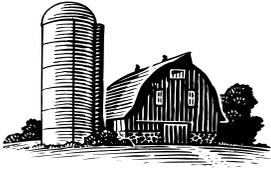




JULY 2010



# Labette County News



**Labette County FSA**  
115 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St  
PO Box 437  
Altamont, KS 67330  
620-784-5431 phone  
620-784-5900 fax

Visit us online at  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) or  
email at  
[kitra.cooper@ks.usda.gov](mailto:kitra.cooper@ks.usda.gov)

## IMPORTANT DATES

- July 7**—COC Meeting
- July 15**—End of nesting season—CRP can be mowed/burned after July 16
- July 16-18**—Four State Farm Show, Pittsburg
- July 26-31**—Labette County Fair, Oswego
- August 2**—Deadline to submit COC election nominations
- August 2**—Acreage report deadline for CRP and spring-planted crops
- August 11**—COC meeting

## 2010 COMMODITY LOAN RATES

- HRW Wheat--\$2.80
- SRW Wheat--\$1.71
- Corn--\$2.10
- Grain Sorghum--\$3.48
- Soybeans--\$4.99

More rates can be accessed online at [www.usda.fsa.gov](http://www.usda.fsa.gov) under Price Support.

Food for thought:  
"With freedom comes responsibility."  
--Eleanor Roosevelt

For current information about FSA and agriculture in general, check out the following websites:  
[www.usda.fsa.gov](http://www.usda.fsa.gov)  
[www.usda.fsa.gov/ks](http://www.usda.fsa.gov/ks)  
[www.ksda.gov](http://www.ksda.gov)  
[www.oznet.ksu.edu](http://www.oznet.ksu.edu)  
[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

## AUGUST 2 DEADLINE TO REPORT SPRING-PLANTED CROPS

Producers who are enrolled in DCP, CRP, and want to maintain eligibility for all disaster programs are required to report all crops and planted commodities. The deadline to report spring-planted crops, CRP, and grass is Monday, August 2, 2010.

Due to the excessive rains last fall, the majority of our normal wheat acreage was prevented from being planted. Producers have compensated by planting a larger-than-usual amount of corn and soybeans this year. Good news is these crops are looking good out in the field—bad news is that our office has the same short timeframe as last year in which to take your acreage reports. We'd like to ask you to make an appointment as soon as possible to report your acres. The deadline to do so without incurring a late fee is August 2. Reports taken after August 2 will be charged \$46 per farm, which covers the cost of a field visit by our office.



## EXTREME HEAT = CATTLE DEATHS

Have you lost livestock this year due to adverse weather events? LIP (Livestock Indemnity Program) is a new program that pays livestock owners for commercial operation livestock deaths caused by adverse weather during the calendar year. Adverse weather includes extreme heat and extreme cold, floods, tornadoes, lightning, blizzards, wildfires, and disease caused by adverse weather.

To be eligible, livestock owners must contact the county office and file a notice of loss for every livestock death (no matter the cause) within 30 days of the death. This can be done by phone, fax or email, as well as in person. We will need information about the weather event and date, livestock type and weight range, and livestock inventory on hand on the date of the weather event. Other documentation will be required prior to payment, but there won't be any payment if you don't notify us first of the livestock deaths! Call the office for more information.

## CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) UPDATES

### GENERAL SIGNUP IN SEPTEMBER?

Word out of the National FSA Office is that a CRP General Signup will still be offered sometime this fiscal year. An original proposed timeframe was June or July, but this has been pushed back--possibly to September. We will publicize the signup and pertinent information as soon as it's available to us.

General CRP signup (GSOP) is different from Continuous CRP signup (CCRP). CCRP is always available to farm producers. Producers should familiarize themselves with the types of CCRP available and use as a tool to address specific environmental and wildlife conservation needs on their farms. Some of the CCRP practices available are wildlife buffer strips, filter strips, waterways, and shallow water areas. If you are interested in CCRP for your farm, contact the county office.

