

USDA FSA

Bay County

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Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00am – 4:30pm
We are closed on
National Holidays

July 2008

REPORTING CROPS

It is that time of year again to start looking at reporting your crops for 2008. The deadline for certifying crops has been extended to August 15th for all commodities. We are currently taking acreage reports even though the farm bill has not finalized. Please call for an appointment as soon as you have completed planting all of your crops for 2008.

NEW MAPS

As many of you are aware we are working with new farm photos for 2008. This will be the first year that we have used these photos for acreage reporting and there will be some growing pains. When you report your crops for 2008 we are going to review the new photography with you again for any changes or discrepancies, and we will make the necessary changes for next year. Please be patient with the new photos as we go from using one type of photo to the new ones.

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM (LCP)

This is a program that is geared toward livestock producers that had pasture losses or had to buy additional feed for their livestock due to disaster conditions. The program covers the years of 2005, 2006, and 2007, and payments will be based on either the amount of additional feed purchased, pasture losses or the number of livestock on hand by April 1, of any of the above mentioned years. You must have had a qualifying loss in feed to be eligible and if you think you may qualify for this program please contact the office for further information as soon as possible. The deadline for this program is July 18, 2008.



DCP SIGNUP BEGINS!!!

Signup is underway for the 2008 DCP program. Producer's can visit their local FSA office or sign-up online. They can choose payment options, assign crop shares and sign and submit their contracts from any computer with Internet access.

For 2008, eligible producers may request to receive an advance payment of 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. Advance payments will be issued as soon as practical after enrollment. Final direct payments will be issued after October 1, 2008.

Producers with base acreage 10 acres or less may not be eligible to participate in the DCP program. Please contact the local FSA office for details. Call the office today and make an appointment to sign-up. Final Date to Sign-up is September 30th, 2008.

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 4	Independence Day (office closed)
July 18	Final date to enroll in Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) or the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
August 1	Final date to submit Nomination form for COC election
August 15	Final date to report all crops
Continues	2005-2007 Crop Disaster Program
Continues	Continuous CRP and CREP
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans

RECORD CORRECTIONS AND RECONS

Producers are being encouraged to get all of their records updated with our office as soon as they can in preparation for a farm sign-up into the programs. If any producer is either adding land or has deleted land from what you were operating last year, we are asking that you give us a call and let us know of the changes.

HAYING CRP ACRES FOR CRITICAL FEED USE

Producers are authorized to hay or graze their CRP for Critical Feed Use or they can sell the hay or grazing rights to other livestock producers. **THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY CREP CONTRACTS OR ANY CRP GROUND WITHIN 120 FEET OF A WATERWAY.** Producers need to be aware that Critical Feed Use is authorized but only after paying a \$75.00 fee and having a revised conservation plan approved. Critical Feed Use is only authorized on 50% of each field if hayed. Whole field can be grazed under certain conditions. The dates that the emergency feed use can take place is from August 1st- November 10th of this year. **A POSTCARD WILL BE SENT TO ALL ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS THAT MEET THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS PROVISION.** If you do not receive a postcard in June, you are not eligible to participate in this provision.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

The farm storage facility loan program is still underway where producers can take a loan up to \$100,000.00 for seven years to construct farm storage for agricultural commodities produced on their farm. This program has been very popular in Bay County and we have many new bins around the county. If you are interested in adding farm storage or increasing the capacity of storage on your farm please contact our office for more details. The equipment purchased for the loan must be new equipment and cannot be used equipment.



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To file a complaint of Discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.