



January 2010

Jewell County FSA Office
105 W. South St.
Mankato, Kansas 66956
(785)378-3731
(785)378-3568 – FAX

Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Executive Director
James W. Peroutek

County Committee

Beverly Porter, Chairman
Roger Kintigh, Vice-Chairman
Barbara Rannebeck, Member

COC Mtg. 2nd Thursday of the Month

Staff

Kristi Badger Pam Rice
Patricia Grout Janet Tyler

Internet web sites

USDA-www.usda.gov
FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov
FSA Forms-www.sc.egov.usda.gov
NRCS-www.nrcs.usda.gov

COC Election – Congratulations to Roger Kintigh on being elected to the COC for a 3 year term. FSA appreciates those who serve on the COC and for those producers who vote for committee candidates.

DCP and ACRE Signup – The 2010 DCP and ACRE Program Signup runs through June 1, 2010. Advance payments of 22% are available. Contact your local FSA office to schedule an appointment to sign into the program.

2010 ACREAGE Certification – You may certify 2010 fall seeded crops, alfalfa, and grass at this time. The final date to certify the crops is June 1, 2010. Producers may stop in to obtain maps if they prefer to draw their fields outside the office.

The past several years FSA, in this area, has loaded the crop fields on our software to compile the crop acreage through a pilot project. Officials at the FSA high levels have decided this pilot project process is too cumbersome to apply on a national level. The project has been cancelled.

For 2010 acreage certification we will revert to the old process of using the producers drawn field as the field identification with producers providing us with the field acreage and plant date.

We will be asking you for the field acreage rather than FSA placing a line on our software and the software determining an acreage.

Jewell County FSA News

ACRE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Producers who signed up for the ACRE program during 2009 may provide production to establish their farm benchmark yield (years 2004 thru 2008); and must provide the farms actual yield for 2009. Producers now need to **certify** to their production (provide FSA the total production for the farm). You will not submit the documents to support your production at the time you certify the production. However, the documentation will be required at a later date to verify your report of certified production.

The production to provide would be:

1. To establish a **benchmark yield**. Producers have two options when establishing the Benchmark Farm Yield.
 - A. Accept the preliminary Benchmark Farm Yield which will fill each year of the database with the 95% value.
 - B. Certify farm yields for any or all of the database years (five previous years) and have the Benchmark Farm Yield calculated on this data.
2. Establish the **2009 actual farm yield** used to determine payment benefits. The 2009 yield is required to be certified.

Yields must reflect total production on the farm divided by the total planted and prevented planted acreage.

The final date to provide production is the end of the marketing year which is:

May 31 - Wheat, Barley, and Oats

June 30 - Canola and Dry Peas

August 31 - Corn, Sorghum, Soybean, and Sunflower

2008 Farm Bill Disaster Programs

Under the provisions of the 2009 Farm Bill there are several Disaster Programs available to producers. Listed below are the programs and the requirements regarding crop insurance and NAP (Noninsured Acreage Program) coverage. A payment limitation limit of \$100,000 applies to the combination of payments from SURE, LFP, LIP, and ELAP for any given year.

SURE (Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment) program –

SURE provides benefits for 2008 through 2011 crop year farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. This is the 2008 Farm Bill's successor to prior ad hoc crop disaster programs. SURE provides crop disaster assistance payment to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or quality losses. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments. For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer has an interest nationwide.

For the SURE a farm is eligible when

- (1) A portion of the farm is located in a county, or contiguous county, covered by a qualifying natural disaster designation. This designation must be a USDA Secretarial Declaration. To be eligible for SURE, producers must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance.
- or–
- (2) The actual whole farm production is less than 50% of the normal production.

For a producer to be eligible for SURE they must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for all crops of economic significance through either Federal Crop Insurance (FCIC) or FSA's Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year the loss occurred. A crop of economic significance would contribute at least 5% of the expected revenue for a producer's entire farm revenue. For the SURE Program NAP coverage is NOT required on grass for grazing acreage; also NAP coverage is NOT required on those crops which would not meet the definition of being a crop of economic significance.

Signup – Signup for 2008 SURE began January 2010 with no deadline announced. Jewell County was not a 2008 USDA declared disaster county or contiguous county. SURE program signups will normally follow the crop year by several months. If a producer farms in multiple counties, visits to each county may be necessary to complete the application.

CRP PROVISIONS

We have been advised there are plans to have a CRP signup during 2010. At this time no other information regarding the CRP signup is available.

In October, 9,253.7 acres of CRP will expire in Jewell County. The expired area may be left to grass, signed into one of the continuous CRP Programs available, or convert the acreage to a croppled field.

Producers need to be deciding what their intentions are for the expiring CRP. Anyone wanting to sign areas into a new CRP program or break the acreage will need to visit with NRCS to develop a Conservation Plan of Operation. This year will generate a sizable workload for NRCS so the earlier you make contact to revise your conservation plan the earlier you will be able to implement the completed conservation plan of operation.

Reminders

2010 DCP and ACRE Signup Underway
2010 Acreage Certification is Underway
If you have 2010 expiring CRP make plans to revise the Conservation Plan
FSA Commodity Loan Interest rate is 1.375%, Farm Stored Facility 3.0%
File 2009 NAP crop production now.

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DISASTER PROGRAMS – CONTINUED

LIP – Livestock Indemnity Program –

LIP provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from a natural disaster. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract owners for livestock deaths in excess of a normal mortality due to adverse weather, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and cold. Examples of normal mortality rates are: adult beef cows 1.1%; and beef animals less than 400 pounds 2.7%. Verifiable evidence of each animal's death is required. There are no NAP or FCIC requirements for eligibility under LIP.

Deaths occurring January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010 must file a notice of loss within 30 days after death is apparent; and file an application for payment by January 30, 2011. Producers file notices of animal loss as they may occur throughout the year. If normal mortality is exceeded at the end of the year an application for payment is to be completed.

LFP – Livestock Forage Program –

Provides compensation for eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses because of qualified drought or fire. For drought, the losses must have occurred because of a qualifying drought during the normal grazing period for the county on land that is native or improved pastureland, forage sorghum for grazing, or is planted for small grain grazing. For fire, grazing losses must have occurred on rangeland managed by a Federal Agency. To be eligible for benefit the producer must own or lease grazing land physically located in a county rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having a:

- (A) D2 (Severe Drought) in any area of the county for at least 8 consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period. Eligible for an amount equal to 1 monthly payment.
- (B) D3 (Extreme Drought) in any area of the county at any time during the normal grazing period. Eligible for an amount equal to 2 monthly payments.
- (C) D3 (Extreme Drought) in any area of the county for at least 4 weeks during the normal grazing period –or- is rated a D4 (exceptional drought) intensity at any time during the normal grazing period. Eligible for an amount equal to 3 monthly payments.

A map of eligible counties for LFP drought may be found at:
<http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>

The LFP monthly payment rate for drought is equal to 60 percent of the monthly feed cost for all covered livestock; calculated by using the normal carrying capacity of the eligible grazing land of the livestock producer.

Producers must have crop insurance or Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the grazing land or forage land to be eligible for LFP benefit.

Sign-up An application for payment and supporting documents are needed within 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the grazing loss occurred. Supporting documents include: evidence of loss, current physical location of livestock in inventory, and evidence of risk management purchase requirements.

ELAP – Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish

Provides compensation to eligible producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other loss conditions, including losses due to blizzards and wildfires that are not covered by LIP, LFP, or SURE; for which the USDA Deputy Administrator determines financial assistance needs to be provided to producers. Eligible losses include feed losses, physical losses, and additional costs incurred in providing feed to eligible livestock. Producers must obtain crop insurance or NAP coverage on all crops planted on the entire farm in all counties to be eligible for ELAP; NAP is not required on grazing land. Notice of loss is to be provided to your local FSA office within 30 days after the loss is apparent, and application for payment must be filed within 30 days of the end of the calendar year.