



DATES TO REMEMBER

July 31

Final Certification Date for all crops except small grains

August 1

Deadline to submit County Committee Nomination Forms

August 1

Final Date to Request a Farm Reconstitution for Fiscal Year 2007

August 1-Sept. 30

Cool Season Grass Seeding CRP

August 3

DCP Enrollment Deadline

September 3

Offices Closed for Labor Day

September 30

Final Date for 2007 DCP Contract Revisions

Ongoing

- Farm Storage Facility Loans
- Continuous CRP Signup
- Farm Record Changes



Acreage Reporting

The timely filing of an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a number of programs, including Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, as well as marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments.

To be timely, you must file an acreage report by June 30th for small grains (wheat, oats, and barley), and July 31st for all other crops.

To be considered timely, acreage reports for:

- prevented planted acreage must be filed no later than 15 calendar days after the final reporting date for the applicable crop
- failed acreage must be filed before the disposition of the crop.

We will accept crop certifications from farm operators, farm owners, persons authorized by power of attorney and tenants and sharecroppers, for which they have a share.

****Note: You will be asked to provide the date the commodity was planted, so bring your planting dates with you.****

Managed Haying & Grazing of CRP Acreage Available

Are you short on hay or pasture this year? If your CRP cover is considered to have been established for 12 full months, you may come in to revise your CRP Conservation plan and **make your request with FSA.**

This regulation permits the CRP participant hay or graze CRP acres no more than 1 out of every 3 years. The participant agrees to a payment reduction based on the number of acres actually hayed or grazed times 25 percent of the per acre rental rate. Participants also agree to stay within the 90 day designated haying period of July 16 through October 13, or the 120 day grazing period of July 16 through November 12. Hay must be removed from the acreage no later than October 31st and livestock must be removed no later than November 12th.

Acreage eligible for managed haying or grazing include acres devoted to the following practices: CP-1, CP-2, CP-4B, CP-4D, CP-10, CP-18B an CP-18C. Acreage devoted to useful life easements of land within 120 feet of a stream or other permanent water body is ineligible.

County Offices in District 3

Audrain County
Mexico, MO
Phone: 573-581-1406
Fax: 573-581-7283

Clark County
Kahoka, MO
Phone: 660-727-3364
Fax: 660-727-3089

Knox County
Edina, MO
Phone: 660-397-2559
Fax: 660-397-3289

Lewis County
Monticello, MO
Phone: 573-767-5275
Fax: 573-767-5495

Lincoln County
Troy, MO
Phone: 636-528-4113
Fax: 636-3528-9582

Macon County
Macon, MO
Phone: 660-385-2616
Fax: 660-385-4923

Marion County
Palmyra, MO
Phone: 573-769-2235
Fax: 573-769-4460

Monroe County
Paris, MO
Phone: 660-327-4137
Fax: 660-327-4507

Pike County
Bowling Green, MO
Phone: 573-324-3313
Fax: 573-324-2475

Ralls County
New London, MO
Phone: 573-985-8611
Fax: 573-985-3928

Shelby County
Shelbyville, MO
Phone: 573-633-2440
Fax: 573-633-1406

Missouri Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Sign-up underway

Attention producers in Audrain, Knox, Macon, Marion, Monroe, Pike, Ralls and Shelby Counties!! Have you taken the opportunity to check out the benefits of a CREP contract if you have land included in an approved CREP watershed area?

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program is a method by which USDA can address agricultural resource problems by targeting Federal and State resources to specific public water drinking reservoirs. Currently, in Missouri, there are 58 public drinking water supplies in 36 Missouri counties benefiting from the enrollment of cropland within those watersheds. Enrollment for the CREP program is capped at an acreage limitation of 40,000 acres or December 31, 2007, whichever comes first.

The added benefits of CREP enrollment include a potential 15-year contract length, increased annual rental rates due to rental rate incentives, and a one-time incentive payment offered by the MO Department of Conservation of \$100/ac. Certain CRP practices such as waterways, filter strips, riparian buffer strips, wildlife habitat and wetland habitat buffers on marginal pastureland, as well as the very popular CP 33 – quail habitat buffer also qualify for sign-up incentive and practice incentive payments.

