



MARSHALL COUNTY FARM NEWS

FEBRUARY 2006

Marshall County FSA

1133 Pony Express Hwy
Marysville, KS 66508
Phone: 785-562-5343
Fax: 785-562-5640

Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee:

Duane Polson, Chairperson
Eldred Smith, Vice-Chairperson
Beverly Hedke, Regular Member
** Committee meets the 2nd
Thursday each month at 8:30 a.m.

County Executive Director:

Keith Tilley

Staff:

Sue Grauer, CPT
Sarah Lee, PT
Jean Merrill, PT
Marsha Schell, PT
Kelly Schotte, PT
Dennis Smith, Field Assistant

Web sites available to producers

USDA Home Page: www.usda.gov
FSA Home Page: www.fsa.usda.gov
FSA Forms: www.sc.egov.usda.gov

2005 Loan Rates

Corn	\$1.90/bu
Sorghum	\$3.33/cwt
Soybeans	\$4.91/bu
Sunflowers	\$8.97/cwt
Wheat	\$2.82/bu
Oats	\$1.38/bu

2006 Loan Rates

Corn	\$1.82/bu
Sorghum	\$3.34/cwt
Soybeans	\$4.90/bu
Sunflowers	\$9.11/cwt
Wheat	\$2.84/bu
Oats	\$1.34/bu

RECORD CHANGES

If you have bought, sold, or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the FSA Office as soon as possible after the change occurs. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in could lead to possible ineligibility for USDA benefits.

FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

Beverly Hedke of Waterville, was elected to a three year term on the Marshall FSA County Committee as a result of the December 5, 2005 election for County FSA Committee. FSA Committees are responsible for local administration of FSA farm programs, under the guidance of the State FSA Committee and applicable Federal laws and regulations. The Marshall County FSA Committee meets the second Thursday of each month at 8:30 a.m.

WHEAT ACREAGE REPORTING

The 2002 Farm Bill requires all producers enrolled in the Direct & Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) to provide annual acreage reports to FSA. Acreage Reports are also required to be eligible for Loan Deficiency Payments and commodity loans. **The final date to file acreage reports for 2006 crop of wheat, oats or barley is Tuesday, May 31, 2006. Please call for an appointment time.**

FINAL SIGN-UP DATE FOR DIRECT & COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM

Signup is underway for the DCP 2006 program year. **The final date to sign up for the 2006 Direct & Counter Cyclical Program is June 1, 2006.** Unlike the AMTA program, the DCP program requires a yearly contract to be signed. All required signatures must be returned to the county office by June 1, 2006 or a late fee of \$100 per farm will be assessed.

Advance direct payments of 40% may be requested any month through September 2006. The final direct payment will be made in October 2006. Advance counter-cyclical (CC) payments may also be requested. Please call for an appointment time.

DIRECT DEPOSIT MANDATORY

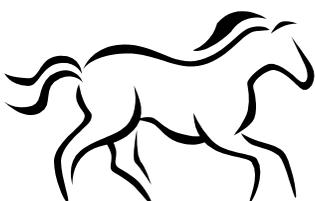
As of January 1, 1999, all payments issued by the county FSA office will be by direct deposit (electronic funds transfer) to a pre-designated checking or savings account with your financial institution. Forms are available at the FSA office to sign up for direct deposit. For those already signed up, it is important that we are notified anytime there is a change in your account number or financial institution. If we are not notified, future payments can be delayed or lost for a period of time.

CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE

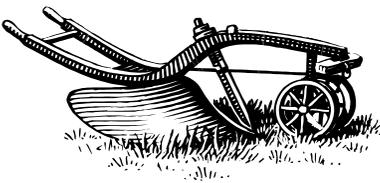
All participants in USDA programs are required to have a conservation system in place on all the highly erodible land (HEL) that they operate. Several areas where problems can arise with complying with a conservation system are; renting new cropland, purchasing new land, breaking out additional cropland, planting different crops such as soybeans, and changing or removing existing conservation practices. It is very important that you contact the FSA office before doing any of the above. Also, it is very important that you contact our office before modifying – tiling, draining, dredging, filling or leveling – any wetland or drainage ditch. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these situations can result in loss of all Federal payments and eligibility.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (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 to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



FSA HANDBOOKS ONLINE



The farm Service Agency is making its handbooks available online. The Web site is <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/efoia/directives.asp> and is available to anyone with Internet access.

Not all handbooks are online yet, but the list is growing. Over four dozen handbooks are now available, including 1-CM, Common Management and Operating Provisions; 2-CRP, Conservation Reserve Program, 1-DCP, Direct and Counter-cyclical Program; 1-NAP, Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program; and 1-PL, Payment Limitations.

2007 CRP Re-Enrollments and Extensions (REX)

USDA has announced the opportunity for re-enrollment and extensions for CRP participants that have CRP contracts expiring from 2007 through 2010. Participants with CRP contracts expiring 09/30/07 must notify the county FSA office by April 14, 2006 of their intention to re-enroll or extend their contracts. Determinations about whether participants are offered reenrollments or extensions were based on the environmental criteria (without cost) of the environmental benefit index (EBI) scored used to rank offers at the time of enrollment. Participants that choose to accept the offer are required to have a compliance review of the existing CRP contract. The fee to complete this review must be paid at the Farm Service Agency by April 14, 2006. Policy and procedure for 2008-2010 will be issued at a later date.

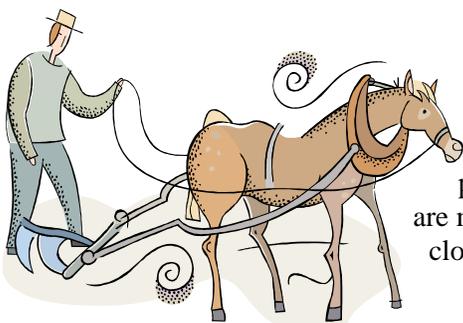
CCC-633 EZ

The Farm Service Agency developed a newly revised CCC-633 EZ which is intended to streamline the LDP process. The CCC-633 EZ is a combination of the original CCC-633 and the old CCC-709. By signing the first page of the EZ form, producers indicate their 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.

One thing that hasn't changed is the requirement that the form must be signed before beneficial interest in the crop is lost. Once page 1 of the EZ form has been signed, the producer can submit a LDP request by completing page 2 at any time during the loan availability period – before or after losing beneficial interest.

A new option was added to form CCC-633EZ (2/14/06) which allows LDP requests be submitted for dates of delivery. Producers wanting to use this option must complete the CCC-633 EZ, pages 1 and 2 and both pages must be submitted on or before the date of delivery. The LDP rate will be the rate in effect for the date or dates of delivery. Once this option is selected, it cannot be amended or terminated by the producer. Producers requesting this option must fully realize the provisions.

Beginning with the 2006 crop year, CCC-633EZ and eLDP online requests will be the only methods available to request LDPs.



CHECK YOUR FARM STORED GRAIN

We are hearing of a number of grain bins showing mold on the surface. Most of the problems are in the bins that have the grain peaked. This winter's weather conditions are making it more difficult to store grain. Producers need to watch their stored grain closely and may need to aerate their grain fully.