



Farm Service Agency

MILLARD COUNTY FSA NEWSLETTER AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2006

County Information

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Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:00 am-4:30 pm

**Farm Loan:**

Eric Jensen, FLM
Jeanene Owens, FLO

County Committee:

Lee Monroe
Jerry Skeem
Ladd Holman
Phil Pikyavit
Joyce Coats

Positions:

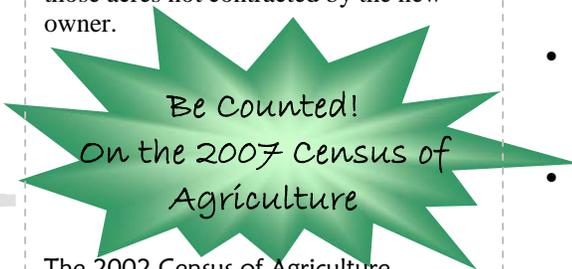
Chairperson
Vice-Chairperson
Member
Advisor
Advisor

Responsibilities for CRP Contract Holders

CRP contract holders have responsibilities for complying with terms and conditions of the CRP contract. These include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Control all weeds, insects, pests and other undesirable species to the extent necessary to ensure the establishment and maintenance of the approved cover is adequately protected.
- ✓ Establish and maintain the required water or vegetative cover and other required practices.
- ✓ No activity may be conducted on CRP acres without authorization, including unauthorized treatment, such as mowing, spraying, and burning of CRP during the primary nesting or brood rearing season.
- ✓ Prior approval must be received from FSA before any harvesting, grazing or other commercial use of the forage may begin.
- ✓ If land with a CRP contract is sold, the new owners should notify the local county FSA office if they want to continue the contract.

If the land is sold and the new owner does not wish to continue the CRP contract, you will be required to repay all payments received on the contract plus interest and liquidated damages. Liquidated damages are equal to 25 percent of the annual rental payment on those acres not contracted by the new owner.



The 2002 Census of Agriculture counted 2.2 million farms and ranches in the United States. That was down 15% from the 2.6 million farms and ranches counted in 1974. What changes are in store for the future of agriculture in our county? It is important that all operators are again counted in the 2007 Census of Agriculture to show their contribution to the entire U.S. agricultural industry.

Every farm and ranch in the nation can expect to receive a mailed Census questionnaire in December 2007. To get an accurate count for 2007, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service must receive a completed report for every farm and ranch in the U.S. The Census is the only source of uniform agricultural data for every county in the U.S. and provides a complete statistical picture of U.S. farms and ranches every five years.

How can YOU benefit from responding to the Census of Agriculture? Here are some possibilities:

- Producers can negotiate for more competitive market prices because they have the same facts as buyers.
- Farm organizations use the data to evaluate and propose policies and programs that help the agricultural producer.
- Farm service providers can anticipate needs and be more responsive to producers.

- Colleges and universities use census data in research programs aimed at increasing agricultural production and profitability.
- State departments of agriculture use census data to better serve farmers and ranchers during drought and emergency outbreaks of diseases or infestations of pests.
- Rural electric companies use census data to forecast future energy needs for the agricultural producer and the communities they live in.
- USDA uses census data to help evaluate participation of farmers and ranchers in its programs and services.
- Elected representatives use the data to develop farm policies and programs to protect and promote U.S. agriculture.
- Public and private analysts make extensive use of census data in projecting and evaluating results of agricultural programs and events.

The information you provide on the Census is kept confidential by law, Title 7, U.S. Code, and will not be disclosed to any other government or private entity.

For more information about the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) or the Census of Agriculture, including complete results of the 2002 census, visit our website at www.nass.usda.gov or call NASS's Utah Field Office in Salt Lake City at 1-800-747-8522.

Late Filed Acreage Report

Anyone, whom has not filed a 2006 acreage report, needs to as soon as possible. Acreage Reports are required for eligibility for most programs such as the Farm Program (Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program), LDP's (Loan Deficiency Payments) and NAP (non-insurable crop insurance). Remember no payments can be made for your farm until your acreage report is done. The deadline to do this was June 30, 2006 so you will be charged a \$20 late file fee per farm. Please contact the FSA office to ensure that your crops have been reported.

Farm Reconstitutions

In Farm Service Agency terms, farms are *constituted* to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is called for. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation.

When combining different tracts into one farm unit, FSA simply adds each tract's base acreage to determine the base acreage for the newly constituted farm. If a tract is removed from a farm, such as when there is an operator or ownership change, the base acreage that is attributed to the tract is removed from the farm. In some cases, the base acreage could be distributed by different means.

The final date to request a 2006 reconstitution is August 1, 2006. If 2006 DCP direct payments have already been issued on the farm, the reconstitution will be effective for 2007, unless the payments are refunded.

Crop Insurance Sales Closing Deadline

The crop insurance sales closing date for wheat, barley and forage (alfalfa and alfalfa/grass mixtures) coverage for the 2007 crop year is October 31, 2006. The crop insurance spring sales closing date for all other crops is March 15, 2007. Contact a Multi-Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) Agent for more information. A list of agents in your area can be found at <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/companies/> or by contacting the FSA office.



