



November 2007

# Franklin County News

## Franklin County USDA Service Center

**Franklin County FSA**  
1004 Vondera Ave STE 1  
Union, MO 63084

**Hours**  
Monday – Friday  
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**PHONE**  
636-583-2303 Ext 2

**County Committee**  
Carl Danz, Chairperson  
Betty Fink, Vice Chair  
John Busch, Member

**Staff**  
County Executive Director  
Sheria Yancey

Program Technicians  
Jan Dierking  
Kathy Post  
Sharon Mace  
Doris Brautigam

Field Assistant  
Jerry Julius

## **Wheat, Barley, Oats Reports Currently Being Accepted**

*County offices are taking crop reports with planting dates on wheat, barley, and oats acres. Producers may also report CRP and permanent pasture acres at this time.*

Normally you receive a newsletter that comes out to all producers in our district but I wanted to send out some special information just for Franklin County. Harvest is nearing an end and I have had some reports of some unexpected good yields. There are definitely places in the county and in each field that could have been better but over all we are thankful for a good harvest.

Our county has been approved for disaster programs for the years 2005, 2006, and 2007. Even though 2007 is listed, these programs will only help producers who had a crop planted prior to February 28 and then had a loss on that crop. This could include wheat losses from the freeze. Only producers that had the crop insured through crop insurance will be eligible. Also included is a livestock program for grazing losses. See page 2 for more information on all our disaster programs. No ending date has been announced but our office is ready to take your applications. Call our office for an appointment.

It is the time of year when grain bin dealers are offering some end of the year deals for purchasing a bin. We have a farm storage facility loan (FSFL) program that will help in the purchase of new bins and attached equipment. These loans are 7 year loans and the October interest rate is 4.375%. Crop insurance is required on all crops and you must show a need for additional storage capacity. Grain loans on your harvested grain are also available. See page 4 for this information.

The office staff has been working very hard this year getting all new forms for payment eligibility and getting all the necessary paperwork to be able to make your DCP and CRP payments this fall. Most of those payments have now gone out. If you have not yet received your payment, give us a couple of weeks and then give us a call.

Our office has been working with the University of Mo Extension Office here in Franklin County to start a new group we are calling *Women in Ag*. The purpose is to get some needed information out to ag women. Our first get-together is November 8, 2007. Registrations must be in by November 2. See page 3 for more information and where to send the registration form. Come and join us and help make this an ongoing event in our county.

*Sheria Yancey*  
*County Executive Director*

## Crop Disaster Program Signup

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops. **CDP signup** began **October 15, 2007**.

Losses from natural disasters may qualify for financial assistance if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose **only one year** to apply for benefits. Participants may apply for loss benefits on multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. Our office is now taking **appointments** for the CDP.

## FSA Farm Loans Available For Beginning Farmers or Ranchers

Beginning farmers or ranchers can get direct farm ownership loan by using funds set aside especially for them by the Farm Service Agency. These loans finance up to 100 percent of the land's purchase price (up to the \$200,000 loan limit), and the term of the loan can be up to 40 years.

The interest rate can be 5.5 percent, or the "limited resource" rate of 5.0 percent.

The direct farm ownership loan funds may also be used in joint financing where FSA lends up to 50 percent of the amount financed and another lender provides 50 percent or more. FSA may charge an interest rate of not less than 4 percent with terms up to 40 years.

Beginning farmer applicants must have been farming for at least three years and not more than ten. Applicants cannot own real estate that exceeds 30 percent of the average farm size for the county.

Information on these and all our farm loan programs can be obtained by calling Farm Loan Manager, Mike Hinkebein at the St. Francois office at 573-756-6488.

### Financial FACTS

for agriculture's future

Respond to USDA's Agricultural Resource Management Survey and let the financial facts be known for agriculture's policies and programs.



**NASS**  
Fact Finders for Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Agriculture



## LIVESTOCK DISASTER PROGRAMS

The new Livestock Compensation Program(LCP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) sign-up opened September 10. Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive LCP compensation for feed losses or LIP for livestock losses. Franklin County had a drought declaration for 2005 and 2006. The eligible livestock are the ones producers owned on January 1 of either 2005 or 2006. Livestock include, adult beef cows and bulls, non-adult beef that weigh more than 500 lbs on January 1, adult dairy cows and bulls, non-adult dairy over 500 lbs. , sheep, goats, hogs, horses used in a farming operation, poultry, and elk, deer and buffalo raised as part of a farming operation.

