginning farmers with less than 10 years in farming, social disadvantaged (women & minorities), rural youth, and established farmers and ranchers in need of continuing FSA assistance.

Direct loans from FSA (rates & terms Dec 09)
Farm operating loans..... (annual & 7 yr term) 2.875% interest
Farm ownership loans (40 yr max) 4.625% interest
Youth loans up to \$5,000 (10-20 year olds) 2.25% interest
Emergency operating loans (weather related) 3.75% interest

Greeley County producers with questions about farm loans may contact Bob Dean at the Finney County FSA Office, 620-275-0211.

Women Managing the Farm Conference

Another year of wonderful keynote speakers, informative breakout sessions and great networking is planned for the 2010 Women Managing the Farm Conference on Feb. 5-6, 2010 at Hyatt Regency, Wichita, Kansas. Watch for more information at www.togpartners.com/wmf.



"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs 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 a 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, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Special accommodations 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 any arrangements that are needed.



Commodity Loans

Commodity loans are commodity loans available to producers who share in the risk of producing the crop. To be eligible, you must maintain beneficial interest in the crop through the time of application. Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan — even if you regain beneficial interest.

Commodity loan terms include: 9 months term, fixed interest rate but is updated on January 1, if applicable, loan can be repaid at any time prior to the 9 month term, repayment options include: principle plus interest, posted county price, or forfeiture. These repayment options all depend upon the market prices at repayment time.

2009 Loan rates for Greeley County:

Wheat – \$2.46/bu	Corn - \$2.07/bu	Gr.Sorg. - \$3.40/cwt
Soybeans - \$4.73/bu	Sunflowers - \$10.06/cwt	Barley - \$1.85/bu

Our interest rate is the best in the credit market at 1.375% for loans issued in December.

Producers do not have to participate in DCP/ACRE to be eligible for commodity loans. Producer need to be aware that removing or disposing of loan collateral without prior authorization is considered a violation of the loan agreement.

Wheat Acreage Reporting

Producers will be able to start reporting 2010 crop wheat acres in January 2010. The Greeley County FSA Office will be phoning farm operators advising them to visit the office to pick up their maps. Operators can report the fields, acres, planting dates, and crop shares. Deadline to report your wheat acreage is June 1, 2010.

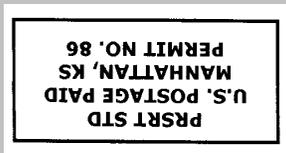
The ACRE Option

The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. The payment is based on 83.3 percent (85 percent in 2012) of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the State ACRE guarantee and the state revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the state expected yield. The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments on may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent. The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the

farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year. The June 1, 2010, deadline is mandatory for all participants. USDA will not accept any late-filed applications.

Selling Land

If you are planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences. For example, if you are planning to sell land that is enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, you may want to protect yourself from repayment of all CRP payments. CRP procedure states that if the buyer does not want to continue the CRP contract, the seller may be required to refund all of the payments received to date. Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.



CLAY COUNTY FSA NEWS



United States
Department of
Agriculture
Farm Service
Agency

Clay County
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