



December 2009



# Wallace County News

## Wallace County USDA Service Center

**Wallace County FSA**  
115 E 6<sup>th</sup>, P.O. Box 608  
Sharon Springs, Ks 67758  
785-852-4213 (phone)  
785-852-4214 (fax)  
www.fsa.usda.gov/ks

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

**County Committee**  
Donald Okeson  
Lisa Schemm  
Gary Cox

County Committee meets  
on the second Wednesday  
of the month at 1:00 PM

**Staff**  
Braden Stueve, CED  
Donna Grund, PT  
Amy Lorenzen, PT  
Debbie Rains, PT

**Farm Loan Manager**  
Patty Eckhardt  
(785) 899-3070

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 Goodland for more details 785-899-3070.

### County Loan Rates

	<u>2009</u>
Wheat	\$2.50
Corn	\$2.03
Soybeans	\$4.73
Oats	\$1.37
Gr.Sorghum(cwt)	\$3.30
Sunflowers (cwt)	\$10.12
Barley	\$1.85
Dec. Interest Rate	1.375%

\*\*\*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.

## 2010 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2010. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. 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, beginning Dec. 1, 2009. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

## FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to the newly elected County Committee Member Virgil Bussen, Wallace County farmer. Votes were tabulated during the December monthly meeting. Mr. Bussen will serve as committee member representing local administrative area three. Local administrative area three is the east third of Wallace County with the dividing line running North and South along road 23.

Farmer committees are in charge of local administration of national farm programs, under the guidance of the State FSA Committee and applicable Federal Laws and Regulations.

Last year about 99 percent of all farmers in the county participated in one or more of the programs administered by the FSA Committee.

## Wool and Mohair Loans and LDP's

Wool and mohair producers are reminded that the final date to apply for nonrecourse marketing assistance loans or loan deficiency payments (LDP) is January 31, 2010 for their 2009 wool and mohair. This final deadline also applies to LDP's for unshorn pelts from unshorn lambs slaughtered in 2009. Producers that do not retain the wool or mohair on the farm when sheared may lose beneficial interest and should have filed a form CCC-633EZ Page 1 before shearing. Producers must file a CCC-633EZ Page 1 before they lose beneficial interest in the commodity and then file a CCC-633EZ Page 4 to apply for the LDP payment before the January 31 deadline.

## Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create five new disaster programs, collectively referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. These programs include:

- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.

In the 2008 Farm Bill; in general, the term "farm" means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer. In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers who meet the definition of a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher, do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement.

## UPDATE ALL FARM RECORDS

Because the new disaster programs utilize farm revenue as a payment factor, we must properly identify every producer's farming interests, whether cropland or non-cropland. As such, you must report all farming interests in all counties, even if it is just on pasture, hay, alfalfa, etc.

As always, report the following as soon as possible: 1) Owner, Operator and/or address changes, 2) Creation of, or changes to, entities, trusts, etc., 3) Changes to your bank account information on file in our office for direct deposit purposes.

## Unauthorized Disposition of Loaned Grain

If loan grain has been disposed of through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office staff, it is considered unauthorized disposition. Always call the office before any grain under loan is fed or sold.

### CRP Reminders

Those with practice CP25, Rare and Declining Habitat, are required to burn at least once, and usually have another management practice scheduled as well. You can now burn up to April 30<sup>th</sup>. Contact FSA and NRCS about establishing firebreaks and burn plans.

### Non Insured Assistance Program (NAP)

Please remember to provide the FSA Office with production evidence on crops covered by NAP policies. Failure to do so will result in a zero credit being assigned thus lowering established actual production history (APH).

### Farm Reconstitutions

Now is the time to notify the FSA of any farm reconstitutions. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is necessary. The reconstitution is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation.

### Farm Storage Facility Loans

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

Dates to Remember	
12/25	Office Closed: <b>Merry Christmas</b>
1/1	Office Closed: <b>Happy New Year</b>
Continues until 6/1/10	2010 DCP and DCP-ACRE Sign-Up
Continues until 5/31/10	2010 Small Grain Acreage Certification Reporting
Continues	Rural Youth Loans for 10-20 Year Olds
Continues	Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loans for Beginning Farmers and Socially Disadvantaged Applicants
Continues	Direct and Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program

### 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.

### WEBSITES

FSA - [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
Kansas FSA - [www.fsa.usda.gov/ks](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ks)  
USDA - [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)  
Obtain a Level 2 e-Authentication Account - [www.eauth.egov.usda.gov](http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov)



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