



MARCH 2007



Acres Reporting

Acres reporting time will soon be here. Please remember that filing an accurate acres report for all crops and land uses, including failed acres and prevented planting acres, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acres must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Acres reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) crops, acres reports are to be certified by the June 30 deadline on small grains and the July 31 deadline on all other crops.

Acres reports on crops for which NAP assistance may be paid are due in the county office by the earlier of June 30 for small grains and July 31 for all other crops, or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acres being reported.

FSA Radio Shows

For FSA information producers are encouraged to tune their radios to KMMO (Marshall) and KMZU (Carrollton). The broadcast times are listed below:

KMMO (102.9 FM)

Tuesday (12:25 p.m.)

Wednesday (6:50 a.m.)

Friday (12:25 p.m.)

Saturday (6:50 a.m.)

KMZU (100.7 FM)

Tuesday (6:20 a.m.)

2007 DCP Enrollment

The signup deadline for the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) is **June 1, 2007**. Enrollment is an annual requirement in order to receive the program benefits. If all enrollment requirements (including acquiring signatures of all persons affiliated with the contract) are not completed by June 1, a late-enrollment fee of \$100 per farm must be assessed.

Conservation Compliance

Highly erodible land (HEL) compliance is still required to earn program benefits. This includes payments under the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP), Farm Loan Program (FLP), crop insurance and many other USDA programs. Farms with HEL soils need to be aware of tillage, crop residue, and rotation requirements spelled out in conservation plans. If you have any questions about the specifics of your conservation plan, stop by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office. Take time now to make sure your farm is in compliance. Don't wait until the plow hits the ground.

2007 Commodity Loan Rates Announced:

County loan rates for wheat, corn, grain sorghum and soybeans are also available on the Farm Service Agency Web site:

www.fsa.usda.gov

Visit us on the Web!

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo>

Payment Limitation—Annual Notice to Producers

In order to be eligible for payments and benefits under the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, Loan Deficiency Payments and Marketing Loan Gains, and the Conservation Reserve Program, producers must be determined to be “actively engaged in farming” and have met the “adjusted gross income limitation”. Additionally, cash rent tenant, permitted entity restrictions and foreign person rules may apply. Maximum dollar amounts a “person” can earn for each crop year are as follows:

Payment or Benefit	Limitation Per Person
Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment	
Direct payments for the following covered commodities: barley, corn, grain, oats, other oilseeds, rice, sorghum, soybeans, upland cotton, and wheat	\$40,000 per crop year
Direct payments for peanuts	\$40,000 per crop year
Counter-cyclical payments for the following covered commodities: barley, corn, grain, oats, other oilseeds, rice, sorghum, soybeans, upland cotton, and wheat	\$65,000 per crop year
Counter-cyclical payments on peanuts	\$65,000 per crop year
Price Support	
Any gain realized from repaying a marketing assistance loan for one or more of the following loan commodities at a lower level than the original loan rate. Any LDP's received for one or more of the following loan commodities: barley, corn, grain, oats, other oilseeds, rice, sorghum, soybeans, upland cotton, and wheat.	\$75,000 per crop year
Any gain realized from repaying a marketing assistance loan for honey, peanuts, mohair or wool at a lower level than the original loan rate. Any LDP's received for one or more of the following loan commodities, including: honey, peanuts, mohair or wool.	\$75,000 per crop year
Conservation Programs	
Rental payments including incentive payments made under CRP.	\$50,000 per Fiscal Year
Cost-share and incentive payments under EQIP	\$450,000 per individual or entity EQIP payments are not limited on a per “person” basis. Instead, an individual or entity may not receive, directly or indirectly, cost-share or incentive payments under EQIP that exceed \$450,000, in aggregate, for all contracts entered into during FY's 2002 through 2007, regardless of the number of contracts entered into by the individual or entity.
NAP	
NAP payments	\$100,000 per crop year

Payments cannot be issued until all forms and required documents have been provided and required determinations have been made. The CCC-502 “Farm Operating Plan” and other supporting forms, if applicable, must be filed initially for a determination. Once filed, the forms are not required to be completed annually; however, producers are required to inform the county office of changes to their farming operations and these may require new forms to be completed or information updated. Failure to notify the FSA office and update paperwork may result in program ineligibility.

