



" PLAINS " TALK



PHILLIPS COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

1717 HIGHWAY 183
PHILLIPSBURG, KS 67661

Ronald L Wyckoff
County Executive Director

OFFICE HOURS 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
TELE: 785-543-2732 FAX 785-543-6324

COUNTY COMMITTEE:
Warren Kelly CHAIRPERSON
Kenneth D Johnson VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Kenneth Stockman MEMBER
Kay Rose ADVISOR

July 2010

REGULAR MEETING DATE SECOND TUESDAY
OF EACH MONTH, 9:00 A.M. except
Meetings will be at 10:00 A.M. in March and April

Acreage Reports

August 2, 2010 - final date for acreage reports for corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, forage sorghum, and other spring planted crops. **Stop in now to report your acres.** Planting dates are needed to complete an acreage report. Complete acreage reports are required to earn most program benefits. **Late filed acreage reports require a fee of \$46 per farm.**

PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Marketing Assistance Loans: Loans are available on all harvested commodities. Loans are for a term of 9 months.

These loans can be a very good tool to use in marketing your crops. If you want to hold your crops to see if prices get better a marketing loan can be obtained to cover operating expenses or to pay down a higher interest loan for a period of time. Current interest rate for a marketing loan in July is 1.375%.

Loans are available for grain stored on the farm as well as grain stored in an elevator. Warehouse receipts must be obtained for grain stored in an elevator, and there are several requirements for grain stored on the farm. Contact the Farm Service Agency for details and requirements for a commodity loan.

There are nominal loan fees assessed for each loan obtained. Elevators may have some fees associated with warehouse receipts they issue, you will need to check with your elevator for this information.

Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's): LDP's are payments issued in lieu of a Marketing Assistance Loan when the Posted County Price (PCP) falls below the county loan rate. LDP's have not been a factor for a few years and we hope they do not happen this year. If you think grain prices may fall to the point where LDP's are payable the following are requirements that must be followed:

The CCC-633EZ Page 1 must be filed with FSA prior to losing beneficial interest in the crop. Beneficial interest is lost when the crop is sold, fed, delivered to fill a contract, delivered to a feedlot, or otherwise disposed of.

Producers will need to file page 2 after the crop is harvested to receive the LDP, either on the date it is requested or the date beneficial interest in the crop is lost. Page 2 can be filed after beneficial interest has been lost as long as there was a Page 1 on file prior to losing beneficial interest. The LDP rate will be based on the date beneficial interest was lost, or the date the Page 2 was filed if the producer still has beneficial interest in the commodity. There must be a Page 1 on file prior to losing beneficial interest in the crop to be able to file a Page 2 to request the LDP payment.

You can obtain a copy of CCC-633EZ (all pages) at <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainservlet>
The form can be completed in person, mail, fax, or e-Forms. For more information contact the FSA office.

Don't forget LDP's are available on crops harvested as hay or silage such as corn silage or dual purpose sorghum hay or silage.

If LDP's become a reality, the daily LDP rates can be heard by calling the FSA office and selecting option 2 for FSA and then option 7 for LDP rates. LDP rates can also be found on the web at www.fsa.usda.gov/daftp/psd/.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS AVAILABLE

Farm Storage Facility Loans are available to build new commodity storage structures for grain, silage, or hay storage. Upgrades to existing facilities may be available in certain instances. Loans are available for up to \$500,000. Call or visit the office for loan details and requirements.

Managed Haying/Grazing of CRP

Regulations governing the CRP program permit “*managed haying/grazing activities*” to be performed on acreage under a Conservation Reserve Program contract 1 out of every 3 years after the cover is fully established. **Before haying or grazing can be authorized, CRP participants must do the following:**

- **request approval to hay or graze eligible acreage**
- **obtain a modified conservation plan to include haying or grazing requirements**

The following provisions apply to managed haying/grazing activities:

- ❖ A payment reduction based on the number of acres actually hayed or grazed times the CRP annual rental payment times 25% will apply.
- ❖ Haying will only be permitted from July 16 to August 15
- ❖ Grazing will only be permitted between July 16 and November 12

If you are interested in haying or grazing your CRP acreage under the managed haying/grazing provisions, please stop by our office for more details.

SURE

A signup is underway at this time for 2008 crop losses. If you had crop losses on your 2008 crops and want to signup please call the FSA office for an appointment. To be eligible for these programs, producers must have crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for all non-insurable crops of economic significance they produce. A crop of economic significance would be one which is expected to have a value of at least five percent of a farms total crop value from all crops. A farm is defined as the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that a producer has an interest in.

County Committee Election

This fall, producers in LAA-2, will hold its election. Kenneth D Johnson currently represents this area, which consists of Walnut, Glenwood, Sumner, Freedom, Greenwood, Crystal, Phillipsburg, Arcade, and Plum townships.

Each County Committee (COC) member is elected by the eligible producers in their area.

Nomination petitions were mailed in June by our State Office or are available at the office, and are now being accepted for any eligible voter to be a candidate for the COC from LAA-2. FSA is required to ensure diversity on the County Committee and solicit and accept nominations from all eligible producers in the election area, including women and minority nominees. Election guidelines and other election information are available on the internet at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/>

Nominating Petitions must be returned to this office by August 1, 2010. An informational meeting will be held at the Phillips County FSA Office on July 19 at 9:00 am to discuss the COC election process and answer any questions.

REPORT FSA FARM RECORD CHANGES

Report record changes such as the sale of any acreage, operator change (for either fall or spring crops), estate or other entity formation or dissolution now. All changes must be reported to the county office within 30 days of the change. Failure to report changes may cause the loss of program benefits. Farm ownership changes will require a copy of a recorded deed or signed real estate sales contract. Ensure the sales agreement or contract addresses all CRP contracts and other FSA payments.

CRP GENERAL SIGNUP

The signup dates for a General CRP Signup have not been announced yet. We have been told the signup is forthcoming. Information will be put out as soon as we know the details.