



May, 2006

Logan County News

Logan County
USDA Service Center

Logan County FSA
1015 West 2nd
Oakley, KS 67748-1267

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www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. -4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Larry Schertz, Chairperson
Vernon Stoecker
David Renner

County Committee nor-
mally meets the 2nd
Wednesday of each month

Office Staff
Helen Carr
Roy Jessup, FL Officer
Dwight Jurey, FL Manager
Donna Carmichael
Darline Stramel
Tina Leiker
Darin Slack, CED

Field Staff
Angela Goudy
V Shawn Plummer

Conservation Reserve Program

Re-enrollment or extension
of CRP expiring in 2007
(REX) and general sign up
of new CRP ended April 28,
2006.

Letters have been sent for
CRP expiring in 2008-2010.
Producers have until June 30
to re-enroll or extend these
contracts.

Producers signing up for
REX extensions may sign up
for management practices on
these contracts including
haying, grazing and burning.
There would be a 25% annual
rental payment reduction on
acres hayed or grazed. All
new CRP contracts (includ-
ing re-enrollments) are
required to have a manage-
ment practice in their contract
plan.



Direct Payment Change

Producers who enroll land in the Direct and Coun-
tercyclical Payment Program after Feb. 8 will have
the option to receive an advance direct payment of
40 percent of the direct payment for any covered
commodity for the 2006 crop year.

The amount of the advance payment was reduced
from 50 percent by the Agricultural Reconciliation
Act of 2005, also known as Title I of the Deficit
Reduction Act of 2005.

As before, producers may elect to receive their di-
rect payments in two installments per year. The first
payment is available in December of the calendar
year before the crop is harvested. The balance of the
direct payment is available in October of the calen-
dar year in which the crop is harvested.

For the 2007 crop year, producers will have the
option to receive an advance payment of 22 percent
of the total direct payment. The total value of the
direct payment does not change. Producers will
receive the balance of the direct payment in the
second installment.

Producers who enrolled in the 2006 DCP program
prior to Feb. 8 and elected to receive a 50 percent
advance direct payment will be unaffected.

Never EZer!

Last August, the Farm Service Agency announced
the launch of the CCC-633 EZ to replace the old
CCC-709 and CCC-633-LDP. Since then, it's un-
dergone a few modifications to make it even more
user-friendly.

The EZ form is a two-part loan deficiency payment
request that allows producers to (1) indicate their
intentions to receive LDP benefits *before* losing
beneficial interest in the eligible commodity, and (2)
submit a request for an LDP at any time during the
loan/LDP availability period before or after losing
beneficial interest.

The EZ form was developed to cover field direct
LDPs, basic LDPs and CCC-cotton AA, and revised
to cover basic and field direct LDPs for wool, mo-
hair and unshorn pelts.

By signing the first page of the EZ form, the pro-
ducer indicates his or her intentions to receive LDP
benefits. This one page covers all counties and all
eligible harvested commodities for the entire crop
year for the individual, joint operation or entity
identified on the form.

Once the first page of the form has been signed and
submitted, the producer can submit an LDP request
by completing page 2 for all harvested commodities,
except cotton; page 3 for cotton; or page 4 for wool,
mohair and unshorn pelts. The LDP request can be
submitted at any time during the loan availability
period, before or after losing beneficial interest.

A key point to remember is that page 1 of the EZ
form must be signed by the producer before benefi-
cial interest in the commodity is lost. Once
beneficial interest is lost the commodity is ineligible
for an LDP even if beneficial interest is regained.

All producers are encouraged to submit page 1 of
the EZ for each crop year whether or not they plan
to subsequently request a loan or LDP.

For the 2006 crop year, the CCC-633 EZ or eLDP
online requests are the only methods available to
request LDPs.

2006 County Committee Elections

David Renner was elected to the Logan County
FSA Committee for a three year term beginning
Jan. 1, 2006, for Local Administrative Area (LAA)
1. He replaced Harley Herschberger, who unsel-
fishly served the producers of Logan county for
over 30 years. Congratulations! Harley, and thank
you for your hard work and dedication.

Upcoming elections for 2006 find Vernon Stoecker
completing his term in office and he is eligible for
re-election this year. This will be LAA 3, which is
the Oakley, Monument, and surrounding area.

The County Committee would like to extend a
sincere word of 'thanks' to Dianne Kvasnicka who
has served as Advisor since February 2005. Her
insight, knowledge and unique perspective will be
missed. Advisors do not vote but provide advice
while helping to protect the interests of socially
disadvantaged groups.

The County office will take petitions through Sep-
tember, 2006, from any individual in LAA-3 who
would like to serve on the county committee starting
2007. The County Committee meets once a month
to review and approve program applications, handle
appeals, monitor emergency and disaster situations,
and ensure programs are administered fairly to all
county producers.

