



Mitchell County News



ACREAGE REPORTS

To collect program benefits including loan deficiency payments, crop loans, crop insurance, non-insured assistance program benefits, and crop history, it is a requirement to report crop acres and pastures in some cases.

The Direct and Counter Cyclical Program requires all cropland on the farm to be certified before program benefits can be earned. Each farm must have all cropland acres reported, including old soil bank acres, waterways, feeding lots, feed crops and fallow.

The final date to certify wheat, oats and barley is May 31. Grass, corn, milo, soybeans, sunflowers, alfalfa, feed crops and fallow acres by August 1. Crops in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) **must** be reported 15 days before any haying or grazing.

If you have not reported your wheat acres, do so as soon as possible. If you will plant oats, remember to also report those acres by May 31. With our tight budget and increased workload, we most likely will not send out reminders. Therefore, it will be the operator's responsibility to remember to timely file crop acreage certifications.

2010 DCP/ACRE PROGRAM

Signup for the 2010 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program is underway. 83.3% of each base is eligible for direct payments. Shares of payments must follow the share and risk of planted crops.

The ACRE election requires a 20% reduction of the direct guaranteed payment as well as a 30% reduction in the loan rate. The ACRE election is irrevocable through 2012 and requires annual reports of crop production for all participating crops on the farm.

Along with signing up, producers will be completing a new CCC-633EZ for the Loan Deficiency payment, a new Adjusted Gross Income certification, and reviewing eligibility forms. If there has been a change in the farming operation, eligibility forms need to be revised. Operators are responsible for making sure all applicable forms are properly completed and timely submitted. Also, new forms for IRS will be needed, see the next article for details.

2010 DCP or ACRE signup ends June 1. All signatures must be in the office by June 1. Late filed provisions do not apply.

PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY & IRS

To be eligible for various USDA programs, producers must meet eligibility requirements of actively engaged in farming, conservation compliance and adjusted gross income (AGI).

Ineligibility triggers when average adjusted gross NON-FARM income exceeds \$500,000, FARM income exceeds \$750,000, and NON-FARM income exceeds one million, for various programs

For 2010 benefits, the "average" is the average of tax years 2006, 2007 and 2008. All individuals requesting payment must complete an annual certification. All entities requesting payment AND EVERY MEMBER OF THAT ENTITY must complete an annual income certification or that person's share is not paid.

The Farm Bill requires a review to be sure payments are not issued to ineligible producers. Instead of producers bringing in tax returns or financial records, producers will sign a consent form and IRS will do the review.

The consent forms are a CCC-927 for individuals and a CCC-928 for entities. These forms must be sent directly to IRS. Producers may obtain the consent forms at their FSA Office or online. FSA Offices will not accept or retain the completed consent forms or other tax-related paperwork from producers.

Make sure the correct name, tax ID number and signature is on the form. Also check both years if you received payments or will receive payments in both years. Entities such as trusts, corporations and LLC's must complete the 928 form and all of the members of the entity must complete the form for individuals.

The deadline to submit the forms to IRS is June 15, 2010. IRS will check each participant's AGI compliance.

Failure to submit the forms will result in having to refund any payments issued for 2009 and or 2010.

Farm operators are responsible for getting the forms to owners for them to sign and send to IRS. FSA will hand these forms out during signup, but, **if you have already signed up in the program, you need to come back to the office and get the forms for yourself and any others on the farm.**

Power of attorney cannot be used to sign the forms; it must be the same signature that is on the person's tax return.

**Mitchell County
USDA Service Center**

Mitchell County FSA
118 West Main
Beloit, KS 67420
785-738-5172
FAX: 785-738-2768
www.fsa.usda.gov/ks

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

County Committee
Carolyn Finney
Barry McPeak
Jane Wallace

County Committee meets
2nd Tuesday of Month at 8:30 a.m.

Staff

Marilyn Seehafer PT
Darnell Winkel PT
Debra Stalcup PT
Brenda Hollaway PT
Jamie Powell CED

COMMITTEE ELECTION

Carolyn Finney was re-elected for a three year term in the 2009 County Committee election. A total of 62 votes were received. The 2010 election will be for Local Administrative Area #3, the western third of the county.

TURNIPS-FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Planting turnips or any other crop considered a vegetable or fruit crop could violate the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program. This applies even if the crop is in a mix and/or left for a cover or green manure crop.

Planting the crop creates the violation, regardless of the crop being harvested or not. Before you plant turnips, a mix with turnips, or any other vegetable or fruit crop in excess of two acres, you need to file for a base reduction if it is to be harvested or file a \$46 inspection application to verify the crop is left for cover and not harvested.

Non-Insured Assistance Program

March 15 is the final date to purchase NAP on sorghum and vegetable crops. The service fee is \$250 per crop covered.

SURE

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program provides benefits for losses due to natural disasters. A "farm" is eligible if located in a Secretarial Declaration county or a contiguous county and has at least a 10% loss on a crop of economic significance; OR, production is less than 50% for the entire farm. A "farm" means all crops (forage included) in all counties you have interest in.

To be eligible, you must have Federal Crop Insurance or NAP coverage on all significant crops.

2009 Loan Rates

The 2009 loan rates for Mitchell County are
 Wheat - \$2.64/bu.
 Corn - \$1.90/bu.
 Sorghum - \$3.35 /cwt
 Soybeans - \$4.87/bu.
 Sunflowers - \$9.66 /cwt.

Final loan request date for wheat is March 31
 feed grains is May 31

LOANS FOR BEGINNING FARMERS

FSA assists beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

Has operated a farm for not more that 10 years. Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm. Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA. Does not own a farm in excess of 30% of the county's average size.

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements.

Additional program information for beginning & non-beginning farmers, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center or by contacting the Russell FSA office at 785-483-5618. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov

FARM LOAN YEAR END REVIEWS

Producers that have a farm loan with FSA are reminded they must provide data for their Year-End Analysis (YEA) to their loan officer each year. Borrowers are urged to provide this information timely so their files can be maintained. The Russell FSA office will contact you for the data you need to provide us.

WOOL LDP's

BEFORE shearing any wool or selling unshorn lambs for 2010, be sure you file page form CCC-633EZ for the 2010. Once the wool or unshorn lamb leave the farm, you have lost beneficial interest and are no longer eligible for the loan deficiency payment unless you have signed page 1 of the CCC-633EZ.

Reminders	
	All changes of address, operator, ownership, and direct deposit should be reported as soon as they are known.
	Contact FSA before breaking land, removing tree areas, removing field boundaries removing farm stored loan grain or planting any crop that might be a fruit or vegetable on contract acreage.
	Check your CRP Plan of operations and remember to get food plots planted if they are in your plan.
	Weeds/trees must be controlled on Conservation Reserve acres.
March 15	NAP closing for sorghum
Feb. 15	Office Closed
May 31	Wheat oats & barley reported
June 1	DCP/ACRE Signup ends
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

WEBSITES

FSA - www.fsa.usda.gov
 Kansas FSA - www.fsa.usda.gov/ks
 USDA - www.usda.gov
 Obtain a Level 2 e-Authentication Account - www.eauth.gov.usda.gov

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