



Jewell County FSA News

December 2007

Jewell County FSA Office

105 W. South St.
Mankato, Kansas 66956
(785)378-3731
(785)378-3568 – FAX

Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Marion Atwood, Chairman
Beverly Porter, Vice-Chairman
Roger Kintigh, Member

Mtg. 2nd Thursday of the Month

Staff Temporary Assistant

Kristi Badger Angie Ayers
Patricia Grout
Pam Rice
Janet Tyler

Internet web sites

USDA-www.usda.gov
FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov
FSA Forms-
www.sc.egov.usda.gov
NRCS-www.nrcs.usda.gov

Conservation Reserve

Program – The Conservation Reserve Program as we know it today ends with the current Farm Program. There will be no new CRP Contract approvals after December 31, 2007. The provisions of existing CRP Contracts will continue to be honored.

We expect some form of CRP to be a part of a later to be determined New Farm Program.

2007 NAP Production

– if not submitted, now is the time to report 2007 NAP crop production to FSA. Reporting the production is needed to maintain an APH (Actual Production History) or in determining a loss. Any bale counts need to be verified by FSA prior to feeding.

If a loss is evident on your farm it is the producer's responsibility to report the loss within 15 days of the disaster event.

2007 Loan Rates

Wheat	\$2.92
Corn	\$1.98
Soybeans	\$4.82
Oats	\$1.34
Gr. Sorghum	\$3.22 cwt.
Sunflowers	\$8.39 cwt.

The November interest rate is 5.125%

Crop Disaster Program

Signup for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) began October 15, 2007 for producers who suffered quantity losses to 2005, 2006, and crops planted prior to February 28, 2007.

Losses occurring from natural disasters may qualify for financial assistance if the crop was harvested in 2005, 2006, or planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses must choose only one year to receive benefits per farm administrative county. Participants may apply for loss benefits in multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent of the higher of the producers APH or the county average yield to be eligible for CDP. The payment rate is set at 42 percent of the established price level. FCIC insurance RMA information has been sent to FSA for the losses on file for all three years. If Jewell County is your administrative county and you had a loss on property located in another county inform our office of the loss. Information was downloaded from RMA on cropland only located in Jewell County. For 2007 winter wheat applicants the NASS seasonal average price will not be available until July 2008. A Disaster payment price of \$6.10 will be used until a final rate is determined next July.

Only those producers who had FCIC crop insurance coverage on grain crops or Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on forage crops are eligible for CDP.

Please contact our office to schedule an appointment for the quantity loss signup. Those producers who feel they would have a greater loss based on quality losses will have a designated signup to be announced at a later date.

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

The LIP program compensates producers who suffered livestock deaths caused by Natural Disaster conditions or events (except drought). In summary applicants must provide proof that the livestock deaths are due to natural disasters that occurred between January 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007.

LIP applicants must provide the following:

- Proof the livestock met eligibility requirements.
- Proof of the death of the claimed livestock.
- Proof that the death occurred in an eligible county as a direct result of an eligible disaster condition/event:
 - between January 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007.
 - no later than 60 days from the end of the applicable disaster period, but before Feb. 28, 2007.
 - in the calendar year of which benefit is requested.

Documentation may include one or more of the following: Bank or loan records, veterinarian records, rendering truck receipts, written contracts, purchase or production records, insurance documents, IRS records, or FEMA records. A "third party certification" may be an acceptable proof of death if no other evidence is available and it meets other specific requirements.

Eligible Livestock are beef cattle, dairy cattle, goats, swine, and horses used in a commercial operation. Other livestock may be eligible, call if you have questions.





Crop Acreage Report

Your farm maps are available for you to pick up to designate 2008 planted crop acreage. Please stop in to pick these up. Once you designate the areas of wheat and alfalfa, then return the maps, we will load the acreage for your 2008 Crop Acreage Certification.

Reminders

The 2007 Census of Agriculture will be mailed out by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) on December 28, 2007 to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. The form may be completed and returned or completed on-line.

Compliance Reviews - As part of the 2007 National Compliance Review, FSA's national office is requiring local FSA county offices to conduct compliance reviews and spot checks of certain producers selected by the national office through a statistical sampling method. FSA's goal is to ensure that program dollars are delivered effectively and efficiently.

Record Changes - If you bought, sold, or are renting different land, you need to report the changes to FSA as soon as possible. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest may lead to potential program ineligibility and damages.

New Farm Bill - We have no information on what is planned once the current Farm Bill Expires during 2007.



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 of 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.

Livestock Compensation Program

The LCP program covers grazing losses due to natural disasters for crop years 2005, 2006, and prior to February 28, 2007. Jewell County will be dealing primarily with 2006 grazing losses due to the qualifying disaster condition or event that began January 1, 2006. Eligible livestock include: beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, goats, and horses used in a commercial operation. If you have other livestock, ask to see if they would be eligible. The livestock must have been owned or cash leased on January 1, 2006 in most cases. Loss benefit is based on livestock numbers or grazing land information. The maximum benefit for adult cows is \$10.66 per animal unit based on qualifying details.

You will need to know the number of livestock owned on January 1, 2006 that were intended to be placed on pastures for the 2006 grazing season of May through October, 2006. If you owned qualifying livestock on January 1, 2006, sold the livestock prior to May but also purchased the same type livestock as a replacement prior to May, these would remain eligible. If you sold some of the qualifying livestock prior to May for reasons other than the disaster and did not replace the livestock, the numbers sold would not be eligible for LCP. Producers will apply for loss benefit in the farm(s) administrative county.

A summary of LCP eligible livestock and grazing land: the producer signs the farm up for LCP in that farm(s) FSA administrative county. All eligible livestock on the farm as of January 1, 2006 are eligible for benefit provided those livestock will be carried through the grazing season and placed on pastures in May.

Other eligible losses: Producer purchases extra feed (in excess of normal) due to a loss in grazing during the normal grazing period. Producer would need to prove feed production fed in a normal year in relation to feed used the loss year.

If during the grazing period cattle were taken to a Feed Yard earlier than normal due to the grazing loss.

Questions you will need to answer when submitting your application. If you have livestock other than cattle please present info on the respective stock:

- What is your normal operation? Describe it to me.
- Did you cull cows in 2005? In 2006?
- Did you purchase replacement cows in 2005? In 2006?
- Do you bring heifers into the herd? Are they home grown and if so when were they born; or were they purchased, when was the purchase date?
- What were your cattle numbers on the beginning date of the disaster designation (January 1, 2006 in most cases)? Provide weights of calves.
- Of the number on hand January 1, 2006, how many of the cattle were on hand May 1, 2006? --
- How many of the cattle that were on hand May 1, were culled or sold not because of the disaster?

You will need to identify each pasture: Please have ready the legal description, acreage, number of livestock and type of livestock during the 2006 grazing period, the dates the pasture was grazed, and the grazing loss sustained for each pasture. Pasture leases for which you are not listed on the FSA farm records will require a written /signed rental agreement.

You must provide proof of livestock numbers (as of January 1, 2006 in most cases). Included would be sales of livestock from January 1 through the end of the grazing season and invoices of purchased cattle if those sold were replaced. Proof would include: bank asset ledgers, diaries or personal record keeping systems, invoice of cattle sales or purchases, etc.

We ask that you call for an appointment to sign up for LCP.