Spouses may be considered separate “persons” for payment limitation purposes and be eligible to receive their own limitation amount if the applicable requirements are met.

If you are operating as an entity (corporation, estate, trust, LLC, etc.) to be eligible for program benefits, you must supply names, addresses, and ID numbers of the members. These individual members will also be required to designate their shares for payment.

All producers applying for benefits, including members of entities, will be required to certify their AGI (Adjusted Gross Income). Producers with an average AGI exceeding \$2.5 million are ineligible for benefits. Any producer who fails to complete the necessary paperwork or cannot meet the requirements will be determined ineligible for benefits. All producers who file are subject to spot-check and may be required to furnish documentation to prove their eligibility. Information that may be required include: operating loan documents, income expense ledgers, canceled checks for expenditures (such as fertilizer, seed, chemicals, fuel, equipment leases and purchases), land leases and purchases, hired labor or management and other farming operation expenditures, land lease agreements, sales contracts, property tax statements, canceled checks associated with land or equipment lease agreements, purchase contracts, equipment listings or canceled checks associated with equipment.

2006 Loan/LDP Deadlines

The final dates to request a Commodity Loan or submit evidence for Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) are as follows:

March 31, 2007: Wheat, Oats, Barley

May 31, 2007: Corn, Soybeans, Grain Sorghum

Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program Information Fact Sheet

Farm Specific Crop and Share Information:

To participate in DCP, producers are required to designate shares and sign the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program Contract (CCC-509) on a yearly basis. The annual DCP sign-up period runs from October 1 to June 1 of the applicable program year. *2007 CCC-509s must be submitted by June 1, 2007.* In cases where a farm is reconstituted, all resulting farms will need to enroll (signatures obtained) if the producers intend to participate. CCC-509s with signatures obtained after June 1, but by September 30, will be accepted, but the farm will be assessed a late-filed sign-up fee of \$100. All supporting documentation, such as CCC-502, AD-1026, and CCC-526, must be submitted before payments can be issued. Annual acreage reports indicating uses of all cropland on a farm must be filed by the applicable reporting dates. Acreage reports filed after the applicable final reporting date may be accepted if all requirements are met and a late-filed fee is paid.

Payment Options: Payments are calculated by taking 85 percent of the base acres, multiplied by the farm yield, times the applicable payment rate, times the producer share. This year producers may receive a 22% advance of the direct payment. Final direct payments will be made on or after October 1, 2007. Counter-cyclical payments may also be authorized for one or more covered commodities, depending on the projected and actual market prices. Producers may elect to receive up to two counter-cyclical payments per year: (1) the first partial payment, if any, is available after the first six months of the marketing year, and cannot exceed 40 percent of the total projected pay-

ment; and (2) final payments, if any, are made after the end of the marketing year for the crop. Producers who do not elect to take the first advance payments will receive the entire counter-cyclical payment at this time. The amount of a counter-cyclical payment is dependent upon the average of the actual prices received by farmers during the marketing year, and it is possible they would be required to refund an advance payment.

Planting Fruits and Vegetables or Wild Rice:

Planting fruits, vegetables, or wild rice on base acres may adversely affect your program benefits. Please contact your local county FSA office before you plant or lease land for production of fruits (including nut trees, vegetables or wild rice) to discuss acreage reporting requirements, prevention of possible violation of program provisions, payment reductions, and severe penalties.

Changes in Farming Operation:

Failure to notify FSA of changes in your farming operation may adversely impact your eligibility for USDA benefits. You should also be aware of Highly Erodible Land Conservation, Wetland Conservation, Payment Eligibility, and Payment Limitation provisions, which impact your eligibility for DCP payments. Changes to your farming operation may include, but are not limited to, a change in the structure of your farming operation or changes in your rental agreement. Any change to your farming operation must be reported to FSA when the change occurs, but **no later than September 30** of the program year. Failure to timely report changes may result in ineligibility for DCP benefits. *Further information on DCP and other FSA programs are available at local FSA offices or on FSA's website at www.fsa.usda.gov.*

District 4 Service Centers

Jasper Grant, District Director

(573)876-0925

Benton County FSA Office

Annette Steelman, CED
Steven Lair, FLM
535 North Hwy 65
Lincoln, MO 65338
(660)547-2351

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Carroll County FSA Office

Chuck Riley, CED
Annette Brandt, FLM
1405 Hwy 65 North, Suite A
Carrollton, MO 64633
(660)542-8732

Office Hours: 7:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Chariton County FSA Office

Allen Powell, CED
Robert K. Hardwick, FLM
104 South J.F.K. Avenue
Keytesville, MO 65261
(660)288-3279

Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Cooper County FSA Office

Mark Hultgren, CED
Jct. 87 & I-70 17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233
(660)882-5647

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Henry County FSA Office

Bill Spry, CED
1306 North 2nd Street
Clinton, MO 64735
(660)885-5567

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Howard County FSA Office

Brian McDonald, CED
743 State Route DD
Fayette, MO 65248
(660)248-3384

Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Johnson County FSA Office

Larry Olson, CED
727 PCA Road Suite A
Warrensburg, MO 64093
(660)747-8400

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Lafayette County FSA Office

Stanton Thompson, CED
Brian Bagnell, FLM
120 W. 19th Street
Higginsville, MO 64037
(660)584-8732

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Pettis County FSA Office

Jay O'Bannon, CED
Steven Lair, FLM
1407 W. 32nd Street
Sedalia, MO 65301
(660)826-3339

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Randolph County FSA Office

Eddie Mckeown, CED
Michael Arnold, FLM
2995 County Rd 1325
Moberly, MO 65270
(660)263-1169

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Ray/Clay County FSA Office

Stanton Thompson, CED
500 Wollard Blvd.
Richmond, MO 64085
(816)776-5861

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

Saline County FSA Office

Everette Wood, CED
704 N. Miami
Marshall, MO 65340
(660)886-7447

Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (M-F)

District 4
Jct. 87 & I-70
17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233-9640

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**NATIONAL
AG WEEK
MARCH 19-23**

**USDA Farm Service
Agency salutes America's
Farmers and Ranchers.**

**Removal of Vogel Grain Company From
CCC's Approved Warehouse List**

The FSA Commodity Office at Kansas City, Missouri has terminated Vogel Grain Company in Saline County from the list of warehouses approved by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). The operator has requested cancellation of the Uniform Grain and Rice Storage Agreement which controls the storage of Government-owned grains. Any grains put into storage in the Vogel Grain Company will not be eligible for warehouse loans.

RAINFALL DATA

County	December 2006 Actual	December 30 yr. Average	January 2007 Actual	January 30 yr. Average	February 2007 Actual	February 30 yr. Average
Benton	1.55	2.37	3.23	1.55	1.51	2.03
Carroll	2.76	2.06	1.60	1.37	1.56	1.49
Chariton	2.16	2.73	2.41	1.58	2.24	1.65
Clay	2.10	1.47	.95	1.10	2.67	1.11
Cooper	1.69	2.51	2.29	1.64	2.04	1.84
Henry	3.24	2.11	3.09	1.58	1.84	2.00
Howard	1.90	2.12	2.44	1.61	2.12	1.78
Johnson	2.93	2.02	1.97	1.30	2.11	1.75
Lafayette	3.91	1.36	1.55	1.74	1.73	1.96
Pettis	2.92	2.27	2.35	1.58	2.68	1.81
Ray	1.87	1.96	1.00	1.44	2.62	1.52
Randolph	1.51	2.29	0.30	1.63	1.82	1.88
Saline	3.06	1.95	1.61	1.35	1.90	1.39

Welcome New District 4 Employee

Tracy Audsley started as a temporary employee in Howard County in November 2005, and became full-time in January 2006. She is responsible for Compliance, Payment Limitations, Grain Loans, LDPs, and Farm Storage Facility Loans. Tracy's husband, Samuel, farms and also works in heating and cooling. They have a 10 week old son named Jesse Ray. *"My biggest challenge is mastering all the different forms and regulations associated with the broad range of programs we administer."*

Risk Management

The Farm Service Agency will be assisting the Risk Management Agency (RMA) and insurance providers in monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season.

FSA will refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste, and abuse of the Federal Crop Insurance Program to RMA. Producers may also report suspected cases of fraud, waste, and abuse to their local FSA office, RMA or the Office of the Inspector General.

FSA will also assist RMA with the auditing of claims.

Foreign Landowner Notification

Foreign investors who buy, sell or hold a direct or indirect interest in U.S. agricultural land must report their holdings and transactions to the Secretary of Agriculture. Failure to timely file an accurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.