



**COFFEY COUNTY
FARM SERVICE
AGENCY**

313 Cross Street
Burlington, KS 66839
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HOURS:

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Office Closed

September 6 – Labor Day
October 11 – Columbus Day

County Committee

Bonnie Davies
John Henry Rolf

Meetings- 2nd Wednesday of every month

Staff

Kim Specht
Vicki Fry
Vickie Wolford
Megan Wilson

Loan Manager

Stacy Kull

Executive Director

Marilyn Glissman

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COFFEY COUNTY FSA NEWS

July 2010

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Informational Meetings

**Wednesday, August 4th
1:30 pm and 6:30 pm
Kelley 4-H Building
Burlington**

A general CRP signup will be conducted by FSA with a specific signup date to be announced soon. Producers interested in submitting an offer during general signup should plan to attend one of the informational meetings.

Coffey County has 23,097.1 acres currently enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program with 3,140.7 acres expiring on September 30, 2010.

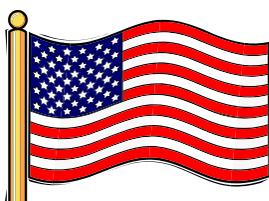
Signup for Continuous CRP practices is available on an ongoing basis. Landowners or operators may enroll in a wide variety of practices such as buffers, filter strips, etc. These practices will meet the flexibility to meet your wildlife and conservation needs. Practice and signing incentive payments are available on a number of these practices.

Special Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call the FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.

For more information about FSA programs:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>



SURE Program

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) 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 payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. However, crop insurance or NAP coverage is no longer required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage.

Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

- At least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition
- Crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm
- Producers in counties declared disaster counties by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties, or those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are eligible to receive SURE payments for crop producer or crop quality losses. Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss.

Successor-In-Interest

Many FSA programs will allow payments to be made to heirs or successors when a program participant passes away. Additionally, contracts in programs such as CRP must be revised to reflect the successor(s) to a deceased participant's interest.

In the event of an FSA program participant's death, it is important that FSA be notified. Entities and joint operations that participate in FSA programs also need to notify FSA if a shareholder or member passes away. FSA benefits are reported to IRS and maintaining current, accurate records about participants is vital to ensuring that those payments are reported correctly.

Livestock Indemnity Program

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides compensation for livestock deaths, in excess of normal mortality, that result from an approved adverse weather event (extreme heat or extreme cold). A Notice of Loss must be filed within 30 days of when loss is apparent. Participants must provide verifiable documentation of livestock deaths such as rendering truck receipt, veterinary records, or paid measurement service. If adequate verifiable proof of death records is not available, the participant may provide reliable records, in conjunction with verifiable beginning and ending inventory records, as proof of death. Reliable records may include pictures with date. If unable to provide verifiable or reliable records the participant may use third party verification as proof of death along with verifiable inventory at the time of the death. Third party certifications must be completed on form FSA-926. The third party must be an independent source who is not affiliated with the farming operation, such as a hired hand, and is not family member.

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 application 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



Crop Certification Deadline

Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA 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.

A FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must be filed for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. The acreage certification deadline for all spring seeded crops, NAP acreage, and CRP acreage is **August 2**. Prevented planting is to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

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.

Farm Reconstitutions

For FSA program purposes, tracts having the same owner and the same operator are grouped under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary.

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 1** for farms enrolled in specific programs.

The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon:

Estate Method — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

Designation of Landowner Method — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

DCP Cropland Method — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

Default Method — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.



REMINDERS

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| August 2 - | Final Acreage certification date for spring- seeded crops, CRP, and NAP acreage |
| August 2 - | Final Date for COC nominations |
| Ongoing - | 2008 Losses for SURE |
| Coming Soon - | General CRP Signup |