



McPherson County FSA News

MAY 2009

McPherson County FSA

200 S Centennial Drive
McPherson, KS 67460-4012
TEL: (620) 241-1836
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SERVICE CENTER HOURS

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

COUNTY COMMITTEE (COC)

Michael O. Patrick, Chairperson
Dixie Mattas, Vice-Chairperson
Greg S. Goering, Member

**COC meets the 2nd Wed. of the month
@ 8:30 a.m.**

FSA STAFF

Michael Westerman, Jan Hake, Kathy
Meacham, Pat Regier, Kristy Nattier, &
Jennifer Wells

FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov

2009 DCP/ACRE SIGNUP EXTENDED TO AUGUST 14TH!

We are continuing to accept appointments to signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program.

The 2009 signup for DCP and ACRE has been extended to **August 14, 2009**. Since enrollment is not permitted after August 14, 2009, the CCC-509 for either DCP or ACRE must be signed by ALL producers sharing in base acres and submitted to the office by this deadline.

ACRE offers producers on an eligible DCP farm with an option to receive revenue based payments instead of DCP Counter-cyclical payments. Since the majority of farms are already enrolled under DCP a decision to participate in ACRE by farm must be made by August 14th. If the decision is to not participate in ACRE then as long as the farm is enrolled under DCP then no further action is necessary.

ACRE INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The McPherson FSA and McPherson Extension have setup an ACRE Information Meeting. Troy Dumler, KSU Agriculture Economist, will be the featured speaker to provide some insight regarding the ACRE program. The informational meeting will be held at:

Where: McPherson County 4-H Building

When: Tuesday, May 19th

Time: 7:00 PM

RECORD CHANGES

It is each person's responsibility to timely report **ALL** changes in their farming operation. The following are just a few types of changes:

- Cropland Changes
- Share Arrangement
- Operator
- Landowner
- Entity Member or Shares
- Individual to Estate
- Individual to Trust

Please report these changes to the FSA Office within 30 days of the occurrence. Farm ownership changes require a recorded deed or land contract.

2008 DISASTER BUY-IN WAIVER EXTENDED TO MAY 18TH!

Producers who did not obtain crop insurance or Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2008 can pay a buy-in fee through May 18, 2009 to become eligible for 2008 disaster assistance programs.

Eligibility for SURE, ELAP and TAP requires each producer to have ALL crops covered by either crop insurance or NAP that are of economic significance. Operators and landowners now have an opportunity to become eligible for several programs if they suffered 2008 agricultural losses due to natural disasters.

If producers have not already taken the necessary steps to become eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP), they are encouraged to complete the following steps **by May 18, 2009** to remain eligible:

- Pay a \$100 "buy-in" fee per crop. The maximum fee is \$300 per county, per producer, not to exceed \$900 for multi-county producers.
- In the case of each insurable crop, excluding grazing land, agree to obtain a policy or plan of insurance for the next insurance year for which crop insurance is available; coverage level should equal 70 percent or more of the yield at 100 percent of the price.
- In the case of each noninsurable crop, agree to file the required paperwork and pay the applicable administrative NAP coverage fee by the applicable state application closing date for the next available year.

Producers who meet the definition of "Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource," or "Beginning Farmer or Rancher," are not required to pay the buy-in fee. However, producers shall realize that this "buy-in" provision does not provide any insurance or NAP coverage; it only provides eligibility for SURE, ELAP, and TAP.

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 15 – JULY 15

Kansas Primary Nesting Season

MAY 4 – MAY 29

Soybean Referendum Request

MAY 18

2008 Disaster Buy-In Fee Deadline

MAY 25

Memorial Day – Office Closed

MAY 31

Final Date to request a loan or LDP for Corn, Sorghum, Cotton, Soybeans or Minor Oilseeds

JUNE 1

Deadline to report small grain acres

JUNE 15 – AUGUST 3

Committee Election Nominations

JULY 3

Independence Day - Office Closed

AUGUST 1

Deadline to report corn, milo, soybeans, CRP & double-crop acres

AUGUST 14

2009 DCP/ACRE Signup Deadline

SEPTEMBER 7

Labor Day – Office Closed

OCTOBER 12

Columbus Day – Office Closed

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day – Office Closed

NOVEMBER 26

Thanksgiving Day – Office Closed

DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day – Office Closed

DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The 2008 Farm Bill included the following permanent Disaster Programs:

- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey bees, & Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE)
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

SURE covers crop revenue losses, TAP covers tree losses, ELAP covers losses not adequately covered by any other disaster program, LFP covers forage grazing loss, and LIP covers livestock death loss.

