



MAY 2007

**Jackson County FSA**  
307 Montana Avenue  
Holton, KS 66436-1127  
(785) 364-3329 - Phone  
(785) 364-4891 – Fax

**Hours**  
Monday – Friday  
7:00 AM – 4:30 PM

**County Committee**  
Henry Williams, Chairperson  
JoAnne Booth, Vice-Chairperson  
George Phillips, Regular Member  
Chris DeCoteau, Advisor  
Committee meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of Month

**Staff**  
Kathy Barnett, PT  
Dara Conley, PT  
Marlene Westermann, PT  
Aaron Fall, CED

**Internet Web Sites**  
USDA – [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)  
FSA – [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
NRCS – [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)

### Commodity Loans Available

Low interest, 9-month loans on 2006 wheat, barley and oats are available until May 31. This marketing tool is a great way to utilize working capital while you wait for local prices to rise, pay off higher interest notes with low interest money, or purchase next year's inputs at reduced rates.

**Marketing Authorizations (CCC-681-1)** Producers may request that a commodity pledged as collateral for a CCC farm stored loan be released for delivery to a buyer before repayment of the loan. The entire loan quantity will be released and the delivery period is normally for 15 or 30 calendar days. At the time of the request, the producer must inform the office where the grain will be delivered. The loan repayment on the grain purchased by the buyer must be received from the buyer; otherwise, the buyer is violating clear title provisions.

### Removing CCC Loan Collateral

Producers, don't forget, if you have grain under Commodity Credit Corporation loan it cannot be removed without prior authorization or repayment. Unauthorized removal, which includes removal for cleaning for seed or planting, is a violation and is subject to monetary and administrative penalties.

Your loans are subject to spot check. Determined shortages must be repaid with principal plus interest, and additional monetary penalties plus loss of future loan eligibility may apply. Producers planning to remove or clean CCC loan grain should contact the county office staff for additional information.

# Jackson County FSA News

## DCP Contract Reminder

Producers, are you planning to participate in the 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program? If so, you must remember to visit the office to designate shares and sign your 2007 DCP contract (CCC-509) before August 3, 2007. The deadline to sign-up has been extended for 2007, due to a problem with FSA's computer system. You can sign your contract after August 3, 2007, and 30, 2007 but you will be assessed a late-signing fee of \$100 per



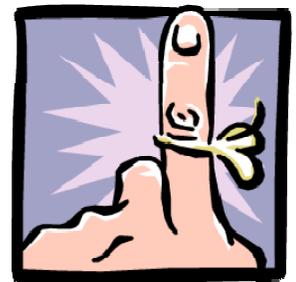
When you sign the CCC-509, you are agreeing to:

- comply with highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation provisions on all your land;
- devote acreage equal to the base acreage to an agricultural or conserving use; effectively control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain base acres according to sound agricultural practices;
- not plant perennial fruits and vegetables or harvest annual FAVs (other than lentils, mung beans, and dry peas) or wild rice on base acres (Exceptions: Double-cropping covered commodities or peanuts with wild rice, fruits, or vegetables shall be permitted in any region in which there is a history of this type of double-cropping.);
- file acreage report with respect to all cropland on the farm; and
- notify the county office staff when there is a transfer of or change of interest of a producer.

Remember, under DCP, you must designate shares and sign a new DCP contract each year.

## Reporting Crop Acreage

It goes by different names — crop report, acreage report, crop certification — but regardless of what you call it, filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Payments.



**Program Reminders**

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments and, crop acreage for which Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) may be enrolled must be reported.

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Producers are required to file reports by May 31 for small grains and August 1 for all other crops.

Acreage reports on crops for which NAP assistance may be paid are due in the county office by the earlier of August 1, or 15 calendar days before the onset of haying or grazing.

Prevented planting and failed acreage should also be reported.

Prevented planting occurs when a crop cannot be planted during the established planting period because of a natural disaster. To be filed in a timely manner, prevented planted reports must be submitted no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the NAP crops and by the final reporting date for non-NAP crops.

## Conservation Compliance

Federal regulations discourage the production of crops on highly erodible cropland unless the land is protected from erosion by an approved conservation system. Status reviews are conducted to ensure producers follow a conservation plan on highly erodible land.

In addition to the highly erodible land, a person may not plant an agricultural commodity on wetland converted after Dec. 23, 1985, or convert a wetland to make agricultural production possible after Nov. 28, 1990.

Failure to comply with these provisions will cause a person to be ineligible for USDA benefits. County Committees may review noncompliance situations for good faith and provide relief in approved cases.

April 15 through July 15	Kansas Primary Nesting Season
May 28	Office Closed - Memorial Day
May 31	Final date to request commodity loans and LDPs on 2006-crop feed grains, minor oilseeds, soybeans, and cotton.
May 31	Final date to certify small grains.
June 15	Nominations for COC Elections begin.
July 4	Office Closed - Independence Day
August 1	Final date to submit nominations for COC election.
August 1	Final date to certify spring seed crops and CRP. NAP acres must be certified by August 1 or 15 days prior to the onset of harvest or grazing.
August 1	Final date to request a farm reconstitution.
August 3	Final date to signup for DCP, without paying a late fee.
On-going	Continuous CRP, Farm Storage Facility Loans, Direct and Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans, Rural Youth Loans.

### **Reporting Farm Changes**

It is 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 a change in contract shares of a contract which may reflect change of land lease from cash rent to share rent or from share rent to cash rent; modification of a variable/fixed bushel rent arrangement; a change in the size of the producer's farming operation by the addition or deletion of a farm; a change in the structure of the farming operation, including any change in the member's shares; a change in the contributions of farm inputs of capital, equipment, active personal labor, or active personal management; and a change of farming interest not previously disclosed on CCC-502 or update, including the farming interests of a spouse or minor child.

### **FSA Guaranteed Loans**

FSA guaranteed loans provide lenders (e.g., banks, Farm Credit System institutions, credit unions) with a guarantee of up to 95 percent of the loss of principal and interest on a loan. Farmers and ranchers apply to an agricultural lender, which then arranges for the guarantee. The FSA guarantee permits lenders to make agricultural credit available to farmers who do not meet the lender's normal underwriting criteria.

FSA guaranteed loans are for both Farm Ownership and Operating purposes. More information regarding FSA guaranteed loans can be obtained from your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit

### **Farm Storage Facility Loans**

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including wheat, rice, soybeans and corn.



The seven-year Farm Storage Facility Loans are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, or remodeling existing facilities. Eligible facilities include new conventional-type cribs or bins and new and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures.

All Farm Storage Facility Loans are secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85 percent of the net cost of the storage or handling equipment, up to \$100,000 for each borrower. A minimum down payment is also required. For details, contact the county office staff.

### **CRP Continuous Sign-up**

The Continuous Conservation Reserve Program allows participants to voluntarily enroll acreage in conservation practices that will reduce soil erosion, improve water and soil quality and provide wildlife habitat and food sources.

Eligible landowners enter into 10- to 15-year contracts in return for receiving annual rental maintenance, cost share, and perhaps incentive payments.

To be eligible, participants and acreage must meet certain requirements. If eligibility requirements are met, FSA will automatically accept enrollments of acreage into Continuous CRP. Landowners may enroll in the program at any time during the year.

For more information on Continuous CRP enrollments, please contact the county office staff or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/facts/html/crpcont03.htm>.

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