



June 2007

LINN County News

Linn County
USDA Service Center

Linn County FSA
121 Pershing Rd.
Brookfield, Mo. 64628
660-258-7265 (phone)
660-258-3257 (fax)

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

County Committee
Lee Jaynes
Vicky Ervie
James Pfeiff

County Committee meets
June 15, 2007

Staff
Susan McLain
Roberta Kehr
Patricia Lambert
Colin Smith
Greg Smith
Mike Arnold FLM

COC Election Nominations

From June 15 through Aug. 1, farmers and ranchers can nominate eligible peers as candidates for election to the Linn County Farm Service Agency County Committee.

This is an important time for Local Administrative Area communities, because county committee members make decisions that have significant effects on you and the area's agricultural sector as a whole.

For example, committee members make decisions on applications for federal farm program and disaster payments. Committee members play a vital role by helping local farmers and ranchers manage tough financial times and natural disasters.

This year LAA #2 which includes; Grantsville, Baker, Locust Creek, Enterprise, North Salem, and Benton Townships will be electing Committee representatives.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet basic eligibility requirements. Contact the county office staff or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections> for details about candidate eligibility. Nomination forms can be obtained at the county office or online at the above address. Remember, the nomination period runs June 15 through Aug. 1. Voting takes place in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by Nov. 2. Dec. 3 is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office Jan. 1, 2008.

2007 DCP Enrollment

The LAST day to enroll without a \$100 penalty per farm is Aug. 3, 2007. Last day to enroll at all is Sept. 30, 2007.

Emergency Conservation Program

Due to the heavy rains and flooding, Linn County has been approved for the above program. The following practices are available under ECP:

- 1) *EC-1 Debris Removal*
- 2) *EC-2 Grading, Shaping, Re-leveling or Similar Measures*
- 3) *EC-3 Restoring Permanent Fences*
- 4) *EC-4 Restoring Conservation Structures and Other Measures*

Land eligibility will be determined based on an on site inspection of the damage. For land to be eligible, the disaster must have created new conservation problems that, if left untreated, would impair or endanger the land and materially affect its productive capacity.

To qualify for cost share assistance producers must have suffered at least \$1000.00 of eligible cost share expense.

Sign up for ECP will be from June 4, 2007 through Aug. 3, 2007. Producers should apply for assistance before beginning the repairs. If repairs have already begun they must apply by June 19, 2007.

For more information contact the Linn County FSA office.

Acreage Reporting

The timely filing of an acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a number of programs, including Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, as well as marketing

assistance loans and loan deficiency payments. To be timely, you must file an FSA-578 by June 30; for wheat, oats, and barley, and by July 31 for all other crops.

To be considered timely, acreage reports for:

- prevented planted acreage must be filed no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the applicable crop
- failed acreage must be filed before the disposition of the crop.

FSA will accept crop certifications from farm operators, farm owners, persons authorized by power of attorney and tenants and sharecroppers, for which they have a share. Crop acreage reports from producers are accepted for multiple future applications.

ACREAGE REPORTING IS THE PARTICIPANTS RESPONSIBILITY.

Measurement Service

Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. Producers must file a request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit to have stake and referencing done on the farm.

Incorrect acreage self-certification can result in reduced program payments, penalty, or loss of eligibility.

Wetland Blue Dot Identifiers

Before the implementation of the FSA Common Land Unit (CLU) project, maps created for producers contained labels and delineations of Natural Resource Conservation Service wetland determinations. The move to using CLU and other digital data to create producer maps brought about the blue dot to represent these wetland determinations. **A blue dot on a map provides no information other than the fact that a determination exists in the area.** The intent of the blue dot is simply to provide a wetland symbol on producer maps until a wetland layer is completed by NRCS.

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.

Beginning Farmers & Ranchers

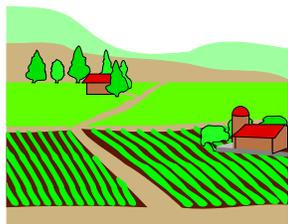
If you are a farmer or rancher who has been farming for less than 10 years, you may qualify for beginning farmer targeted loan funds with Farm Service Agency.

The program is designed to assist these farmers by providing direct and guaranteed loans when they are unable to obtain financing from commercial credit sources.

If you believe this program could be of benefit to you, please contact the county office staff for more information. Our loan officials will welcome your interest.

Youth Loan Projects

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other youth organizations. Projects must be planned and operated with the



help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Live in the open country or in a town of less than 10,000 people
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.



Stop by the county office. We'll help prepare and process the application forms and answer any questions you may have about the program. Remember, FSA is an equal opportunity lender.

For the 2007 crop year, the CCC-633 EZ and eLDP online requests are the only methods available to request LDPs.

Signing for Entities

To sign FSA forms for trusts, limited liability companies, cooperatives, partnerships or corporations, producers need a document on file at the county office saying you're authorized to sign for the entity. It could be a copy of the articles of partnership or articles of corporation or a valid power of attorney.



CCC-633-EZ Reminder

The Farm Service Agency currently uses the CCC-633-EZ form. CCC-633 EZ, Page 1, is a one-size fits all form you can fill out to indicate your intention to receive loan deficiency payments for all your crops at the beginning of the crop year, long before you've lost benefi-

cial interest.

CCC-633 EZ, Page 2, 3, or 4 is then used to submit a request for an LDP any time during the loan/LDP availability period before or after losing beneficial interest.

For the 2007 crop year, the CCC-633 EZ and eLDP online requests are the only methods available to request LDPs.

Preventing Fraud & Waste

The Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency are partners in preventing fraud, waste and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program. FSA has been, and will continue to, assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. In addition, FSA will refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse to RMA. Producers can report suspected cases to FSA or RMA.

Haying or Grazing CRP Acres

Haying or grazing Conservation Reserve Program acres may be permitted, but you need prior approval from the county committee, and you must have an approved plan. Acres may be hayed or grazed once every three years, and a 25 percent payment reduction is assessed for every approved acre hayed or grazed.

Haying and grazing is not authorized under managed or emergency provisions during the primary nesting and brood-rearing season, which for Linn County is May 1 through July 15.

Detailed information on is available from FSA county office staff.

Selected Interest Rates for June 2007	
90-Day Treasury Bill	5%
Farm Operating - Direct	5.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.375%
Limited Resource	5%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	June 4.875%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	June 5.875%

Dates to Remember	
June 4	ECP sign up begins
June 15	Nomination forms for the County Committee Election may be accepted
June 30	Last day to file acreage report for small grains
July 4	Independence Day- office closed
July 30	Last day for all acreage re- ports to be filed
Aug 1	County Committee nomina- tion period ends
Aug 3	Last day to sign up for ECP and DCP

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