



News Release



For Immediate Release

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July 29, 2009

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USDA Urges Producers to Review ACRE before Aug. 14

Bozeman, MT – Bruce Nelson, State Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Montana reminds producers of the deadlines for electing and enrolling in the new Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program or the traditional Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP). The deadline to enroll in ACRE or DCP for 2009 is Friday, August 14, 2009.

"I encourage all producers to visit their local FSA office or the FSA website to evaluate options and consider whether ACRE is right for your farm," Nelson said. "ACRE provides producers an alternative to counter-cyclical payments and producers should make use of the opportunity to choose the option that better meets their needs."

ACRE provides a valuable new risk-management tool for producers. ACRE was created in the 2008 Farm Bill, and offers a revenue-based alternative to the traditional Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) to consider. Producers may elect to participate in ACRE even if they have already received an advance DCP payment for 2009.

Numerous resources are available to help producers make an informed decision. FSA county office staff can answer many questions on program rules, application procedures and potential benefits. FSA has also launched an ACRE webpage at www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp with detailed information, including an electronic program payment calculator tool. A payment calculator is also available from Montana State University and may be found on the Montana FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov/mt under "Hot Links" "2008 Farm Bill".

Commodities eligible for ACRE are wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, soybeans, sunflower seed, canola, flaxseed, safflower, mustard seed, rapeseed, sesame seed, crambe, dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas and large chickpeas. Once a farm is enrolled in ACRE, that farm must continue to be enrolled in ACRE through the 2012 crop year. Note also that ACRE and DCP applications require that all producers and owners on a farm sign and submit the enrollment form before the August 14 deadline.

Following are Montana 2009 crop year yields and preliminary and final prices. Contact your local FSA office for the County Benchmark Yield data.

2009 ACRE State Benchmark Yields and Prices (July 2009)

Crop	Yield	Preliminary (P) and Final (F) Guarantee Price for 2009	State Benchmark Factor	Preliminary State Revenue
Wheat, all	30.7 bu	\$6.63 F	90%	\$183.19
Barley (NI)	39 bu	\$4.09 F	90%	\$143.56
Barley (IR)	83 bu	\$4.09 F	90%	\$305.52
Oats (NI)	41 bu	\$2.89 F	90%	\$106.64
Oats (IR)	81 bu	\$2.89 F	90%	\$210.68
Corn, all	143 bu	\$4.13 P	90%	\$531.53
Canola (NI)	1170 lbs	\$0.1853 P	90%	\$195.12
Canola (IR)	1620 lbs	\$0.1865 P	90%	\$271.92
Lentils	980 lbs	\$0.2990 P	90%	\$263.72
Flax	11 bu	\$13.00 P	90%	\$128.70
Safflower	720 lbs	\$0.1965 P	90%	\$127.33
Sunflower	1068 lbs	\$0.2215 P	90%	\$212.91
Mustard	510 lbs	\$0.2775 P	90%	\$127.37
Dry Peas, all	1410 lbs	\$0.1325 P	90%	\$168.14
Desi Garbanzo (small chickpeas)	1090 lbs	\$0.2545 P	90%	\$249.66
Kabuli Garbanzo (large chickpeas)	730 lbs	\$0.3175 P	90%	\$208.60
Crambe	1380 lbs	\$0.1854 P	90%	\$230.27
Soybeans	21.5 bu	\$10.05 P	90%	\$194.47
Grain Sorghum (NI)	42 bu	\$3.64 P	90%	\$137.59
Grain Sorghum (IR)	54 bu	\$3.64 P	90%	\$176.90
Rapeseed	920 lbs	\$0.1823 P	90%	\$150.94