



May 2010

Reno County FSA News

Reno County FSA
18 East 7th
South Hutchinson, KS 67505
(620) 669-8161- Phone
(620) 669-5496 – Fax

Hours
Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee
Myron Miller, Chairperson
Ed Thayer, Vice Chair
MaryAnn Strohl, Member

Committee meets 2nd Wednesday of Month

Staff:

Farm Programs

Gwen Brown – PT
Terri Gomes - TPT
Jeannea Kaufman - PT
Bobbie Koontz - PT
Shirley Nelson – PT
Katy Sotomayor –PT
Clara Yoder – PT
Aaron Fall - CED

Farm Loans

Katie Johnson – PT
Amanda Worthington - PT
Sheri Grinstead - FLO
Ray Bartholomew – FLM

Internet Web Sites

USDA – www.usda.gov
FSA – www.fsa.usda.gov
NRCS – www.nrcs.usda.gov

Expiring CRP

CRP land that has expired or will be expiring remains eligible for future CRP enrollment in general signups and continuous signups as long as it is offered within 6 months of the expiration date.

Secretary Vilsack announced a general CRP signup will be conducted by FSA this summer with a specific signup date being announced later.

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 have the flexibility to meet your wildlife and conservation needs.

Practice and signing incentive payments are available on a number of these practices.

The ACRE Program

The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) began in crop year 2009. Through ACRE, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price.

The enrollment date for 2010 ACRE is June 1, 2010.

ACRE payments are made when both state- and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates.

A decision to elect ACRE binds the producer to the program through the 2012 crop year, the last crop year covered by the 2008 Farm Bill. For more details contact your local FSA office

2010 DCP Signup Deadline

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will continue through June 1, 2010. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

For more information on this or other programs, simply contact the nearest FSA office.

Acres Reporting

Acres reporting deadline for small grains will soon be here. May 31 is the final day to file an acres report for small grain without a late file fee being assessed. Filing an accurate acres report for all crops and land uses, including failed acres and prevented planting acres, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. To maintain eligibility for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), producers must file an acres report for all crops in all counties that the producer has an ownership interest or risk of loss. The report must include grazing lands as well as cropland to avoid losing eligibility for the SURE program.

Failed acres must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Acres reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) crops, acres reports are to be certified by the May 31 deadline on small grains and an August 1 deadline on all other crops.

Acres reports on crops for which NAP assistance may be paid are due in the county office by the earlier of May 31 for small grains and August 1 for all other crops, or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acres being reported.

Farm Loan Programs:

In Reno County FLP unit, which covers Reno, Rice, Harvey, and Stafford Counties, loan volume for the 2010 fiscal year is up about 38% over last year and up 83% over the 10 year average for at this time of year. We continue to except applications and process them, even though in some cases, due to the heavy demand, funding is not readily available. When funds are not readily available we issue loan commitments subject to funding and work with all parties to mitigate any adverse situations that arise from the time delays. Interest rates for May are 5.00% for direct loans for real estate purchase and 2.785% for direct 7 year term and annual operating loans.

CRP Maintenance

CRP participants are reminded of their responsibility to perform annual CRP maintenance as specified in their Conservation Plan of Operations. A major problem in this state is the invasion of undesirable plants including trees that adversely impact the permanent grassland cover. FSA will be conducting annual inspections of CRP to determine contract violations.

IRS Disclosure Form

Producers have until June 15 to provide the CCC-927 for individuals or CCC-928 for entities to IRS to remain eligible for 2009 and 2010 payments. FSA will not receive any income tax information from IRS. IRS will only confirm a producer's AGI compliance.

Ensure that the form is completed correctly and that the name entered on the form is how you file your taxes. Example: If you farm under a Trust, but file your taxes under your individual name, then you should record your individual name on the form (not the Trust). If all fields are not completed correctly, IRS will reject the form. Do not send the form to FSA; it must be mailed directly to the IRS address at the top of the form. Failure to submit a form to the IRS may result in refund of 2009 and 2010 payments. You may obtain a copy of the form at the FSA county office or on-line at www.fsa.usda.gov, and then click on Forms.

Commodity Loans and LDPs

June 1 is the final date to request marketing assistance loans or loan deficiency payments for 2009 feed grains, oilseeds, and cotton.

SURE

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that incurred 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 not 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.

A SURE calculator is available at: www.fsa.usda.gov, then click on Disaster Assistance Programs, then SURE. The calculator is not official, but is intended for educational use. A fact sheet and background are also available online. We are currently taking applications for 2008 losses.

Livestock Deaths

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather. A list of normal mortality rates for Kansas can be obtained at your local FSA county office.

Applicants must provide adequate documentation to prove that the eligible livestock deaths occurred as a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. LIP payments are calculated by multiplying the national payment rate for each livestock category by the number of eligible livestock in each category. National payment rates are found on the LIP Fact Sheet at www.fsa.usda.gov. A Notice of Loss must be filed within 30 days after the death is apparent. The final date to submit an Application for Payment is Jan. 30 of the following year.