



Marion County FSA Office  
301 Eisenhower Dr  
Marion, KS 66861-1376

*FSA: A customer-driven agency with a diverse and multi-talented workforce, dedicated to achieving an economically and environmentally sound future for American Agriculture.*

**FEBRUARY 2010  
COUNTY NEWSLETTER**

**OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 AM TO 4:30 PM – TELEPHONE: 620-382-3714**

## **DCP & ACRE SIGNUP UNDERWAY**

Enrollment in the 2010 Direct & Counter-cyclical and Average Crop Revenue Election Programs (DCP, ACRE) is occurring in county offices until the established June 1, 2010 deadline. No late filed enrollment beyond the deadline can be accepted. So, producers are encouraged to call in to the office at 620-382-3714 to schedule an actual appointment. In many cases, producers may be able to report their 2010 planted cropland acres at the same time.

DCP offers two types of benefit payments; a direct or guaranteed payment and a counter-cyclical or market driven based payment. Producers can elect to receive their direct payments in 2 installments by requesting an advance partial payment during signup, representing 22% of the total farm crop payment, and then receiving the balance of payment earnings in a final payment in October. Under the counter-cyclical component of DCP, a payment is generated when a crop's FSA target price exceeds its effective price. The effective price equals the direct payment rate plus the higher of the national average market price during the marketing year as determined by USDA or the national loan rate. The ACRE program allows producers to receive revenue based payments in lieu of DCP counter-cyclical payments. Any ACRE election made for a farm is permanent and irreversible through crop year 2012. An ACRE production report is required to be filed no later than the last crop reporting date in the year following the contract year. Therefore, 2009 wheat ACRE farms need to report production by June 1, 2010.

Through the issuance of the January 2010 edition of the Kansas FSA newsletter, producers have been informed that they are required to complete and mail form CCC-927 or 928 to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) by June 15, 2010. This consent agreement is between the individual producer or entity and IRS only and specific tax information is not shared with FSA.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The 2008 Farm Bill created the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund which finances permanent crop disaster loss assistance through the new Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program. FSA county offices are now conducting a signup for 2008 crop losses only.

To be eligible for the SURE program, producers MUST:

- Produce in a USDA designated disaster county: *Marion County did not receive a 2008 disaster designation*  
OR
- Suffer at least a 50% natural disaster production loss for all crops on all farms in all counties where a producer has interest

In addition, a producer must suffer at least a 10% production loss on at least one crop of economic significance. An economically significant crop is one that contributes at least 5% of the expected revenue for that producer's entire farming operations. Finally, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level crop insurance for all insurable crops and Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage available through FSA for noninsurable crops.

SURE payments are calculated based on 60% of the difference between the SURE disaster program guarantee and the total farm revenue. A web-based 2008 crop program payment calculator designed to help producers determine potential benefit can be accessed at the FSA website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/sure>



**Staff and County Committee**

**Co Comm: Marvin Ratzlaff, Eldon Andres, Monty Stuchlik**  
**Co Comm Advisor: Joyce Olsen**  
**Co. Exec. Director: Bill Harmon**  
**Office Staff: Wendy Hoffman, Lori Siebert, Sherry David, Amanda Brown, Diane Sams**

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14<sup>th</sup> and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

**BRIEFLY...**

Form CCC-1099G, Report of Reportable Income, has been provided to producers. If you earned a USDA benefit in the 2009 year and did not receive a CCC-1099G copy, please contact this office.

**A public informational meeting has been planned for Thursday, March 11 to inform producers of 2010 County, Federal and State conservation programs offered by FSA and NRCS agencies. This meeting will be held at the City Hall Basement, 203 N 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Marion at 1:00 pm.**

The recent Dairy Economic Loss Assistance Payment (DELAP) Program allowed 18 Marion County dairies to be issued over \$94,000 in a one time direct payment. Eligible producers were paid at the rate of \$0.321/cwt for 2009 calculated milk production.

**NEW YEAR BEGINS WITH SOME NEW EMPLOYEES**

Due to recent employee retirements, there have been some Program Technician (PT) personnel and job changes in the county office.

New employees Sherry David and Lori Siebert have joined the staff replacing Brenda Soyez and Linda McLain who both retired from their PT positions. Sherry and Lori join and assist the following PTs in the administration and responsibility for a variety of FSA benefit programs:

**Amanda Brown:** responsible for programs that include common payment eligibility/ limitation/ compliance, livestock assistance.

**Wendy Hoffman:** responsible for programs that include price support loans, conservation.

**Diane Sams:** responsible for programs that include administrative operations, farm changes, risk management, direct & countercyclical and ACRE.

**2010 FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS**

Peabody area producer Eldon Andres won re-election to the Marion County FSA Committee for another 3 year term beginning in 2010 receiving 121 of the 136 ballots cast by voters in Local Administrative Area #2.

Eldon joins other County Committee members Marvin Ratzlaff of rural Hillsboro and Chairman Monty Stuchlik of rural Lost Springs.

The committee plans to meet regularly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month during the course of the year. Appointments to meet with the committee can be scheduled through the county office. Minutes of committee sessions are available for public review.