Commodity Loans

Commodity Loans are available to all farmers growing eligible commodities. These loans provide capital to farmers enabling them to hold their crop off the market and benefit from price increases that may come after harvest. Commodity Loans mature in 9 months. Loan rates are as follows:

Hard Red Winter	\$2.88
Hard Red Spring	\$2.80
Soft White Winter	\$2.81
Barley	\$2.15
Corn	\$2.35
Oats	\$1.38
Honey	\$.60

Producers are reminded that they are responsible for maintaining the quality of commodities in farm storage. They will also be subject to penalties applicable to unauthorized removal or disposition if CCC loan collateral is moved or disposed of with prior approval from the FSA county office.

Farm Loans

Loans for Socially Disadvantaged

The Farm Service Agency can make and guarantee loans to socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family size farms and ranches. Funds specifically for these loans are reserved each year. A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Beginning Farmers

The Farm Service Agency 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 operating loan (OL) funds to beginning farmers and ranchers.

A beginning farmer or rancher is an individual or entity who (1) has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years; (2) meets the loan eligibility criteria requirements of the program to which he/she is applying; (3) substantially participates in the operation; and, (4) for FO purposes, does not own a farm greater than 25 percent of the average size farm in the county. All applicants for direct FO loans must have operated a farm for at least 3 years.

Contact this office for a loan packet. If you would like more information on loans contact Eric Jenson or Jeanene Owens at 435-743-5173.

AgrAbility of Utah

AgrAbility of Utah is part of a national program administered through the USDA. AgrAbility focuses on promoting independence for members of the agricultural community who have disabilities resulting from injury, illness, age or other causes. AgrAbility offers opportunities to persons of all ages and connects individuals to a network of service providers, product suppliers, and product manufacturers in order to provide education, information, services and support.

AgrAbility of Utah is administered by the Utah State University's Agricultural Systems Technology and Education Department, USU Extension, the Center for Persons with Disabilities, and the Association for Independent Living of Utah.

Types of assistance available include:

- Agricultural work-site analysis.
- Farm/Home accessibility survey.
- Environmental modifications.
- Equipment adaptation and modification.
- Information and referral
- Facilitation of independent living.
- Individual advocacy
- Peer support
- Coordination of community service
- Education
- Agricultural safety workshops to prevent further injuries.

If you or someone you know could use come assistance in making your farm or ranch operation easier because of a disability, please contact this office or:

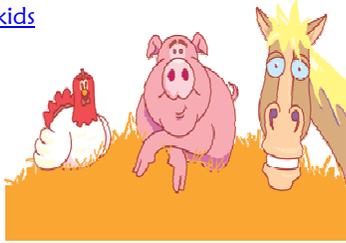
Rhonda L. Miller, PhD
Project Director
(435) 797-3772
1-877-225-1860 toll free
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FSA Kids Activity

The FSA Kids website has the AgVenture and Hay Now games for your kids to play and learn about agriculture at the same time. There are also cooking pages, coloring pages, fun food facts, puzzles, fun links, and more!

www.fsa.usda.gov/fsakids



EMERGENCY GRAZING ON CRP

Because of the drought conditions in Millard County, the County Committee is requesting authorization to implement Emergency Grazing on CRP acreage. If and when Millard County is approved to graze CRP, livestock producers interested in grazing CRP need to do the following:

- ◆ Contact this office to request approval to graze eligible acres.
- ◆ Identify acreage to be grazed on aerial photos.
- ◆ Obtain a revised conservation plan from NRCS—including the stocking rate for the acreage grazed.
- ◆ Receive approval, in writing, from FSA before grazing begins.

There will be a 10 percent payment reduction assessed on all CRP acreage that is grazed.

Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Producers who have their crops or grazing land insured under NAP are reminded that a **Notice of Loss, form CCC- 576, should be filed within 15 days of the disaster occurrence or date damage to the crop is apparent.**



America's CRP Turns 20

On December 23, 1985 President Reagan signed the Food Security Act of 1985, which created the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). FSA conducted the first CRP sign-up in March of 1986, enrolling 753,668 acres under 9,407 CRP contracts.

Since then, CRP's goals and accomplishments have broadened considerably. Today, CRP is widely regarded as a key program achieving multiple environmental and societal benefits through voluntary, private-land stewardship and cooperative conservation. With nearly 36 million acres enrolled, CRP has become the largest public-private conservation partnership in America.

Although established in 1986 to deal primarily with the problem of soil erosion, CRP has helped farmers clean up surface water and provide habitat for wildlife. Prior to CRP the nation was losing an estimated 460 million tons of top soil each year. Of that, 230 million tons were lost due to wind erosion and 220 million tons due to water-driven erosion. Re-establishing grasses and planting buffers between fields and streams stopped both wind and water erosion as well as trapped sediment and agricultural chemicals before they could reach nearby water bodies making downstream water creeks, rivers and lakes cleaner.

Planting fields to grasses and buffers not only stopped erosion, but also provided habitat for a variety of wildlife species; birds and small mammals gained areas conducive to breeding and rearing their young. We tend to think that CRP has evolved over the years, but perhaps it is not the program that has evolved, but our recognition of its value.

For more information related to CRP please contact the FSA County Office or visit us online at the FSA Public Website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.



*Important
DATE!*

TODAY- Sign-up 2006 DCP
TODAY- File Acreage Report
TODAY- Sign CCC-633 EZ
TODAY- File Notice of Loss
August 24- COC Meeting
September 4- Labor Day
CLOSED
September 7-17 Utah State Fair
September 11-12 Office CLOSED
September 22- COC Meeting
September 30 –Final deadline
to
Sign-up DCP contracts
November 3- Election ballots
mailed

Visit the



August 10, 11, 12
2006

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