Enrollment in a CREP contract requires the acreage being accepted to be planted to a warm season grass mixture. Mowing of this acreage is allowed during the initial years of establishment, however, mid-contract management practices of either burning, disking, or chemical suppression must be performed two times on CREP contracts during contract years 3 thru 9.

If interested, be sure to make your inquiries in the near future in order to maximize your contract length with a potential October 1st, 2007 contract start date!! Producers who have CRP contracts due to expire September 30, 2007, that did not choose to re-enroll or extend those acreages during the 2006 Re-enrollment & Extension (REX) process may want to consider the CREP option.

Wind Energy Contracts

Several wind power companies have expressed an interest in building wind turbines in the area with the purpose of generating renewable wind energy.

However, this type of development work on a farm typically requires the consent of lien/contract holders as well as the owner of the property. As a part of the lien/contract holders consent process, for any land where government assistance is being received by the farmer, (CRP, WRP, direct and/or guaranteed loans, etc.), an assessment of potential environmental impact is required by federal law.

These federal environmental laws require FSA to assess what impact, if any, the wind turbine could have on historical sites or on endangered species of plants and animals. Some of these environmental evaluations are fairly simple; others require professionals in the field and can be expensive for the farmer to complete.

If you are participating in the FSA CRP, WRP, direct and/or guaranteed loan program, please contact the local FSA office prior to executing any leases and/contracts with any wind power company.

Your local FSA office will be happy to help you through this process

NAP Coverage

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available and is produced for food or fiber.

Producers who already have coverage on 2007 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2008, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date. A new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops.

Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee.

Producers with 2007 NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.
- File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail, etc.

Required CRP Management Reminder

The last opportunity for the current fiscal year to complete your required management activity for contracts signed up during the 26th and 29th signup is from July 15th through September 30th.

When you have completed the management practice on your acreage it is important to bring in receipts and certify completion. FSA pays cost share for completing the required practices. Failure to complete and report the required management practice is completed will result in non-compliance and result in fines.

Removing CCC Loan Collateral

Producers are reminded, if you have grain under Commodity Credit Corporation loan it cannot be removed or disposed of without prior county office staff authorization or repayment. The county office staff may issue release authorizations based on a telephone or in person request when you are ready to move the grain. A loan violation is subject to monetary and administrative penalties, such as repaying the loan at principal plus interest, liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans and loan deficiency payments.

All commodity loans are subject to spot check. Locking in a market loan repayment rate is not a marketing authorization. If you are planning to move CCC loan grain, contact the county office staff for additional information.

Changing Accounts, Banks?

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically these days, using Direct Deposit. The switch has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. Did you know the chances of having a problem with a payment are 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit? Or, that Direct Deposit can be made within 48 hours?

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you've made any changes in accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact us so we can update our files.

United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
District 3
PO Box 215
Shelbyville, MO 63469

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Columbia, MO
Permit #230

Official Business

If your address has changed or have any questions about this newsletter please contact your local FSA office. Your address is pulled from your local FSA office database and mailed out to all producers within in the district.

2007 COC ELECTION

One of FSA's responsibilities is to conduct County Committee elections in an open manner that ensures accountability. County FSA Offices will provide local organizations representing socially disadvantaged groups with detailed information about the COC election process. FSA is reaching out to agricultural communities to get equitable representation on their county committees.

Groups representing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, will be actively solicited for COC election candidates, and encouraged to fill out a nomination form (**FSA-669A**). Under represented farmers and ranchers are encouraged to step up and participate in their county's COC election process. Producers will notice posters and announcements displayed in businesses, churches, and other public places. COC election fact sheets can be found online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA> under the News & Events tab on the FSA homepage.

2007 COMPLIANCE ACTIVIES

FSA County Offices perform a variety of compliance reviews and spot checks to ensure the accuracy of payment and integrity of programs. Currenty, these compliance reviews and spot checks are selected through a variety of processes.

Based on Office of Inspector General audit recommendations, a new compliance review and spot check selection process will be implemented for the 2007 program/crop year.

For 2007, a nationwide selection of producers has been made using a statistical sampling method. Producers were selected based on their participation in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP), Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP), Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL), and Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).

For 2007, all producers selected through the selection process will be spot checked or reviewed for compliance with all programs in which they participated or received benefits as well as the accuracy of all of their acreage reports.

Questions concerning this new procedure may be directed to the county office.

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.