



# Osborne County Farm Service Agency

1117 W Hwy 24; Osborne, KS 67473

Phone: 785-346-2128 Fax: 785-346-2057 May 2010

E-mail: [Karen.mccune@ks.usda.gov](mailto:Karen.mccune@ks.usda.gov) Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.



County Committee meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month @ 12:30 P.M. November through May and @ 8:30 A.M. June through October. Members are: James Nichols, Kenneth Lee, Jhan LaRosh and Imogene Thornburg, Advisor.

## Signup and Certification

Signup for 2010 DCP and ACRE runs through June 1, 2010. FSA will not accept late-filed applications. ALL signatures must be returned by the June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Certification can be completed at the same time as enrollment. The final date to certify small grains is June 1, 2010. Please contact the FSA office to schedule an appointment to complete these tasks.

### SURE

If you had a 2008 crop loss, you need to consider if you might be eligible for a program benefit under the SURE program. The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that occurred in the crop years 2008 through September 30, 2011.

To be eligible for SURE, producers must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. In addition, producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either having Federal Crop Insurance or NAP coverage on all crops in all counties, for all economically significant crops. Coverage is not required for grazed acreages or on crops where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage.

Producers must have a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county under an USDA Secretarial Disaster Designation or suffer a 50 percent production loss on the farm due to a natural disaster. Osborne County was a contiguous county for 2008.

A SURE calculator is available at: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov), then click on Disaster Assistance Programs, then SURE. The calculator is not official, but is intended for educational use. A fact sheet and backgrounder are also available online. FSA is currently taking applications for 2008 losses.

### Timely Report Failed and Prevented Planted Acres

Producers are reminded to report failed crop acreage to FSA before they destroy the crop if they wish to receive cropping history credit. FSA will need to conduct a field visit on all uninsured fields to verify the failed crop prior to destruction. Those producers with a crop insurance appraisal will need to provide the office with a copy of the appraisal.

For Noninsurance Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) purposes the report needs to be filed within 15 calendar days after the disaster event occurred.

Producers who have crops prevented from planting due to a natural disaster must report the acreage on an FSA-578, Report of Acreage, and complete a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, within 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the crop to be considered timely filed.

Late filed claims will be denied when an inspection by FSA would not permit us to verify the existence of eligible disaster conditions that prevented the acreage from being planted.

## Be Counted!



FSA wants to encourage all producers to complete the census. We realize as more of our population moves to urban areas, rural communities feel the impact. There are fewer people to work the farms and ranches, fewer students in our schools, and fewer customers in local businesses. The census is used to determine the amount of funds a community receives to rebuild after a natural disaster. It is used to determine the number of seats a state has in the House of Representatives. It determines how over \$400 billion in federal funds are allocated to states and communities. The census is important; make sure your community is counted.

### 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 percent 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](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

### Farm Loan Year End Reviews

Producers that have an existing farm loan with FSA are reminded they must provide data for their Year-End Analysis (YEA) to their loan office each year, if requested to do so. Borrowers are urged to provide this information timely so that their files can be maintained. The Russell FSA office recently mailed this information to those borrowers that are required to submit financial information this year.

### CRP Maintenance

CRP participants are reminded to take care of noxious weeds, tree or shrub encroachment and to ensure roads and other prohibited activities are not located on CRP acres. Bales, equipment, or other items may not be stored on CRP acres. Each year FSA conducts inspections and the discovery of unauthorized use or noxious weeds may result in a contract violation.



[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

### IRS Disclosure Form

Producers have until June 15 to provide the CCC-927 for individuals or CCC-928 for entities to IRS to remain eligible for 2009 and 2010 payments. FSA will not receive any income tax information from IRS. IRS will only confirm a producer's AGI compliance.

Ensure that the form is completed correctly and that the name entered on the form is how you file your taxes. Example: If you farm under a Trust, but file your taxes under your individual name, then you should record your individual name on the form (not the Trust). If all fields are not completed correctly, IRS will reject the form. Do not send the form to FSA; it must be mailed directly to the IRS address at the top of the form. Failure to submit a form to the IRS may result in refunds of 2009 and 2010 payments. You may obtain a copy of the form at the FSA county office or on-line at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov), then click on Forms.

### Early Land Preparation

CRP participants with contracts expiring this September 30 may begin early land preparation to return the land to cropland beginning July 1 without penalty. The participant must complete form CRP-1G prior to beginning any activity and also must obtain an approved conservation plan from NRCS prior to beginning tillage activities. If the soil is tilled prior to October 1, wheat or another fall seeded crop must be planted this fall. The acreage cannot be hayed or grazed to begin the land preparations.

Producers in Smith, Osborne, Russell, Barton, Stafford, Pratt, and Barber, and counties west of that line may begin as early as May 1. They will be required to forfeit the annual payment that would be earned from the date of approval through June 30.

Participants who wish to begin preparations for planting a spring crop for 2011 may complete the required forms and begin applying herbicides to the contract acres after July 15, but may not disturb the soil until after September 30, 2010. The acreage may be mowed to increase herbicide-plant contact; however, the acreage cannot be baled or grazed.

If you have a contract expiring at the end of September, and are planning to return the contract acreage to production, please contact the county office to discuss the options available to you.

### Farm Record Changes

Notify the FSA office if changes for the 2010 crop year have been made to any of the farms for which you have an interest. Changes to report include land that has been purchased or sold, share changes, or one or more owner or operator should now be listed as a trust, corporation, partnership, or estate.



### Electronic Mail List



If you would like to receive FSA news releases and newsletters electronically, the Osborne County FSA Office is now offering this service. Any time the office submits a news release to the paper or publishes a county or district newsletter, you will be sent the information by e-mail. This will not take the place of the hard copy newsletters you will continue to be mailed. In many cases you will receive the news quicker and individuals who do not have access to the local newspapers will be able to timely receive program updates.

If you are interested, please send an e-mail request to:

[karen.mccune@ks.usda.gov](mailto:karen.mccune@ks.usda.gov)

### Property Valuation on Expiring CRP

When CRP acreage expires, producers should notify their county appraiser of the parcel number, acres, and legal description so the property valuation assessment can be changed to the appropriate property tax rate.

### Dates to Remember

May 31	Final date to report small grain crops.
May 31	Final date to request loan or LDP for corn, milo, and soybeans.
June 1	Final date to apply for 2010 DCP or ACRE.
Jun 15	Final date to submit the IRS Disclosure form to IRS.
Aug 1	Certify all other crops and CRP.
Aug 1	Final date to request reconstitution for 2010.

#### Nondiscrimination Statement

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 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, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). "USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender."