



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

County Committee:
Jack Masters
Everett Euler
Ula May Drake

Staff:
Curtis Kruse, CED
Jennifer Luedke, PT
Karen Rockhold, PT
Mary Lou Blanton, PT
Larry Diveley, TF

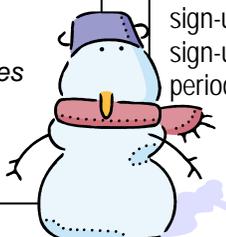
Loan Manager:
Bruce Nutsch
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DATES TO REMEMBER:

- November 23**
Thanksgiving – FSA Offices Closed
- December 4**
County Committee election ballots due
- December 25**
Christmas – FSA Offices Closed
- January 1**
New Year's – FSA Offices Closed



Farm Service Agency

DONIPHAN FSA FARMLINE

November 2006

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

The 2006 election for the Doniphan County Committee will be for Local Administrative Area 1, the western portion of Doniphan County. This area includes Iowa, Wolf River, Union and Independence townships. The ballots will be mailed to all eligible producers in LAA 1 by November 3, 2006. Ballots will be counted on December 7, 2006.

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service (FSA) county committees is important to all farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in their county election because FSA county committees are a direct link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

GRAIN LOANS

Grain loans are available at our office for 2006 raised corn, grain sorghum, soybeans and wheat. These loans are for a maximum of 9 months or for a lesser time frame depending on when you redeem the loan. The interest rate will depend on the month that you apply for the grain loan and this rate will remain unchanged for the duration of the loan. Several types of loans are available including farm stored measured, farm stored certified and warehouse stored loans. If you apply for a warehouse stored loan you must prepay the storage at the warehouse for a period of 9 months. If you buy back the loan then the unused storage may be refunded to you.

Loan rates for Doniphan County are as follows: Corn \$1.86, Grain Sorghum \$3.29/cwt, Soybeans \$4.99 Hard Red Winter Wheat \$2.89 and Soft Red Winter Wheat \$2.59.

One of the advantages of acquiring a grain loan is that you receive money up front while you speculate on higher grain prices down the road.

CRP

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a voluntary program for agricultural landowners. Through CRP, you can receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on eligible farmland.

Producers can offer land for CRP general sign-up enrollment only during designated sign-up periods. Currently no general sign-up period has been announced.

2007 DCP

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns has announced that enrollment for the 2007 Direct and Counter Cyclical Payment Program has begun and continues until June 1, 2007. Producers can visit any USDA Service Center or their administratively assigned center to complete their 2007 DCP contract.

Following the June 1, 2007 deadline, USDA will accept late applications through Sept. 30, 2007, with a \$100 fee. While DCP participants must sign DCP contracts annually, producers can choose not to participate in the program in any given year.

For 2007, eligible producers may request to receive direct advance payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment rate for each commodity associated with the farm. USDA will issue DCP direct advance payments beginning December 1, 2006.

Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides direct and guaranteed loans to beginning farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain financing from commercial credit sources. Each fiscal year, the Agency targets a portion of its direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operation loan (OL) funds to beginning farmers and ranchers. A beginning farmer or rancher is an individual or entity who (1) has not operate a farm or ranch for more than 10 years; (2) meets the loan eligibility requirements of the program to which he/she is applying; (3) substantially participates in the operation; and, (4) for FO loan purposed, does not own a farm greater than 30 percent of the average size farm in the county. (Note: all applicants for direct FO loans must have participated in business operation of a farm for at least 3 years.) If the applicant is and entity, all members must be related by blood or marriage, and all stockholders in a corporation must be eligible beginning farmers.

Applications for all types of loans may be submitted to the FSA local office serving the area where the operation is located. Local FSA offices are listed in the telephone directory under U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture, and Farm Service Agency.

For guaranteed loans, applicants must apply to a commercial lender who participates in the Guaranteed Loan Program Local FSA offices have lists of participating lenders.

RECORD CHANGES

If you have bought, sold, or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the FSA Office as soon as possible after the change occurs. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on land you have an interest in could lead to possible ineligibility for USDA benefits.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

The potential for higher commodity prices now and in the future makes the Farm Storage Facility Loan program look very good. These 7 year loans for up to \$100,000 are available for 85% of the cost of eligible equipment and repayable in 7 equal installments. Call for an appointment if you are interested in a Farm Storage Facility Loan. There is a \$45 application fee to begin the application process.

NAP

December 1, 2006 is the final application date for 2007 peaches, alfalfa, oats, and all grasses for hay or forages. Most other vegetables and pumpkins application date is March 15, 2006. Producers with losses are to notify FSA within 15 days of the loss.

Producers who do not have a loss are required to provide production evidence to report and verify 2006 production. Producers are encouraged to pay the cost of a field reporter to verify the production in the field.

FSA EMPLOYEES TAKE 'MAGIC CARPET RIDE'

Several FSA employees in Northeast Kansas have set a precedent for completing CRP field inspections in a very short time. No, it wasn't by using faster horses, 4-wheelers, or a marathon runner. FSA District 3, under the direction of Mike Robinson, director, utilized a Bell 47 helicopter owned by Chris Grauer, Marysville, KS.

The Bell cruises at 100 mph, but most of our CRP work was done at around 30 mph over the fields and slower or completely stopped if need be. Visibility in the Bell 47 was unreal. It's literally like riding a magic carpet. The helicopter can best be described as a pickup truck or farm tractor that can fly. In one county where they were a little unsure of where they were, they simply flew down and read the road signs and quickly established their position.

By utilizing the Bell 47, counties were able to complete as many field checks in one day that normally would have taken 10 days. They also had a unique view and were able to spot problems they might have missed from the ground.

2007 COST-SHARE CUTOFF DATES FOR EQIP AND WHIP

To be considered for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) or Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) funding in 2007, an application needs to be signed by December 15, 2006.

The WHIP program is a voluntary USDA Farm Bill program administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The objectives of the program are to restore, enhance, and manage plant communities and aquatic resources for the purpose of improving fish and wildlife resources. Most land is eligible for WHIP, which provides the opportunity to improve wildlife habitat on land that may not be eligible for other programs. NRCS has a cooperative agreement with Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) where they provide a biologist to assist with the planning process as well as through the application, implementation, and maintenance process of a WHIP contract. Examples of eligible practices include brush management, windbreak/shelterbelt establishment or renovation, grass plantings, filter strips, and wildlife watering facilities.

The EQIP program is a voluntary conservation program administered by NRCS. EQIP offers financial and technical assistance to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and management conservation practices on eligible agricultural land. EQIP activities are carried out according to a conservation plan of operations developed with the program participants that identifies appropriate conservation practices to address the resource concerns. The natural resource concerns are: forestland health, grazing lands health, livestock waste, soil quality, water quality, and water quantity. Examples of eligible practices include fencing, tree/shrub establishment, forest stand improvement, brush management, grass planting, livestock watering facilities, livestock waste storage facilities, terraces, waterways, sediment basins, and wetland creation/restoration.

To sign up or obtain more information about 2007 EQIP or WHIP funds, call or visit the Natural Resources Conservation Service, 510 E. Locust, Troy, KS. The phone number is 1-785-985-3524 ext 3. Information is also available at www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

Special accommodation will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA office and we will be happy to make arrangements that are needed.



Non-Discrimination Statement

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