



BROWN COUNTY FSA  
1310 OREGON  
HIAWATHA, KS 66434

Phone: (785) 742-3161  
Fax: (785)742-7604  
www.fsa.usda.gov

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

**County Committee:**  
Douglas Meyer  
Douglas Rodvelt  
Randall Korthanke

**Advisor:**  
Evelyn Lierz

**COC MEETINGS:**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each  
month at 8:30 A.M.

**Staff:**  
Kim Kee, CED  
Linda Kelsey, PT  
Rosemary Kopp, PT  
Lucinda Schilling, PT  
Barbara Shefferd, PT  
Martha Gill, TPT  
Nancy Hisle, FA

**Loan Manager:**  
Bruce Nutsch  
(913) 833-533-5460

**Internet Web Sites:**  
USDA-[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)  
FSA-[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
NRCS-[www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)

**IN THIS ISSUE:**  
Crop Reporting Deadlines  
Measurement Service  
CRP Maintenance  
Farm Reconstitution  
Deadline  
ACRE Deadline  
Sodbust Regulations  
Farm Stored Facility Loans  
Important Dates

**2010 Loan Rates**

WHEAT	\$2.84
CORN	\$1.87
SOYBEANS	\$4.92
OATS	\$1.43
GR SORGHUM (CWT)	\$3.26

**July Interest Rates**

Commodity Loans – 1.375%  
Farm Stored Facility Loans:  
7 Year - 2.75%  
10 Year – 3.25%  
12 Year – 3.50%

**BROWN COUNTY FSA FARMLINE**

July 2010



**\*\* CROP REPORTING DEADLINES \*\***

The annual, timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Payments.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. And, crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

*A total farm acreage report is required for producers interested in a Supplemental Revenue (SURE) Assistance Program Payment, including grass acreage which the producer has an interest.*

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted.

**Producers must file acreage reports for CRP, grass, and spring seeded crops (corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers) by August 2, 2010.**

**Prevented Planting**

Prevented planting needs be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

**Failed Acreage**

Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

**\*\* Measurement Service \*\***

Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. Producers must file a request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit to have stake and referencing done on the farm. Measurement service is available using digital imagery and when an on-site visit is not required are charged at a reduced rate.

Incorrect acreage self-certification can result in reduced program payments, penalty, or loss of eligibility.



**\*\* CRP MAINTENANCE ISSUES \*\***

All Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants are required to maintain the CRP practices they have. This means on all practices that did not have trees or shrubs planted in them according to a CRP Plan of Operations, trees and shrubs must be controlled by whatever means will accomplish the control. Cutting, spraying and burning are all allowed. However, please check with FSA personnel before burning to make sure it will not impact other CRP issues. *Always refer to your Plan of Operations to determine what operations are required and when. REMEMBER – There can be no disturbance to cover during the primary nesting season (April 15 – July 15)*

Over the past several years intense reviews have been completed and it was apparent some CRP fields were not being properly maintained. Not completing the required maintenance measures will cause non-compliance and monetary penalties to be assessed.

Trees and shrubs on CRP are not the only examples of violations. Non-control of noxious weeds such as musk thistle, Johnson grass, Sericea lespedeza, and bindweed among others, is also a violation.

Some other examples of violations are: permanent roads or trails, trash and brush disposal areas, parking or storage of junked machinery and autos, livestock hay or feed storage, buildings or houses, mowing strips for hunting, or cosmetic mowing to make it look nice.



**\*\* FARM RECONSTITUTION DEADLINE \*\***

At FSA, farms are “constituted” to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. If an owner or operator cannot agree about program participation, like in the case of the new ACRE program, then producers should inquire about a reconstitution of the farm at the local FSA office.

The reconstitution—or recon—is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by **August 2, 2010** for farms enrolled in specific programs.

**\*\* ACRE DEADLINE \*\***

For farms enrolled in ACRE, **August 1, 2010** is the final date to provide FSA-658 "Record of Production and Yield" for corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, and sunflowers. Since this date is on a Sunday, producers have until **August 2, 2010** to submit FSA-658s.



**\*\* Sodbuster Regulations \*\***

The term "sodbusting" is used to identify the plowing up of erosion-prone grasslands for use as cropland. Sodbuster violations are unauthorized tillage practices on highly erodible lands that converted native vegetation such as rangeland or woodland, to crop production after Dec. 23, 1985.

Farmers and ranchers should be aware that if they use highly erodible land for crop production without proper conservation measures, they risk losing eligibility to participate in Farm Service Agency programs.

Before producers clear, plow or otherwise prepare areas not presently under crop production for planting, they are required to file an AD-1026, indicating the area to be brought into production.

If Natural Resources Conservation Service indicates on a CPA-026 that the area will be highly erodible land, the producer will be required to develop and implement a conservation plan on the affected acreage, before bringing land into production.

In addition, producers and the producer's affiliates have to file an AD-1026 in the administrative or control county office before any farm program payments can be made. The AD-1026 is the producer's signed certification that HELC, as well as wetland conservation, provisions will not be violated.



**\*\* 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 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



**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>August 2</b>    | <b>Acreage Reporting Deadline (Corn, CRP, Sorghum, Soybeans, &amp; Sunflowers)</b> |
| <b>August 2</b>    | <b>FSA-658 for ACRE Farms</b>  |
| <b>August 2</b>    | <b>Farm Reconstitution Deadline</b>  |
| <b>September 6</b> | <b>FSA Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day</b>                                |
| <b>October 11</b>  | <b>FSA Office Closed in Observance of Columbus Day</b>                             |



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (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 USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.