



# USDA



## Farm Service Agency

# Scott County FSA News

## June 2010

### Scott County FSA

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[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

Office Hours: 8:00 – 4:30pm

### Office Staff:

Lora Wycoff, CED  
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Linda Dunagan, PT  
Danna Steffens, PT  
Rodney Mohler, Fieldman

### County Committee:

Gary Haupt, Chairperson  
Judy Winderlin, Vice-Chair  
Allen Hess, Member

Committee Meetings are scheduled at 9AM on the first Wednesday of each month in the USDA Service Center Conference Room.

| Dates to Remember |   |
|-------------------|---|
| June 15           | Deadline to submit AGI consent for ms to IRS                              |
| Aug. 2            | Certify acreage on all crops, CRP and other land uses.                    |
| Aug. 2            | Last day to request a 2010 farm reconstitution                            |
| Aug. 2            | Deadline to submit nomination for 2010 county committee elections in LAA3 |

### 2010 Loan Rates for Grain

Scott County commodity loan rates are:

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Wheat</b>      | <b>\$2.62 bu.</b>   |
| <b>Corn</b>       | <b>\$2.06 bu.</b>   |
| <b>Sorghum</b>    | <b>\$3.35 cwt.</b>  |
| <b>Soybeans</b>   | <b>\$4.81 bu.</b>   |
| <b>Sunflowers</b> | <b>\$10.70 cwt.</b> |

### TIP Signup

Sign up has started for the Transition Incentives Program (TIP). This is a new program under the Conservation Title of the 2008 Farm Bill - to encourage retired or retiring owners or operators to transition their land to beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers.

If all program requirements are met, TIP provides annual rental payments to the retiring farmer for up to two additional years after the date of the expiration of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract, provided the transition is not to a family member.

To be eligible, TIP requires that the retired or retiring farmer or rancher:

- Have land enrolled in CRP that is in the last year of the contract or the contract expired in 2008 or 2009.
- Agree to allow the beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher make conservation and land improvements.
- Agree to sell, or have a contract to sell, or agree to long-term lease (for a minimum of 5 years) the land under CRP contract to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher by Oct. 1 of the year the CRP contract expires, except for contracts expiring in 2008 or 2009 which must be by October 1 of 2010.

### 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 multi-peril 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.

The SURE program requires that at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition if the producer has farming interest a county with a Secretarial disaster designation or has farming interests in a county that is contiguous to a county that has a Secretarial designation. If a producer is not in a county with a Secretarial designation but evidence supports a claim of an

individual revenue loss of at least 50% the producer may also apply for SURE benefits. Scott County received a Secretarial designation as a primary county for the 2008 crop year. Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes but is not limited to crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments.

### Acreage Reporting – By August 2

You have until Aug 2 to make the final report of all land use on your farming operation. Call or stop by the county office as soon as you've completed planting of your spring seeded crops.

The Aug 2 deadline includes, but is not limited to feed grain crops, oilseeds, native or improved grass and CRP. The timely and accurate reporting of acres also includes failed acreage which should be . Reporting timely to FSA can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of programs. Under the 2008 Farm Bill all cropland on the farm must be reported to maintain eligibility for benefits under Direct and Counter-cyclical Programs; marketing assistance loans; and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP).

CRP acreage reports must be filed to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported. A Total farm acreage report is required for producers interested in a Supplemental Revenue (SURE) Assistance Program Payment, including grass acreage which the producer has an interest.

Crop and other land use reports, filed on form FSA-578, must account for all agricultural land on a farm, whether idle or planted.



### Banking Changes

Notify FSA when you make changes with a banking institution that will affect the direct deposit information you have on file for your farm program payments. Payments are electronically transferred into your bank account which will be delayed until you provide your new account numbers and/or bank routing numbers and bank addresses.

### **CRP EARLY LAND PREPARATION**

Many acres of CRP are scheduled to expire in the next three years. With significant acreage eligible for conversion back to crop production, CRP participants should contact the local FSA office to discuss their options.

“Early land preparation” can be requested in the final year of the CRP contract. When approved, as early as May 1, CRP participants can begin land preparation for a fall-seeded crop. Fall planting can begin as early as September 1. A prorated payment reduction will apply for the period when the CRP grass cover was disturbed between May 1 and June 30. After July 1 no payment reductions are assessed. A fall-seeded crop must be planted before the final CRP annual rental payment may be disbursed.

If the acreage won't be planted until the spring of 2011 an approved Early Land Preparation is limited to herbicide on the CRP grass cover with chemical application as early as July 15.

There are certain CRP practices that are ineligible for early land preparation.

### **CRP MAINTENANCE**

CRP participants must perform annual CRP maintenance as specified in their Conservation Plan of Operations. This requires controlling undesirable plants including trees and weeds that adversely impact the permanent grassland cover.

### **NAP RECORDS**

If you have ever had a NAP policy you should file your production records for those crops with FSA to maintain an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield history up-to-date. All production records must be submitted by the date of your

subsequent crop year's acreage report.

### **File Notice of Loss with FSA**

A Notice of Loss (FSA-576) is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting for any crop and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss should occur within 15 days of the damage or of the damage becoming apparent. It is required for all crops, including grasses. It must be filed before crop disposition.

Crops covered under Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) also requires that you file a CCC-576 (notice of loss) in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

### **LAA 3 - COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION**

The election of county committee members is a critical component of the operations of FSA. Committee members must reside in the LAA they represent; be eligible to vote in a county committee election and must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA.

Serving on the 2010 county committee is Gary Haupt, Chairman; Judy Winderlin, Vice-Chair; and Allen Hess, member. Gary is currently completing his third consecutive term representing LAA3.

Nominations for LAA 3 are being accepted for the 2010 elections to be held in December. Deadline to file a nomination is August 2. Nomination forms are available at the county office or online at [fsa.usda.gov](http://fsa.usda.gov) then search for and nomination form or “election materials”.



### **FARM RECONSTITUTIONS**

At FSA, farms are constituted to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution (“recon”) is the process of combining or dividing farms, or tracts of land, based on the farming operation.

If payments have already been issued on a particular farm, the reconstitution will be effective for the next year, unless the payments are refunded. Deadline to request a 2010 farm reconstitution is August 2, 2010.

### **DIRECT AND GUARANTEED LOANS**

If you are having trouble getting the commercial credit needed for your farm did you know that direct and guaranteed loans are currently available through the Farm Loans Division at FSA?

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner.

FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the Scott County FSA; or the Finney Co FSA at (620) 275-0212 and ask for the farm loans division.