



**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**

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OFFICE HOURS

**Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm**



Farm Service Agency

**Lee County Farm Service Agency
Newsletter**

September 2006

FINAL DCP PAYMENTS FOR 2006

Enrolled producers can expect their final direct payment to be directly deposited into personal bank accounts sometime during the first few weeks of October. Producers who did not elect to receive an advance direct payment will receive their entire direct payment for the year in one lump sum after the end of the fiscal year (September 30).

The direct payment for a crop equals 85 percent of the farm's base acreage *times* (x) the farm's direct payment yield *times* (x) the direct payment rate.

2007 DCP SIGNUP STARTS OCT. 1ST

Sign-up for the 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) begins on Oct. 1, 2006. The CCC-509, "Direct and Counter-cyclical Program Contract," includes base acres, payment acres, payment yields, producer payment shares, advance direct and counter-cyclical payment selections and signatures of the producer and county office representative.

The CCC-509 must be submitted by June 1, 2007, to be considered timely. All owners and operators who will share in the DCP payments on the farm must sign the CCC-509. Forms with signatures that are obtained after June 1, 2007, but before Sept. 30, 2007, will be accepted, but the farm will be assessed a late-file fee of **\$100**.

Farm producers must apply for DCP on an annual basis and can opt out of the program for any year if they so choose. Producers must file the following documents to be eligible for DCP payments: the annual DCP contract (CCC-509), a farm-operating plan

(CCC-502 and related forms), an average adjusted gross income certification (CCC-526), a certification of compliance with highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions (AD-1026). A certification of the acreage of all cropland on the farm (FSA-578) is also needed before final payments can be issued.

PAYMENT LIMITATIONS

USDA payments and benefits are subject to producer eligibility and limitation provisions as defined by law. Documents and forms to determine eligibility and limitation once completed are reviewed on an annual basis.

It is the producer's responsibility to report changes in the farming operation that may affect payment eligibility and payment limitation. The following limitations apply to Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments for each contract year.

- For all covered commodities (except peanuts): \$40,000 for direct payments and \$65,000 for counter-cyclical payments.
- For peanuts: \$40,000 for direct payments and \$65,000 for counter-cyclical payments.
- The Environmental Quality Incentive Program has a \$450,000 payment limitation.
- The Conservation Reserve Program annual limit is \$50,000 per person.

Entities such as corporations, limited partnerships, trusts and estates are required to provide names, addresses, and ID numbers of their members. These entities should also identify every payment under more than one entity.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nominations for the county committee election were due in the county office by August 1, 2006. The next step in the election process is the mailing out of the ballots, which will begin on November 3, 2006. Voters have until December 4, 2006, to return their properly completed ballots to the county office. Elected committee members and alternates take office on Jan. 1, 2007.

Prospective Voter Requirements -

Anyone who meets the requirements in either, 1 or 2, as well as item number 3, is eligible to vote for county committee members.

1. Voter is of legal voting age and participates or cooperates in any FSA program, or

2. The voter is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm.

3. The voter must also be eligible to participate in any FSA program provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

Discrimination Prohibited - No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

If you have any questions about your voter eligibility, please contact your county office staff.

LOAN AND LDP INFORMATION

Loans or LDPs are available for producers who share in the risk of producing crops. To be eligible for an LDP, you must maintain beneficial interest (maintain title, control of the crop) in the crop through the time of application. Producers who have contracted the commodity, sold directly off the field, or immediately fed the commodity should have filed a CCC-633EZ page 1 to maintain eligibility for an LDP. The CCC-633EZ page 1 needs be signed prior to harvest. Producers who deliver grain under a delayed pricing contract lose beneficial interest upon delivery in most cases.

Electronic Loan Deficiency Payments (eLDP) are available to producers who have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account. The eLDP is an internet based service allowing producers to request certified LDPs on line and, in most cases receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours.

ELDP services provide greater flexibility to producers allowing them to minimize travel to and from county FSA offices. ELDPs are available 24 hours a day, seven

days week, except during routine backup and maintenance periods. Commodities harvested for other than grain (such as hay or silage) are also eligible for LDPs. Applications should be made after harvest and prior to feeding or selling. The maximum eligible quantity is based on actual production of grain for the farm. If actual production is not available, the county committee will assign a yield based on three similar farms in your area. Yield for crops that sustained weather damage will be based on the insurance appraisal.

Interest rates vary monthly and are based on the month of approval. Rates are subject to change Jan. 1st.

Loan repayment options, include:

- repay the loan, principal plus interest
- repay the loan at the market repayment rate
- deliver the outstanding quantity to a designated warehouse

When commodities are under loan and used as collateral, they may not be moved without prior written consent from the county office.

CALL BEFORE YOU HAUL!

******OFFICE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9TH FOR
COLUMBUS DAY**