

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP)



Carole Williams

Mississippi Woman in Ag Benefits from FSA's Programs

On any given day, you might find Carole Williams driving around on her farm checking her soybean crop. You may also find her in the local Farm Service Agency office certifying her crops, picking up maps or simply finding what new programs are available.

Carole is one of the few women producers of commodity row crops in Quitman County, Mississippi, but she does not let being a woman stop her from being one of the best.

"If you want to be successful, learn as much as you can, ask questions and make the final determination as to what is best for your farming operations after you review all the facts," said Carole.

A native of Crowder, Mississippi, Carole has been around farming all of her life. Her family has a strong history of producing commercial row crops. That experience served her well after her husband of 44 years passed away in March 2009.

Vowing not to let go of what she and her husband Harold took years to build, Carole took the reins of the farming operation and now farms 815 acres of soybeans and 231 acres of wheat. The fall wheat crop yielded nearly 70 bushels to the acre. She is expecting soybean yields upward of 30 bushels to the acre.

"One of my most prized memories of Harold is when he and I would check the farm every afternoon," said Carole, whose husband served on the Quitman County FSA county committee for nine years. "Harold loved wild turkeys and the excitement of seeing a drove in the fields."

It was his love of farming and wildlife that encouraged the couple to diversify their land by enrolling 476 acres in the Conservation Reserve Program. The Farm Service Agency program is designed to implement practices that enhance wildlife and wildlife habitat areas, restores wetlands and enables soil conservation.

Carole's history with FSA doesn't stop there. "I give credit to FSA for making programs like the direct and counter-cyclical, conservation reserve and price support available to producers like me," she said.

"I shudder to think how I would have made it through the rough crop years without the **Direct and Counter Cyclical Program**. I am thankful that this program is available because without it I do not know if I would have made it through and been able to keep farming like I have. It is a very needed program and I am sure if they take it away that I will not be able to continue farming like I have. "

Carole Williams is one of the many capable, qualified and talented female production commodity producers helping to keep the U.S. agricultural sector strong. Williams proves that if you want it bad enough and are willing to put in the time, it can be done.



United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency



Fast Facts

Program: Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP)

- The DCP sign-up period for the 2012 crop begins Jan. 23, 2012 and ends June 1, 2012. The CCC-509 sign-up form, "Direct and Counter-cyclical Program Contract," includes base acres, payment acres, payment yields, producer payment shares and signatures of the producer and county office representative.
- The Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) provides payments to eligible producers on farms enrolled for each and any of the 2008 through 2012 crop years.
- There are two types of DCP payments: direct payments and counter-cyclical payments. Both are calculated using the base acres and payment yields established for the farm.
- Under provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill, farms with 10 or less base acres are not eligible for DCP payments, except for farms whose owners are socially disadvantaged or limited resource farmers or ranchers.

For more information on this and other farm programs, contact your local USDA Farm Service Agency or visit us online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

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