

# Osage County Ag Wire

Newsletter of the USDA Service Center in Lyndon, Kansas:  
Farm Service Agency - Natural Resources Conservation Service - Osage Conservation District

**Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday July 2010**

## Quick Reference Guide

<b>SERVICE CENTER PHONE</b>	(785) 828-4631
<b>CONSERVATION DISTRICT PHONE</b>	(785) 828-3458
<b>FAX</b>	(785) 828-3716
<b>ADDRESS</b>	115 West 17 <sup>th</sup> Lyndon, KS 66451-9561
<b>E-MAIL</b>	brandon.wilson@ks.usda.gov

## Field Days and Learning Schools Scheduled

A **Brush Management Field Day** will be held at 3:00 on August 26<sup>th</sup> at the Stull United Methodist Church near Lecompton. The field day features speakers that will discuss the effects of weeds and trees on grass, wildlife and livestock. There will be a discussion on chemicals and equipment available to treat invasive species. Vendors will be onsite to display and demonstrate brush removal equipment and sprayers. Service Center Agencies will be on hand to discuss financial assistance programs such as: EQIP, WHIP, CRP and SCC. The evening meal will be provided. Participants must register by August 20<sup>th</sup> by calling 785-843-4260.

The **Eastern KS Grazing School** will take place on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. The school will begin at 8AM and end at 5PM both days. Topics to be covered include pasture layout & design, grazing economics, fencing & watering, matching livestock and forage needs and grazers arithmetic. There is a \$50 registration fee to cover meals and material. The school is limited to the first 30 farms to register. For registration call 785-843-7058.

A **Sericea Lespedeza Field Day** will be held at 6:00 p.m., September 21<sup>st</sup>. The Field Day will be held on Corp of Engineers Land on the north side of Pomona Lake on 205<sup>th</sup> street, between Shawnee Heights Rd and South Ratner Rd (watch for signs). The field day will be a good opportunity for Osage County producers who have pastureland and CRP because topics of discussion include: history, identification and control of sericea lespedeza. Producers will also get to see side by side herbicide control plots. A hotdog meal will be provided. Call the Osage Co. Extension office at 785-828-4438 for more information. No reservation is required.

## Mark Your Calendar

**July 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>**- CRP General Sign-Up Meeting  
**August 2<sup>nd</sup>**- Final date to certify spring planted crops, grass and CRP.  
**August 2<sup>nd</sup>**- Committee Nomination deadline  
**August 26<sup>th</sup>**- Brush Management Field Day  
**August (TBA) ?**- CRP General Sign-Up  
**September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>**- Grazing School  
**September 21<sup>st</sup>**- Serecia Lespedeza Field Day  
**November 9<sup>th</sup>**- Women in Agriculture Meeting

## CRP General Sign-Up Meeting Scheduled

A CRP sign-up informational meeting will be held at 7:00PM on July 27<sup>th</sup> and 2:00 PM on July 28<sup>th</sup> at the Lyndon Community Center. There is a new sign-up expected sometime in August.

Topics covered will include cropland and producer eligibility, establishment cost share, contract ranking and per acre rental rates. The new CRP TIP program will also be discussed. TIP allows retiring landowners to continue receiving CRP payments after expiration while transitioning the acreage to a new or beginning farmer to rent.

Any producers who have CRP expiring in 2010, 2011, 2012 & 2013 should plan to attend the meeting.

### CRP Maintenance Reminders

**Sericea Lespedeza-** CRP acres are required to be kept free of Sericea Lespedeza and other noxious weeds. All CRP participants should scout their CRP for Sericea Lespedeza on an annual basis. Treatment is optimal in the bloom state which is usually late August or early September. Treatment must take place before Sericea Lespedeza goes to seed.

If you have questions about what Sericea Lespedeza is you should consult the Osage County Weed Department at 785-828-3280 or Osage County Extension Service at 785-828-4438 to take advantage of technical advice and chemical discounts.

**Brush and Trees-** All CRP acres are required to be kept free of any trees or brush unless required by the CRP Conservation Plan. Trees become out of tolerance when they reach a height that exceeds the height of the grass.

### Acreage Reporting Reminder

August 2<sup>nd</sup> is the acreage certification deadline for all other crops; including fall harvested crops, CRP and grass. Producers are reminded that the replant date is the planting date that must be certified on the acreage report. It is important that full acreage reports are received that include hay and pastureland so that FSA program eligibility is maintained.

### FSA Loan Availability

If you are having difficulty getting the credit you need for your farm, FSA has direct and guaranteed loans available. Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner.

For more details call 785-242-3527

### County Committee Election Reminder

June 15th marked the beginning of the nomination period for county committee elections. This year Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1 is up for election. LAA# 1 includes the northeast corner of Osage County. Nominations will be accepted through August 2nd. Any eligible producer can nominate any eligible producer with a FSA-699A nomination form.

### Women in Agriculture Meeting Scheduled

There will be an Osage County Women in agriculture meeting scheduled for November 9, 2010 at a location to be determined. Mark your calendars and watch future newsletters for more details.