GSOP is available infrequently (the last signup was in 2006) and on a nationwide basis. During the signup period, land is "offered" into CRP by the producer to address a specific conservation need. These offers are then ranked on a national level based on several factors that make up the Environmental Benefits Index (EBI). Factors include type of CRP practice, Soil Rental Rate offered by the producer, and location within a Conservation Priority Area. "Offers" that rank high enough are accepted into CRP.

Procedure has just changed for determining CRP Soil Rental Rates (SRR). The SRR is the per acre rate paid to the producer for the life of the CRP contract. SRR's will now be established annually based strictly on the current dryland cropland cash rents as determined by National Ag Statistics Service, which obtains its data from producer surveys.

If you have any questions about the CRP program, contact the county office.



**Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday  
8:00a.m. – 4:30p.m.

**County Committee:**

Ken Foster, Chair  
Darlene Ferguson, Vice Chair  
David Dhooghe, Member  
County Committee meets the  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each  
month

**Office Staff:**

Kitra Cooper, CED  
Annetta Henry, PT  
Sally McKinzie, PT  
Dawn Thompson, PT  
Dannette Nash, PT  
Jim Dark, FLM  
Michelle Cerne, FLO

**Field Staff:**

Leon Pearce  
Trey Thompson



**WANTED: COC NOMINATIONS**

Due to term limits, longtime COC member David Dhooghe will be ending his position on the Labette FSA County Committee. If you are committed to Labette County agriculture and interested in helping guide local FSA decisions, we need your signed nomination form in the office by August 2, 2010. Election will be held in November. Contact the office for a nomination form.

This position is open to farm producers or owners who live and/or farm in Local Admin Area (LAA) 3 and participate in FSA programs. This area is the northeast part of the county, made up of the following townships: Walton, North, Neosho, Labette, Liberty, and Montana. Half-day meetings are held monthly, and regular attendance is expected.

**CONSERVATION DISTRICT COST-SHARE SIGN UP SET FOR JULY**

The Labette Conservation District administers a state cost-share program designed to conserve soil and protect water resources by providing financial assistance to landowners who implement conservation measures. We will be conducting a sign-up through July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Practices available through the Water Resources and Non-Point Source Cost-Share Program includes: waterways, waterway restorations, terraces, terraces restorations, ponds, range seeding, pasture and hayland planting, and more.

The landowner or their legal agent will need to come in and sign an application for cost-share. At the end of the sign-up period, the board of supervisors will evaluate and rank all applications based on a point system. The applications are then approved and funded from the highest ranked down until funds are exhausted.

The applicant CANNOT begin construction or installation until the application has been approved and a contract signed. Stop by the office at 115 W 4<sup>th</sup> St. in Altamont and sign up today!

**COME SEE US AT THE  
LABETTE COUNTY FAIR  
JULY 26-31**

USDA is again hosting an evening at the Farm Bureau tent on Tuesday, July 27, from 6:00pm until dark. Be sure and bring your kids by—they'll want to make their own "soil dude" to take home!

Information about FSA and NRCS programs and agriculture in general will be available, as well as nomination forms for the upcoming County Committee election. Plan to stop by to visit and pick up some fun freebies!



**DISASTER PAYMENTS AVAILABLE**

You may be eligible for a 2008 revenue loss payment through the SURE (Supplemental Revenue) program.

Producers meet eligibility in two ways. First, producers must have insured ALL their crops of economic significance through either RMA or FSA's NAP insurance program for the disaster year. **This includes all hay crops.** Second, a producer's farm must have suffered at least a 10% production loss on any crop of economic significance (defined as being valued at 5% or more of the total expected farm revenue dollars).

If you meet these eligibility requirements and believe you may have suffered a revenue loss in 2008, contact your administrative county office to sign up for 2008 SURE. Signup is being completed manually for 2008 because software is not yet available. At this time, a deadline has not been announced to request 2008 SURE payments.

Labette County itself became eligible for SURE through a 2008 USDA Secretarial disaster designation, which were also received for both 2009 and 2010.

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