



December 2009



Rawlins County News

DCP & ACRE Signup Deadline

Signup for the 2010 DCP & ACRE Program is underway in Rawlins County. In order to serve our producers, we are requiring you make an appointment ahead of time. During this appointment, the DCP/ACRE contracts, Average Gross Income (CCC-926), and Wheat Certifications will be signed. Signup 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. **PLEASE CALL 785-626-3149 to MAKE, CHANGE, or CANCEL an APPOINTMENT.**

2009 County Committee Election

Brian Laufer was re-elected to the Rawlins County Committee for a three year term beginning January 01, 2010, for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2. This LAA represents the middle section of Rawlins County. Stanley Faimon was elected as first alternate.

The COC meets once a month to review and approve program applications, handle appeals, monitor emergency and disaster situations, and see programs are administered fairly to all county producers. Our appreciation to our COC for representing their fellow producers on the Rawlins County Committee.

NAP Program

Producers with Non-insurable Assistance Program (NAP) crops need to remember acres must be certified 15 days before harvesting. Grass grazing must be reported 15 days before putting livestock in to graze. If you lease new pasture, remember to report it.

Crop losses must be reported within 15 days from date of loss. If you had a NAP policy for wheat for graze, triticale, grass or oats forage, remember to report losses timely in order to be eligible. Notify the office before tearing up crops or for crops you will not harvest, so an appraisal can be done. Keep track of alfalfa production for each cutting, and you will need to weigh some bales. NAP producers need to provide all production for insured crops to FSA even if you do not have a loss.

March 15, 2010 is the final date to purchase NAP coverage for forage sorghum.

Selling Land

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all of the payments you've received to date. Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables - cold storage facilities

Commodity Loans

Commodity loans are available to producers who share in the risk of producing the crop.

Farm and warehouse stored loans are available. Notify the office in advance before moving any farm stored grain to avoid penalties. Loans can be repaid at any time, but mature the last day of the 9th month following the month the loan is made. Loans made in Dec. 2009 mature 9-30-10. Our interest rate of 1.375 % in Dec. 2009 is the best in the credit industry. Rawlins County loan rates:

Wheat	\$ 2.52 Bu
Corn	\$ 1.96 Bu
Barley	\$ 1.85 Bu
Oats	\$ 1.37 Bu
Gr Sorghum	\$ 3.22 Cwt
Soybeans	\$ 4.68 Bu
Sunflowers	\$10.13 Cwt

Rawlins County
USDA Service Center

Rawlins County FSA
1001 Sherman St
Atwood KS 67730
Phone: 785-626-3149
Fax: 785-626-3603
www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Brian Laufer, Chairperson
Gerald Benda
Kathryn Frisbie

County Committee meets
2nd Tuesday of the month

Office Staff:
Michael Griffith, CED
Virginia Solko
Margaret Niermeier
Joni Drain

Field Staff:
Ralph Pitner



FSA Signature Policy

Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits. The following are FSA signature guidelines:

- Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for most FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office.
- Spouses may only sign loan documents on behalf of each other if there is a Power of Attorney on file.
- Spouses shall not sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities

For additional clarification on proper signatures contact your local FSA office.

Dates to Remember

Ongoing-Signup Ends June 1, 2010	Make appointment for 2010 Farm Program (ACRE or DCP)
March 15	Final date to purchase NAP for Forage Sorghum
March 31	Last day to request commodity loans on wheat and other small grains.
May 31	Last day to request commodity loans on corn, milo, oilseeds
Holidays Office Closed	December 24 NOON December 25 January 1 January 18 February 15

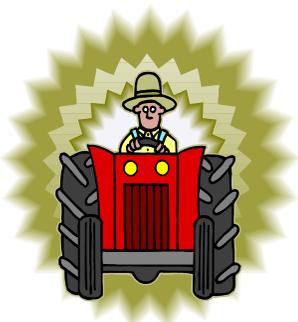
Visit our Web site at: www.fsa.usda.gov

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. For 2010, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2008 and 2009 crop years. 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 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.

Direct & Guaranteed Loans

FSA is agriculture's lender of first and continuing opportunity. We make farm operating and farm ownership loans directly to borrowers. We also 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 to long established farmers and ranchers in need of continuing FSA assistance. Contact our Farm Loan office in Norton for more details. 785-877-5156.



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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.