



Gilliam-Wheeler County Farm Service Agency



Gilliam-Wheeler FSA

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Hours:

Monday – Friday
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

FSA

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FSA Committee Members

- Rich Harper
- Jeff Nelson
- Garey Fischer
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2010 DCP/ACRE Sign-Up

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) has begun and will continue through **June 1, 2010**. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit the Gilliam-Wheeler FSA Office to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning **Dec. 1, 2009**.

Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

Dates to Remember

December 1st	First Day to Receive DCP Advance
December 7th	Last Day to Return Ballots
December 25th	Christmas Day-Office Closed
January 1st	New Years Day-Office Closed
January 18th	Martin Luther King Day-Office Closed

Changing Banks

Almost all FSA payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

Selling Land

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all the payments you've received to date.

Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.

Spousal Signatures

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.



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2008 SURE (The New Farm Bill Disaster Program) Sign-Up to Begin

The Gilliam/Wheeler County Office will begin taking 2008 disaster sign-up in the near future. Sign-up will be **by appointment only** due to advance paperwork requirements. To be eligible, producers must have purchased at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops under SURE.

Exceptions to this requirement are:

- Crops that are not of economic significance (contribute < 5% of the total expected value of all crops grown by a producer in all counties)
- Crops reported for grazing
- Persons that have certified to socially disadvantaged, limited resource or beginning farmer status.

Producers must have at least one crop of economic significance with a 10% production loss on the farm to qualify. For SURE purposes the definition of a "Farm" is: the sum of **all crop acreage, in all counties**, planted or intended for harvest for sale or on-farm livestock feeding, including native grassland intended for haying.

**** A sign-up date will be announced in the Times Journal.**