



MAY 2010



# Labette County



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## IMPORTANT DATES

April 30—July 15—2010 CRP nesting season—do not disturb CRP cover during this time  
May 5—COC Meeting  
May 31—Deadline for 2010 small grain acreage reports  
June 1—Deadline to enroll farms into 2010 DCP Program  
June 9—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:  
The beautiful spring came; and when Nature resumes her loveliness, the human soul is apt to revive also.

--Harriet Ann Jacobs

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)

## DCP SIGNUP DEADLINE JUNE 1!!! Wheat Acreage Reports Due May 31

Producers MUST enroll in the 2010 DCP/ACRE program and report small grains on their farms if they wish to receive the 2010 payment. This is an annual enrollment and does not carry over from year to year. The deadline for DCP/ACRE enrollment is June 1, 2010, ALL contract signatures, including owners, are required to be filed in the office by this date. LATE-FILED CONTRACTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED THIS YEAR. This is a procedural change from last year.

Based on historical enrollment data, it looks like there are still about 400 farms that need to enroll in DCP by June 1. A farm can be enrolled even if no crops have been planted. If you need to enroll your farm into DCP, please contact the county office immediately to make an appointment.

It's not too late to report 2010 prevented planting wheat acres. Reports at this time are considered late-filed and will be assessed a \$46 fee for a field visit. However, producers should keep in mind that an acreage report may be necessary for the farm to be eligible for a 2010 SURE program payment.

## 2010 CRP GENERAL SIGNUP ANTICIPATED FOR JULY

Although an official signup period has not been announced, we are anticipating a CRP General Signup will be offered sometime in July. CRP contract extensions will also be offered to some contracts expiring in 2010 and 2011, but which contracts are still unknown. Recently, Labette and Montgomery Counties jointly requested designation as a Conservation Priority Area (CPA) for quail habitat, but the request was denied as more CPA acres were allotted to western Kansas. This means that Labette County land offered into General CRP will not rank as high as land designated in a CPA.

Continuous CRP is always available. This includes wildlife buffer strips, filter strips, waterways, and shallow water areas. If you are interested in a Continuous CRP practice for your farm, contact the county office.

## CALL TO REQUEST 2008 SURE PROGRAM PAYMENT

You may be eligible for a 2008 revenue loss payment through the SURE (Supplemental Revenue) program. Labette County became eligible through a 2008 USDA Secretarial disaster designation. Labette County also received USDA Secretarial disaster designations for both 2009 and 2010. SURE payments are made to producers when their actual total farm revenue is less than the farm's calculated revenue guarantee. A "farm" is a producer's entire farming operation in all counties, but producers should file only in their administrative county.

There are two important eligibility requirements. 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.* A farm also must have suffered at least a 10% production loss on any crop of economic significance. A crop of economic significance is defined as being valued at 5% or more of the total expected farm revenue (dollars). Producers will self-certify the economic significance of a crop.

The SURE payment is 60% of the difference between the actual revenue and the revenue guarantee. Both the actual revenue and the revenue guarantee are determined by FSA according to procedure. FSA is receiving electronic reports of producers' insurance information from RMA. In most cases, producers will not need to provide any additional crop or income information to the office.

Producers who meet the eligibility requirements and believe they may have suffered a revenue loss in 2008 should contact their 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.



## REPORT LIVESTOCK DEATHS FOR FSA PAYMENT

LIP (Livestock Indemnity Program) is a new program that provides benefits to livestock owners for commercial operation livestock deaths caused by adverse weather during the calendar year. Payment will be made for deaths in excess of normal mortality. Adverse weather includes extreme heat and extreme cold, floods, tornadoes, lightning, blizzards, wildfires, and disease caused by adverse weather.

Livestock owners should file a notice of loss for every livestock death (no matter the cause) within 30 days of the death; this may be filed by phone, fax or email as well as in person. Notice must include weather event and date, livestock type and weight range, and livestock inventory on hand on the date of the weather event.

Prior to payment, applicants must provide adequate proof that the livestock deaths occurred as a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. This can be done one of three ways.

- Verifiable Records—producer requested and paid-for FSA on-site inspection, within **one week** of the deaths; purchase records, veterinarian records, bank or other loan documents, rendering truck receipts or certificates, emergency records, written contracts, production records, tax records, private insurance documents, and similar documents.
- Reliable Records—verifiable beginning and ending inventory records PLUS contemporaneous producer records existing at the time of the adverse weather event, pictures(s) with a date, brand inspection records, dairy herd improvement records, etc.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-Party Certification on Form FSA-926—can be filed by a non-interested person and must include a detailed written statement, affiliation with owner, and contact information. Livestock owner must provide inventory records and certify there is no other documentation of death available.

## BEGINNING FARMER DOWN PAYMENT PROGRAM AVAILABLE

FSA has a special loan program to assist socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers purchase a farm. Retiring farmers may use this program to transfer their land to future generations.

A beginning farmer is an individual or entity who:

- has not operated a farm for more than 10 years
- meets the FSA loan eligibility requirements
- substantially participates in the operation
- does not already own more than 42 acres in Labette County

All applicants for direct real estate loans must have participated in the business operation of a farm for at least 3 years.

To qualify, the applicant must make a cash down payment of at least 5 percent of the purchase price. The maximum loan from FSA can't exceed 45 percent of the lesser of the purchase price, or the appraised value of the farm or ranch to be acquired. The term of the FSA loan is 20 years with an interest rate currently at 1.5%. The remaining balance may be obtained from a commercial lender or private party (retiring farmer). Financing from participating lenders or private party must have an amortization period of at least 30 years and cannot have a balloon payment due within the first 20 years of the loan.

*As with all other FSA Farm Loan Program loans, the applicant must not be able to obtain credit from a conventional lending source.*

For more information regarding this loan program, please contact Montgomery County FSA, Farm Loan Programs, at 620-331-1670. The office is located at 410 Peter Pan Rd, Independence, KS 67301.



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