



October 2007

Daviess County News

Daviess County FSA

Daviess County FSA
209 Ash Street
Gallatin, MO. 64640
660-663-3703 phone
660-663-3697 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Sandra Chrisman
Keith Harpster
David Cox

County Committee
meets 3rd Thursday at
8:00 AM

Staff
Teresa Akers, FLO
Patricia Barnett, PT
Denise Dixon, PT
Glynis Dotson, PT
Beth Strein, PT

Farm Loan Manager
Michael Harwood

County Director
Kirby Payne



Crop Disaster Program Signup

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops. **CDP signup** is scheduled to begin **October 15, 2007**.

Losses from natural disasters may qualify for financial assistance if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose **only one year** to apply for benefits. Participants may apply for loss benefits on multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. For more information contact the Farm Service Agency office.

Final DCP Payments For 2007

Enrolled producers can expect their final direct payment to be directly deposited into personal bank accounts sometime during the first few weeks of October.

Producers who did not elect to receive an advance direct payment will receive their entire direct payment for the year in one lump sum after the end of the fiscal year (Sep. 30).

The direct payment for a crop equals 85 percent of the farm's base acreage *times* (x) the farm's direct payment yield *times* (x) the direct payment rate.

If there are any unearned advance counter-cyclical payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the final Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments.

LIVESTOCK DISASTER PROGRAMS

The new Livestock Compensation Program (LCP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) sign-up opened September 10. Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive LCP compensation for feed losses or LIP for livestock losses occurring between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, due to a natural disaster. Check with the county office for details.

Acreage Spot Check Determinations and Notification

Each year the Farm Service Agency completes spot checks of acreage reports. Acreage reports are the basis for delivery of many farm programs. Acreage spot checks are completed to ensure accurate acreage reports are used for farm programs.

FSA will spot check acreages on a selected number of farms in each state. Color imagery flown in summer 2007 will be used to complete all acreage determinations.

All acreage spot checks will be completed using the FSA Geographic Information System official acreages. After farms are spot checked, a Notice of Determined Acreage will be sent to the farm operator.

Producer notifications will be issued by FSA as spot checks are completed. Questions concerning determined acres should be directed to your local FSA office for clarification.

County Committee Election

Just a reminder: Be watching your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters starting on November 2, 2007. Eligible voters for this election, include Grand River, Harrison, Jackson, Monroe, and Union townships. If, for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office. Completed and

Power of Attorney for DCP/eLDP

FSA has the ability to establish a representative role for an individual to submit electronic eLDP and DCP applications on behalf of an owner or producer. The individual entitled to act for the owner or producer must have an unlimited power of attorney on file with the Farm Service Agency. Producers or individuals having unlimited power of attorney can request eLDP/DCP access at their local FSA office.

FSA Farm Loans Available For Beginning Farmers or Rancher

Beginning farmers or ranchers can get direct farm ownership loan by using funds set aside especially for them by the Farm Service Agency. These loans finance up to 100 percent of the land's purchase price (up to the \$200,000 loan limit), and the term of the loan can be up to 40 years.

The interest rate can be 5.5 percent, or the "limited resource" rate of 5.00 percent.

The direct farm ownership loan funds may also be used in joint financing where FSA lends up to 50 percent of the amount financed and another lender provides 50 percent or more. FSA may charge an interest rate of not less than 4 percent with terms up to 40 years.

Beginning farmer applicants must have been farming for at least three years and not more than ten. Applicants cannot own real estate that exceeds 30 percent of the average farm size for the county.

Beginning Farmer Down Payment Ownership Program (10-40-50)

Purpose: Obtain help financing the purchase of a farm up to \$250,000 of the purchase price or the appraised value whichever is less. The applicant must put down 10 percent. The Farm Service Agency finances up to 40 percent of the purchase price. The remaining 50 percent of the purchase price can be financed on contract with the seller or through a conventional lender. The lender can obtain a guarantee from FSA if the customer is eligible.

Rates: The FSA loan for 40 percent will be locked in for the full 15 years. Currently the rate is 4.0 percent. The loan for the balance of 50 percent should be the rate the contract holder or lender would charge an average borrower.

Marketing Assistance Loans, LDPs

To be eligible for loans or LDPs, you must comply with conservation and wetland protection requirements; beneficial interest requirements, report how you use cropland acreage on the farm and ensure that the commodity meets CCC minimum grade and quality standards.

Requesting LDPs or loans has been made easier with the CCC-633 EZ. Complete page 1 of the EZ form indicating your intention to receive LDP benefits **before losing beneficial interest**. Once you've signed the EZ form you can submit an LDP request at any time during the loan availability period — before or after losing beneficial interest.

