



FSA NEWS

Lyon/Chase County FSA Office
3020 W. 18th Ave., Ste. A,
Emporia, KS 66801

MARCH 2010

Alan Schamberger, County Executive Director
Jane M. Armitage, Farm Loan Manager



Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Phone:** 620-343-2812 **Fax:** 620-342-3069
County Committee Members: John Hertlein-Chairperson, Francis Scheve-Chairperson,
Marian Jones-Member, Phil Kirk-Member, John Soyez-Member

CONSENT TO DISCLOSURE OF TAX INFORMATION REQUIREMENT

FSA and NRCS programs are subject to average adjusted gross income (AGI) compliance. Our State Office has mailed all producers Forms CCC-927(Individual) and CCC-928(Legal Entity). All producers are required to complete these forms and mail to the IRS for a national IRS database comparison to verify the AGI form you have filed with us. Failure to file these forms may result in refund of 2009 and 2010 payments.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP)

USDA Officials say they expect a general CRP signup this June with 2.9 million acres being eligible. Another half-million acres are likely to be enrolled in the continuous CRP program which covers environmentally sensitive land suitable for practices such as riparian, wildlife habitat or wetland buffers; filter strips; wetland restoration, grass waterways, or shelterbelts.

2010 DCP SIGNUP

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2010. Advance payments (22% of direct payment) may be requested at the time of signup. **Please call the office to set up an appointment.** This would be a good time to report your wheat acres also. If reporting wheat, please bring your planting dates with you.

ACRE

An optional program to DCP is the ACRE Program which provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the counter cyclical payments under DCP which is based only on price. Enrollment in the ACRE program is irrevocable and must be agreed to by all producers on the farm. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled through the 2012 crop year. ACRE payments are issued only when both state and farm revenues have incurred a loss.

SURE

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program is available for crop losses due to reduced production, reduced quality on certain crops and prevented planted acres. Qualifying loss is a 10% production loss because of a natural disaster in a Secretary designated county or contiguous county, or a 50% production loss in non designated county. Lyon and Chase counties fall into the 50% production loss category for 2008. Insurable crops must be insured and non insurable crops must have NAP coverage to be eligible for SURE.

FARM CHANGES

We need to know of any changes in your farming operation prior to your signing up this year. Changes include sale or purchases of land, rented ground changes, name changes, crop share changes and changes in your banking that would affect your direct deposit.



LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM

The Food Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 authorized the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). This program provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by an adverse weather event. Eligible weather events include extreme heat, extreme cold, blizzards, tornadoes, flood and lightning.

Notice of loss must be reported to the FSA Office within 30 days of death. Acceptable records include rendering receipts, veterinary documentation, or a measurement service by FSA.

Livestock inventory will also need to be established. This may be done with purchase tickets, vet records, financial statements or a combination of these. Eligible livestock includes cattle, swine, horses, sheep, goats and poultry.

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."

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producer of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

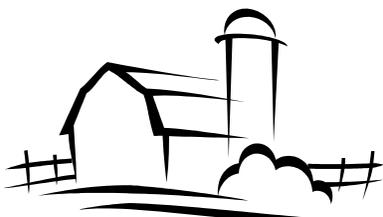
The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 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 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 record. 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, soybeans, oats, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain.
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain.
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetable-cold storage facilities.



FOREIGN INVESTORS

Foreign Investors of U.S. Agricultural land are required by law to report land holdings, acquisitions, leases of 10 years or more, and land use changes within 90 days to their local FSA Office or face potential civil penalties.

SIGNATURE AUTHORITY

Spouses may sign on behalf of each other for most FSA and CCC program in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to this office. Spouses may not sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities.

BIOMASS CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (BCAP)

BCAP assists agriculture and forest land owners and operators with matching payments for the amount paid for the collection, harvest, storage, and transportation (CHST) of eligible materials by a qualified Biomass Conversion Facility (BCF); and supports establishing and producing eligible crops for the conversion to bio-energy through project areas.

The program provides matching payments for the sale and delivery of eligible material to a qualified BCF. Payments to eligible materials owners will be at the rate of \$1 for each \$1 per dry ton paid by the qualified BCF., limited to a maximum \$45 per dry ton not to exceed 2 year payment duration.

To date, the following facilities have been approved as qualifying Biomass Conversion Facilities for producers in Kansas counties:

- Prairie Fire BioEnergy Cooperative, 97 W Hwy 4, Healy, KS 67850, Phone (620) 398-2370
- Show Me Energy Cooperative, 102 SW 58 Highway, Centerview, MO 64019-0177, Phone(660)656-3780

Producers with contracts to deliver eligible biomass materials to an approved BCF must file an application at the local FSA county office before sale or delivery of the material to be eligible for CHST payments.