DIRECT DEPOSIT

Payments made electronically using Direct Deposit has cut down on the number of missing or late payments. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit.

Beginning in 2009, the U.S. Treasury will issue funds and this is called check centralization. The benefit of Direct Deposit is payment will be deposited within 2-3 days. If you do not have Direct Deposit a check will be delayed 7-10 days.

Any changes to your account or financial institution will have an affect on the deposit of your FSA payments. Please contact out office so we may guide you through the process of updating your records.

REQUEST FOR SOYBEAN REFENDUM

USDA will offer soybean producers the opportunity to request a referendum on the Soybean Promotion and Research Order, as authorized under the Soybean Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act.

The Request for Referendum will be conducted at Farm Service Agency offices. To be eligible to participate, producers must certify and provide documentation that shows that they produced soybeans and paid an assessment on the soybeans during the period of January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2008.

Beginning May 4, 2009, and continuing through May 29, 2009, producers may obtain a form by mail, fax, or in person from the Farm Service Agency county office where their administrative farm records are maintained. Forms may also be obtained via the internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketingprograms> during the same time period. Completed forms and supporting documentation must be returned to the appropriate county FSA office by fax or in person no later than close of business May 29, 2009; or if returned by mail, must be postmarked by midnight May 29, 2009, and received in the county FSA office by close of business on June 5, 2009.

**WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAM
 TUESDAY'S at 7:25 a.m. – KBBE 96.7 FM**

USDA will conduct a referendum if at least 10 percent of the nation's 589,182 soybean producers support a referendum. Not more than one-fifth of the producers who support having a referendum can be from any one state.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

Seven-year fixed interest loans are available through the FSFL program for the purchase and installation of eligible commodity storage structures, handling equipment, drying equipment, and safety equipment (new or remodeled). The loan principal can be up to 85% of the net cost, not to exceed \$100,000 for each "person" borrower. Real estate liens are required for amounts that exceed \$50,000. Crop insurance, for the term of the loan, is required on crops of "economic significance". Producers must pay a loan service fee and "qualify" for this program BEFORE any site preparation begins or equipment is delivered. The producer must allow an environmental assessment survey, demonstrate a need for storage, and show adequate repayment ability. Contact the FSA office for more information.

DOCUMENTING DEATH LOSSES UNDER LIP

We are encouraging producers who suffered livestock death losses on or after January 1, 2008, to begin compiling verifiable documentation of eligible livestock deaths.

Producers will need to provide documentation detailing the proof of death to indicate that the livestock deaths are a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event. It will also be necessary for producers to provide documents detailing the quantity and kind of livestock that died as a result of the adverse weather event. Documentation may include, but is not limited to the following: bank or other loan documents, FEMA records, tax records, National Guard records, private insurance documents, production records, property tax records, purchase records, rendering truck receipts, veterinarian records, and written contracts.

FSA is not currently taking LIP applications or making LIP payments but is simply informing producers of the documents that will need to be presented to FSA to prove death losses for LIP purposes.

FOREIGN LANDOWNERS

Foreign investors who buy, sell, or hold a direct interest in U.S. agricultural land must report their holdings to the FSA office in the county where the land is located. Those buying or selling must report the transaction within 90 days of the date of the transaction.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

The McPherson FSA office will be accepting sealed bids on the following equipment until close of business May 29, 2009:

ITEM	CONDITION	ITEM	CONDITION
3 – Kodak Projectors	Good	Cannon Typewriter	Good
Lasico Planimeter	Good	6 – K & E Planimeters	Good
3 – Buhl Right Angle Lens	Good	2 – Computer Tables	Good
2 – Printer Tables	Good	Printer Stand	Good
Homs Postage Scale	Good		

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