When it comes to loans, you must have beneficial interest in the commodity on the date you request the loan, and you must retain beneficial interest while the loan is outstanding.

Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan — even if you regain beneficial interest.

For commodities to be eligible for loans or LDPs, they must have been produced by an eligible producer, be in existence and in a storable condition and be merchantable for food, feed or other uses as determined by CCC. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan.

Individuals and entities whose previous 3-year average adjusted gross income, or AGI, exceeds \$2.5 million are ineligible for LDPs and market loan gains unless they can show that at least 75 percent of their AGI comes from agriculture.

The total of LDPs and market loan gains received by a producer is limited to \$75,000 for each crop year. That means \$75,000 for wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, rice, soybeans, other oilseeds, dry peas, lentils and small chickpeas; and, \$75,000 for peanuts, wool, mohair and honey.

You do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program to be eligible for loans or LDPs.

Violating provisions of the loan and LDP program may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans and LDPs.

The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without prior authorization and providing an incorrect quantity certification.

Electronic LDP Service Available

If a producer has Internet access, program participants can apply from home for an Electronic Loan Deficiency Pay-

ment, or eLDP, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours. **Continue Page 3 eLDP**

Continued from Page 2 eLDP

To participate in the service, you must meet all eligibility requirements for marketing assistance loans and LDPs for the commodity.

The voluntary eLDP service has stringent security measures to protect your private information.

To utilize electronic services a producer needs an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires an e-mail address and filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/> followed by a visit to the county office for identity verification.

FSA Signature Policy

Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits. The following are FSA signature guidelines:

- ❖ A married woman shall sign her given name: Mrs. Mary Doe, not Mrs. John Doe
- ❖ For a minor, FSA requires the minor's signature and one from an eligible parent (Note, by signing the applicable document, the parent is liable for actions of the minor and may be liable for refunds, liquidated damages, etc.)
- ❖ When signing on one's behalf the signature must agree with the name typed or printed on the form, or be a variation that does not cause the name and signature to be in disagreement. Example - John W. Smith is on the form. The signature may be John W. Smith or J.W. Smith or J. Smith. Or Mary J. Smith may be signed as Mrs. Mary Joe Smith, M.J. Smith, Mary Smith, etc.
- ❖ FAXED signatures will be accepted for certain forms and other documents provided the acceptable program forms are approved for FAXED signatures. Producers are responsible for the successful transmission and receipt of FAXED information.
- ❖ Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office
- ❖ Spouses shall not sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities
- ❖ All members of a general partnership must sign for the general partnership unless an individual is authorized to act on the behalf of the general partnership and bind all members
- ❖ Spouses may sign on behalf of each other's individual interest in a partnership, unless notification denying a spouse that authority is provided to the county office
- ❖ Acceptable signatures for general partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, estates, and trusts shall consist of an indicator "by" or "for" the individual's name, in-

dividual's name and capacity, or individual's name, capacity, and name of entity

For additional clarification on proper signatures and FAXED forms contact your local FSA office.

Youth Loan Projects

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other youth organizations. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Live in the open country or in a town of less than 10,000 people
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing the application forms. The FSA staff will be happy to answer your questions. FSA is an equal opportunity lender.

Socially Disadvantaged Farmers

FSA has loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating expenses and to purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has priority funding for Socially Disadvantaged applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities.

For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

If producers or their spouses believe they would qualify as socially disadvantaged, they should contact their local FSA office for details.

FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

Reminder: The removal of livestock and bales on managed haying and grazing of CRP acres is November 13, 2007.

Dates to Remember	
Oct. 8	Columbus Day Holiday
Oct 15	CDP Sign-up begins
Nov. 2	County committee ballots mailed to voters
Nov. 12	Veterans Day Holiday
Nov. 22	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec. 3	Last day to return county committee election ballots
Continues	Continuous CRP
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans

Agriculture Census Offering Information; Options Online

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service has launched a web site to provide producers with news and information on the upcoming census. The site is located at <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.

According to NASS, the Census site is part of their on-going effort to accommodate the growing number of farmers and ranchers that are using the Internet. This year will mark the first time that producers have the option of filling out their Census forms online, saving both time and post-age costs.

The Census of Agriculture is taken every five years, gathering information about every farm and ranch in the nation and the people who operate them. Forms will be mailed to producers in late December that will include directions for responding online. Census forms are due by Feb. 4, 2008.

Interest Rates for October	
Farm Operating - Direct	5.125
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.5
Farm Ownership – Direct down payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.0
Emergency	3.75
Farm Storage Facility	4.375
Sugar Storage Facility	4.875
Commodity Loans 1996 to Present	5.250