



KENTUCKY NEWS



April 2013

Kentucky FSA State Office

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Hours

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

State Staff

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CRP Sign-Up Starts Soon

USDA will conduct a four-week general sign-up for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), beginning May 20 and ending on June 14. CRP protects the nation's natural resources through voluntary participation, while providing significant economic and environmental benefits to rural communities across the United States.

Currently, about 27 million acres are enrolled in CRP. Producers that are accepted in the program can receive cost-share assistance to plant long-term, resource-conserving covers and receive an annual rental payment for the length of the contract which is 10-15 years.

Contracts on 3.3 million acres of CRP are set to expire on Sept. 30, 2013. Producers with expiring contracts or producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP.

For more information on CRP and other FSA programs, visit a local FSA service center or www.fsa.usda.gov.

DCP/ACRE Sign-up Continues

The sign-up period for DCP and ACRE are still open. Producers are encouraged to sign up for DCP before the Aug. 2, 2013, deadline. An even earlier deadline is for ACRE, which will end June 3, 2013.

The 2013 DCP and ACRE program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that all eligible participants in 2013 may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. This means that eligible producers who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013 or may re-enroll in ACRE in 2013. Likewise producers who were enrolled in DCP may opt for ACRE enrollment.

[Read more about DCP and ACRE](#) or contact the FSA county office for more information, or an appointment to enroll.

Acreage Certification

After spring planting, producers should certify their 2013 acreage. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs.

For crops enrolled in programs other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program), acreage reports are to be certified by the May 31 deadline on small grains and a July 15 deadline on all other crops.

Acreage reports on crops covered by NAP are due in the county office by the earlier of May 31 for small grains and July 15 for all other crops, including CRP acreage, or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acreage being reported.

Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers Claims Process Extended

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced the extension of the voluntary claims process for Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who allege discrimination by the USDA in past decades. All claims must now be filed by May 1, 2013.

USDA urges potential claimants to contact the Claims Administrator for information and mail their claim packages on or before May 1, 2013.

Claimants may register for a claims package by calling the telephone number below Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time or by downloading the forms from the website.

Website: www.farmerclaims.gov

Phone: 1-888-508-4429

Fax: (855) 626-8343

Email: claims@hwfr.org

Claims Period: September 24, 2012 – May 1, 2013.

Claim packages and other documentation may be mailed to Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers Claims Administrator, PO Box 4540, Portland, OR 97208-4540. Claim packages and other documentation may also be emailed to claims@hwfr.org. Claimants may also fax claims packages and other documentation to (855) 626-8343. Completed forms and documentation must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. PDT on May 1, 2013.

Farm Loan Program Update

FSA received the balance of our loan funds for Fiscal Year 2013, which ends on September 30, 2013. Based on projected loan demand, our loan funds will be exhausted in certain funding categories prior to the end of the fiscal year. Accordingly, loan applicants are advised to contact their local FSA office as soon as possible if they have agricultural credit needs for the current year. Funding priority is given to Socially Disadvantaged Applicants and Beginning Farmers.

Unauthorized Disposition of Grain

If loan grain has been disposed of through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office staff, it is considered unauthorized disposition. The financial penalties for unauthorized dispositions are severe and a producer's name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. Always call before you haul any grain under loan.

Maintaining the Quality of Loaned Grain

Bins are ideally designed to hold a level volume of grain. When bins are overfilled and grain is heaped up, airflow is hindered and the chance of spoilage increases.

Producers who take out marketing assistance loans and use the farm-stored grain as collateral should remember that they are responsible for maintaining the quality of the grain through the term of the loan.

2011 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program Applications

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) will continue to accept SURE applications for 2011 crop losses through June 7, 2013. The SURE Program provides payments to producers when crop revenues are less than the crop guarantee.

2013 KY NAP Application Closing Dates

May 1- Nursery

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture

County Committee ELECTIONS 2013

June 17, 2013 The nomination period begins. Request nomination forms from the local USDA Service Center or obtain online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/election>

Aug. 1, 2013 Last day to file nomination forms at the local USDA Service Center

Nov. 4, 2013 Ballots mailed to eligible voters

Dec. 2, 2013 Last day to return voted ballots to the USDA Service Center

Jan. 1, 2014 Newly elected county committee members take office

FSA COUNTS ON YOU:

NOMINATE AND VOTE!

USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.