Sodbuster, Swampbuster

Most Farm Service Agency programs require com-
pliance with sodbuster and swampbuster provisions.
These provisions require producers to follow an
approved conservation system on all highly erodible
land planted to an annual crop as determined by the
Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Be sure to have determinations made on any new
land you plan to plant to annual crops. If you plan to
plant a different crop on your current cropland,
check with NRCS to assure the new crop will qual-
ify under your conservation system.

Swampbuster provisions state that converting a
wetland to make possible the planting of a crop will
result in the loss of all USDA benefits. To avoid
penalties it is strongly recommended that producers
check with NRCS before starting any dirt work.

2006
Loan Rates for
Logan County

Wheat	\$2.71 Bu.
Corn	\$2.02 Bu.
Barley	\$1.85 Bu.
Oats	\$1.34 Bu.
Gr Sorghum	\$3.16 cwt
Soybeans	\$4.72 Bu.
Sunflowers	\$9.23 cwt
Dry Peas	\$6.12 cwt

Commodity loans are available for all crops, both farm-stored grain and warehouse certificates. May 31st is the last date to request 2005 feed grain loans.

Farm Storage
Facility Loan
Program

Producers may request loans to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities at the FSA office. These FSFL loans have a 7 year term with annual payments amortized over the term of the loan. The maximum principal loan amount is 85% of the net cost not to exceed \$100,000. If interested, contact the office for more information. Interest rate for May is 4.875%.

NAP Program

Producers with Non-insurable Assistance Program crops need to remember that acres must be certified 15 days before harvesting. Grass grazing must be reported 15 days before putting livestock in to graze. If you lease new pasture, remember this must be reported.

Crop losses must be reported within 15 days from date of loss. If you had a NAP policy for wheat for graze, triticale, grass or oats forage, remember to report losses timely in order to be eligible. Notify the office before tearing up crops or for crops you will not harvest, so an appraisal can be done. Keep track of alfalfa production for each cutting, and you will need to weigh some bales. NAP producers need to provide all production for insured crops to FSA even if you do not have a loss.

Exception to FAV Rule

Every rule has an exception, and the exception for the FAV — that’s fruits (including nuts) and vegetables — rule is that FAVs may be planted without penalty on Direct and Countercyclical Payment Program base acres under these conditions:

- FAVs are designated as and meet the definition of a home garden;
- FAVs are *planted and reported* with an intended use of green manure or forage and the producer pays a fee to cover the cost of a farm visit to verify that the crop has not been harvested as FAV;
- lentils, mung beans and dry peas (dry peas including Austrian, wrinkled seed, green, yellow and umatilla) are not FAV crops.

The producer declares his or her intentions when the acreage report is filed and cannot subsequently change the intended use of reported FAV acreage to home garden, green manure or forage to negate a violation or payment reduction. Better safe than sorry; check with the county office staff before planting any FAVs, such as dry edible beans.

Toll-Free Number for Borrowers

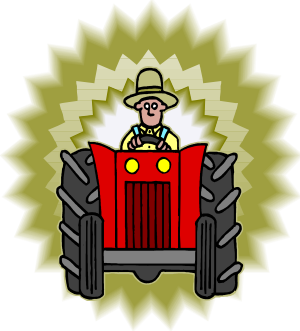
Direct loan borrowers with USDA’s Farm Service Agency can now check the status of their accounts around the clock using a new toll-free telephone number.

The toll-free number, 1-888-518-4983, is available in both English and Spanish. The system delivers information on active FSA loans 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

During the first call to the new system, borrowers will enter their tax identification number or the Social Security Number associated with the loan. They also will need to enter their ZIP code. Borrowers will create a personal identification number for security. Customers must enter their PIN every time they use the system and may change their PIN. The system menu helps users access helpful information. The system may also direct borrowers to contact their local FSA servicing office if action is necessary on their accounts.

Dates to Remember	
May 31, 2006	Report acres for fall seeded and small grain crops, alfalfa and CRP
May 31, 2006	Final date to obtain loans and LDPs on 2005 feed grains
May 31, 2006	Final date to provide 2005 production for Hard White Wheat incentive pay
June 1, 2006	Signup ends for 2006 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program without a late fee.
June 30, 2006	Deadline for CRP contracts expiring in 2008-2010 to respond
August 1, 2006	Final date to report spring seeded crops on total cropland.
September 1, 06	Purchase NAP policy for 2007 Wheat and Triticale forage crops.
Holidays, Office Closed	May 29th, Memorial Day July 4th, Independence Day September 4th, Labor Day

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