



JULY 2009



# Dickinson County News

## DICKINSON COUNTY USDA SERVICE CENTER

### Dickinson County FSA

328 NE 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Abilene KS 67410  
(785) 263-1351  
(785) 263-1174 FAX  
www.fsa.usda.gov

### Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

### County Committee

Mark Bethe  
Donneta Felbush  
Annette Caldwell

County Committee meets  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the  
month at 9:00 am.

### Office Staff:

Ellen Alvarez, PT  
Tonya Askew, PT  
Sandy Johnson, PT  
Jamie Millard, PT  
Michele Snowball, PT  
Becky Walker, PT

Sara Morey, CED

### Field Staff:

Les Gray  
Bob Meyer



### Kansas Rural Family Helpline:

The Kansas Rural Family Helpline is a non-profit, direct service program dedicated to meeting the special needs of rural families in Kansas. The Helpline provides confidential, short-term emotional support, competent advice, and qualified referrals directly to rural families struggling with an unmet emotional, medical, financial or legal need. Contact the Kansas Rural Family Helpline at toll free 1-866-327-6578, email [farmksu@humeck.ksu.edu](mailto:farmksu@humeck.ksu.edu) or on the web at <http://www.humeck.ksu.edu/fshs/pfws/krfhprogram.html>

## Livestock Indemnity Program:

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality as a result of adverse weather. Eligible disaster conditions may include blizzards, disease, extreme cold, extreme heat, floods, hurricanes, and wildfires. Federal Regulations for LIP were published on July 2, 2009. Signup for LIP started July 13, 2009.

Producers will need to provide documentation detailing the proof of death to indicate that the livestock deaths are a direct result of and eligible adverse weather event. It will also be necessary for producers to provide documents detailing the quantity and kind, type and weight range of livestock that died as a result of the adverse weather event. Documentation may include, but is not limited to the following: bank or other loan documents, FEMA records, tax records, National Guard records, private insurance documents, production records, property tax records, purchase records, rendering truck receipts, veterinarian records, and written contracts.

In the event verifiable documentation is not available, producers will be required to present reliable records documenting the proof of death along with verifiable beginning and ending livestock inventory.

If you had eligible livestock losses during the calendar year of 2008 then you must file a notice of loss by September 13, 2009, the application for payment must also be filed by September 13, 2009.

If you had eligible livestock losses from January 1, 2009 – July 12, 2009 then you must file a notice of loss by September 13, 2009, the application for payment must be filed by January 30, 2010.

If you have eligible livestock losses that occur from July 13, 2009 – December 31, 2009 then you must file a notice of loss within 30 days after the death is apparent, the application for payment must be filed by January 30, 2010.

## Crop Certification Deadline:

August 14, 2009 is the deadline to report all acreage, crops, on certification form FSA-578, Report of Acreage. Certification of all cropland whether idle or planted is a requirement to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, ACRE Program, SURE Program, NAP Program, marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Payments. CRP acres must be certified compliant to be eligible for CRP payment.

## DCP & ACRE Signup Deadline:

Signup for the 2009 DCP Program as well as the ACRE Program has been extended to August 14, 2009. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications.

## Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE):

Producers eligible for DCP will also be eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE). The optional ACRE program provides a safety net based on State revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP.

A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5 year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. An ACRE payment is issued when both the State and the Farm have incurred a revenue loss.

The payment is based on 83.3 percent of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the State ACRE Program guarantee and the Actual State Revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the State expected yield.

Farms participating in ACRE will have their Direct Program payment reduced by 20% and the marketing assistance loan rates will be reduced by 30%.

Producers on participating ACRE Program farms must annually report acreage and production to FSA. Failure to do so may result in ineligibility.

## Farm Storage Facility Loans:

FSA offers 7 year, low-interest loans to grain producer to build new or upgrade existing storage facilities and related essential, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment. Farm storage facility loans must be approved prior to site preparation, equipment purchase or construction, and must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum loan amount will be 85% of the net cost of the applicant's needed storage or handling equipment, not to exceed \$100,000 per borrower. Fixed interest rates on farm storage facility loans are equivalent to the rate of interest charged on U.S. Treasury Securities of comparable maturity on the date the loan is approved. There is a \$45 application fee.

**FOREIGN LANDOWNER NOTIFICATION:**

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holding to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with in 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25% of the fair market value of the property.

County government offices, real estate agents, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these requirements.

**FARM LOAN PROGRAMS**

**Real Estate (Farm Ownership)**

**Loans:** FSA is currently offering **fixed interest rate loans as low as 1.5% for 20 years** for beginning or socially disadvantaged (minority) farmers. Non-beginning farmers may qualify for **fixed interest rate loans as low as 4.675% for up to 40 years.**

**Operating (Farm Operating)**

**Loans:** FSA is currently offering **2.5% fixed interest rate loans for up to 7 years** to finance machinery, equipment, livestock, modest real estate improvements or production expenses with repayment terms corresponding to the type of security offered.

**FSA Youth Loans:** Youth loans to youth 10-20 years of age to establish income producing projects in conjunction with 4-H, FFA or a similar program. The youth loan program is designed to help individuals earn a profit while learning business and financial management skills.

**FSA Guaranteed Loans:**

Guaranteed farm ownership (real estate) and operating loans administered by FSA are available through commercial lenders. The “**interest assistance**” program allows FSA to pay 4% of the interest expense on guaranteed operating loans on behalf of eligible farmers.

Additional program information, loan applications and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center, or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

Dickinson County producers are serviced by the Farm Loan Programs office located in the Saline County USDA Service Center in Salina, Kansas, phone number 785-825-8269.

Dickinson County Loan Rates Crop Year 2009	
Wheat	\$ 2.71/bu
Corn	\$ 2.02/bu
Grain Sorghum	\$ 3.31/cwt
Barley	\$ 1.75/bu
Oats	\$ 1.37/bu
Soybeans	\$ 4.90/bu

**Nomination Deadline for FSA County Committee:**

August 3, 2009 is the deadline to nominate eligible candidates to serve on the local FSA County Committee (COC). Eligible individuals located in LAA2, which include the following townships: Lincoln, Grant, Center, Rinehart, Garfield, Newbern, Logan and Liberty, are encouraged to consider serving on the COC.

**Dates to Remember:**

**July 13** – LIP Signup Starts

**August 14** – Final Date to Certify

**August 14** – Final Date to apply

**December 1** – Application Closing Date for NAP

**On-going** – Continuous CRP, Farm Loans

**Websites:**

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

Kansas FSA – [www.fsa.usds.gov/ks](http://www.fsa.usds.gov/ks)

USDA – [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)

Level 2 eAuth Account – [www.eauth.egov.usda.gov](http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov)



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