This program looks at livestock numbers versus pasture loss and pays on the lesser of the two.

**Call our office for an appointment.** When you come in, you will need to have your livestock numbers as of January 1 for both 2005 and 2006 unless you choose to only apply for one year. Payments will be issued on which ever year pays the most. Office staff will aid you in getting all you pasture acres accounted for but you must determine what your percent of pasture loss was during the grazing months of April 15 through November 15.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) will pay on livestock lost during one of the declared disaster events in our county. These include 2006 storms 3-11 to 3-13, and winter storms 1-12 to 1-22.

If you actually lost some animals due to these disaster events and have proof of their death, bring that proof to our office to make application.

### County Committee Election

Just a reminder: Be watching your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters starting on November 2, 2007. If, for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office. Completed and signed ballots must be postmarked by December 3, 2007

Franklin County  
USDA Farm Service Agency  
1004 Vondera Ave STE 1  
Union, MO 63084  
636-583-2303 EXT 2

# WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

University of  
Missouri Extension  
116 W Main ST  
Union, MO 63084  
636-583-5141

**When: THURSDAY, November 8, 2007**  
**Location: Union Middle School**  
**At the corner of Delmar & West End, Union**  
**Time: 6:00 p.m.**  
**Dinner: \$9.00**

*You're invited to the first meeting of the "Franklin County Women in Ag" organization. Our goal is to connect women with ties to agriculture and provide information of interest about today's challenging farm issues.*

### Program Agenda

6:00 – 7:00.....Registration, Dinner Catered  
by Jim's Country Catering &  
Welcome  
7:00 - 7:30.....Speaker Joan Menke  
7:30 – 8:00.....Speaker Ginger  
8:00 – 8:30.....Speaker Sandra McKinnon  
8:30 .....Door prize drawing & Thank you

### **Guest Speakers**

**Joan Menke** – Indian Ridge Gardens- Starting a small business on her farm

**Ginger**- Holiday Entertaining Tips from *The Finishing Touch* by Ginger.

**Sandra McKinnon**- The 3D's of Identity Theft Protection - What we need to know to protect ourselves.

### *Invite a friend.*

*Directions to Union Middle School: Take Hwy 50 to the Independence Light. Turn onto Independence. Take Independence to Autumn Hill (2<sup>nd</sup> Right after light). Take a right on Autumn Hill. Take a right around the lake to West End. You can park in the big parking lot. The entrance is the one toward the south east. It has a # 1 above the door.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner is \$9.00 per person. Make checks payable to University Extension Council.  
*Be sure to return this card to be entered in the door prize drawing!*

*Please mail cards and money back to the  
University Extension Office by Friday, November 2, 2007*



Farm Service Agency  
 Franklin County Office  
 1004 Vondera Ave STE 1  
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## Marketing Assistance Loans

To be eligible for commodity loans, you must comply with conservation and wetland protection requirements; beneficial interest requirements, report how you use cropland acreage on the farm and ensure that the commodity meets CCC minimum grade and quality standards.

For a loan, you must have beneficial interest in the commodity on the date you request the loan, and you must retain beneficial interest while the loan is outstanding. Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan — even if you regain beneficial interest.

For commodities to be eligible for loans, they must have been produced by an eligible producer, be in existence and in a storable condition and be merchantable for food, feed or other uses as determined by CCC. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan. You do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program to be eligible for loans.

These loans are 9 month loans and the October interest rate is 5.25%. Grain loans are a good way to get some fall money while holding your grain for marketing sometime next year.

Violating provisions of the loan program may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans. The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without prior authorization and providing an incorrect quantity certification.

Dates to Remember	
Oct 15	CDP Sign-up begins
Nov. 2	County committee ballots mailed to voters
Nov. 12	Veterans Day Holiday
Nov. 22	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec. 3	Last day to return county committee election ballots
Dec 25	Christmas Day Holiday
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Continuous CRP

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (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, 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.