



Holt County
FSA NEWSLETTER
January 2008

**Holt County
FSA Office**

118 W Davis Street
Mound City, Mo 64470
660-442-3134
Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Karl Noelsch
Kirby Rosier
Karen Ingram

Office Staff

Kami Hubach, PT
Sheri Sharp, PT
Wendy Tubbs, PT
Lisa Yocum, temp

**County Executive
Director**

Jackie J VanGundy

Farm Loan

Bob Dreyer, FLM
Roger Uptergrove, FLO
Tuesday mornings

Fieldmen

Mark Buntz
Stan Seitz



Dear Holt County Producers

Crop & Livestock Disaster Program Signup

The Holt County office is currently conducting sign-ups for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) and the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP). Our last newsletter contained complete details about these programs, however, changes have occurred in both programs since that time. The major change to the CDP program is that **all** 2007 crops are now eligible where previously only crops planted during 2005, 2006 and by February 28, 2007 were eligible. Eligible producers with losses in multiple years will receive the payment for the year with the highest benefit. Qualified producers with land administered in more than one county may receive a payment in both counties. Applications for loss benefits may be made on multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. A payment limitation of \$80,000 per person applies. Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under NAP for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.

The FSA office has received a download from the Risk Management Agency (RMA) which shows who had insurance and who received indemnity payments from insurance. In these situations, the FSA office can easily run an application to determine eligibility. There are various examples of when a producer may not have received an indemnity payment from insurance, but could be eligible for payment through CDP. One example would be based on the level of insurance a producer carries. If a producer has insurance at a 50% level, he may not have had enough of a loss to qualify with crop insurance, but there may have been a loss greater than 35% which would qualify under CDP. Producers who had a revenue policy may also qualify even if they did not receive a payment from their insurance. If unsure of eligibility, the following equation is used per RMA unit: $\text{Producer Share} \times \text{yield} \times 65\% - \text{actual production}$. If the result is a positive number, the loss would be eligible through CDP. Also, producers get the benefit of using the higher of the established RMA yield for the unit or the county average yield which is 139 bu/ac for corn and 42 bu/ac for beans in Holt County.

The LCP program was changed to include the 2007 year as well. Producers that owned or leased grazing livestock in 2006 or 2007 need to contact the office to determine if they are eligible for payment for grazing losses that occurred in those years. If you had previously applied for the LCP program and know that your cattle numbers or grazing losses were higher in 2007, you should come into the office and we will redo your application.

The program will pay the lesser of: the value of the calculated grazing or feed loss, or a flat rate for the livestock. Producers will need to certify to: the number of livestock owned or cash leased, a grazing loss percentage for the year and provide pasture information for the application.

Contact the office with specific questions. Ending dates for the programs have not been announced.

Farm Program for 2008

We have been getting several inquiries about signing up for the 2008 farm program and requesting advance payments. Until Congress approves a new farm bill or extends the current one, we cannot hold a sign up. As soon as we get information about a new or extended farm bill, we will get the word out in another newsletter and news releases.

1099's

Producers receiving payments in 2007 from FSA should have received a CCC-1099 in the mail. The CCC-1099 is FSA's report to the IRS concerning payments issued during the 2007 tax year.

Please check this report carefully and note *it does not include refunds issued from the producer back to FSA.*

If a refund was made to FSA in 2007, please contact your servicing FSA Office to acquire a supplemental document for reporting purposes.

CCC-1099's can be accessed electronically through the USDA FSA's home page <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA>

You must first register for an e-authentication account and then request your servicing office to increase your account access to "level-2". This allows a producer not only to access their CCC-1099s early in January, but there are other beneficial online services available only to "level-2" users.

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

The weather has slowed down emergency repair work and inspections by our office for the ECP Program caused by the heavy rains and flooding last Spring. As soon as weather permits, projects need to be completed. The State Committee has set a deadline of **May 1, 2008** for work to be completed. Give us a call if you are ready to start a project and we have not made an inspection yet. As you complete the work, bring in the bills and report.

New Employee

Kami Hubach has joined the Holt County FSA Office as a full time Program Technician. She previously was employed with the Andrew County Soil and Water Conservation District and worked as a temporary Program Technician for the Andrew County FSA Office.

Kami and her husband Johnnie farm in Andrew County near Whitesville. Their operation consists of an Angus cow/calf herd. They artificially inseminate to continually improve genetics. They use intensive grazing systems along with other conservation practices. Along with the cattle, they also raise corn, soybeans and alfalfa.

They are newly "empty nesters" as their daughter Jordan is attending the University of Missouri-Columbia as a freshman majoring in Ag Business Management.

Please stop by the office to meet Kami and to welcome her to the team.

Loans for Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, FSA has targeted funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged Applicants. A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

Annual Notice to Producers

FSA is required annually to notify producers of many program requirements, policies, and reminders. The following are some of those notifications:

Spousal Signatures: Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) programs in which either has an interest. In most cases, this option is automatically available unless a request for exclusions is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

Power of Attorney: We have a power of attorney form available for those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the FSA office. This can be done by completing an FSA-211, Power of Attorney. The form is available at your local USDA Service Center or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov>

Forms obtained and completed outside the USDA Service Center office must be notarized. To find out more, call the office.

Foreign Landowners: The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

Faxed Signatures: Certain faxed signatures shall be accepted for all applicable program forms or other documents approved for faxed signatures, if all other requirements are met.

Direct Deposit Mandatory: As of Jan 1, 1999, all payments issued by the county FSA office will be by direct deposit (electronic funds transfer) to a pre-designated checking or savings account with your financial institution. Forms are available at the FSA office to sign up for direct deposit if you haven't yet. For those already signed up, it is important that we are notified anytime there is a change in your account number or financial institution. If we are not notified timely, future payments may be delayed.

Controlled Substance: Any person who is convicted under federal law of planting, producing, cultivating, harvesting, growing, or storing a controlled substance will be ineligible to participate and receive payments under USDA programs. Marijuana, opium poppies, and other drug producing plants are controlled substances.

Reporting Farm Changes: It is also the producer's responsibility to notify FSA of ANY changes in their farming operation or entity status throughout the year. Changes that may affect a determination include, but are not limited to, a change in contract shares which may reflect change of land lease from cash rent to share rent or from share rent to cash rent; addition or deletion of a farm; change in the structure of the farming operation, such as individual to a corporation or trust; change in contributions or inputs such as personal labor, or change in farming interests.

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA County Office staff, and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are necessary.

Website for Digital Imagery: Landowners who have access to the internet may find the following site of interest. Producers can access 2004 digital imagery for their land by using the map room link at <http://www.cares.missouri.edu/index.asp> There will be no line work on the fields, but it is a good source of current photography. Producers can also access topographical maps, floodplain maps and measure distance and acreages.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
 AGRICULTURE
 FARM SERVICE AGENCY
 HOLT COUNTY FSA OFFICE**
 118 W Davis Street
 Mound City, Mo 64470

January interest rate for facility loans is 3.625%
 and the rate for commodity loans is 4.25%



*If you are considering a new grain bin,
 ask about a Farm Storage Facility Loan!*

Dates to Remember

Feb 18	Office closed for President's Day
Mar 17	Deadline to obtain 2008 NAP coverage on spring planted crops
Mar 31	Final date to obtain a loan or LDP on wheat & oats
May 1	Last day to complete work for ECP
June 2	Final date to obtain a loan or LDP on 2007 corn & beans
Continues	Continuous CRP sign up
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Crop Disaster & Livestock Programs

Visit our Web site: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mo>

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