



July 2008



## St Clair/Macomb County FSA News

**Kimball  
USDA Service Center**

**PO Box 7900  
Kimball Mi 48074 7900  
810-984-3865 Ex 2 (ph)  
810-984-2345 (fax)**

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

**County Committee**  
Chairman  
Ron Parks  
Vice Chairman  
Richard Townsend  
Members  
Ron Beier  
James Koss  
John Busemann  
Advisor  
Loretta Domagalski

County Committee meets  
Second Wednesday of the  
month at 9:00 AM

**Staff**  
County Executive Director  
Dean Forrester  
Farm Loan Manager  
Phil Sweeney  
Program Technicians  
Brenda Boyd  
Ellen Wilson  
Steve Simmons  
Karla Frammolino  
Field Reporters  
James Domagalski  
Richard Silver



### **Crop Reporting**

The deadline for reporting your 2008 crops has been extended. The new date is August 15, 2008. If you have not called for an appointment yet, please call when you receive this newsletter.

Those of you who have made appointments have seen that we are not actually starting to work on certification until after August 1<sup>st</sup>. The reason for this is the Common Land Unit (CLU) project that we are working on and want to complete by August 1<sup>st</sup>. We are currently printing tract maps out for every tract of land that we have in our CLU projects for both St Clair and Macomb Counties. We will be mailing out these maps to all operators and owners listed on the tracts along with a letter explaining what is required from operators and owners.

### **2005-2007 Crop Disaster Program**

Producers who had Crop Insurance or NAP for the years 2005-2007 and suffered at least a 35 percent loss in one or more crops could be eligible for disaster assistance for the quantity loss portion of this program.

Beginning June 23, 2008 the Quality loss part of the 2005-2007 CDP program started. To be eligible for this part of the program you must have suffered a quality loss during the years covered by the program. For those who think that they may qualify, you must have verifiable production evidence. The evidence must contain production, price and quality affected. For example: wheat – DON/Vomitoxin, soybeans – Splits, stained. The minimum loss level is 25 percent, the commodity also must have suffered a

### **Crop Disaster Continued**

25 percent reduction in value due to quality. As compared to value that the affected production of the crop would have had if the crop had not suffered a quality loss. Stored production must have an eligible quality test indicating both the quality and quantity of the stored crop by January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year following harvest. Fed production must have an eligible quality test indicating both quality and quantity by January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year following harvest. Please call our office for more information.

### **2008 Farm Bill**

2008 DCP signup will start June 25, 2008 and will end September 30, 2008. The 2008 DCP shall be administered exactly like the 2007 DCP program, except that a producer on a farm may not received direct or counter-cyclical payments if the sum of the base acres on the farm is 10 acres or less with exceptions:

Generally, farms that have 10 base acres or less shall not receive direct or counter-cyclical payments unless that farm wholly owned by socially disadvantaged or limited resource farmers or ranchers as follows:

A socially disadvantaged farmer is a farmer who is a member of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities.

**2008 Farm Bill continued**

A limited resource farmer is a farmer who meets both of the following:

Directly or indirectly has gross farm sales not more than \$100,000 in both of the previous two years.

Has a total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of 4 or less than 50 percent of county median household income in both of the previous two years.

**2008 Reconstitutions**

Committees may not approve requests for reconstitutions of farms having base acres of 10 acres or less if the request was received after the date of enactment of the 2008 Farm Bill (May 22, 2008), except if the owner of the farm has been notified of the reconstitution before June 24, 2008. The only exception to this is a farm having base acres of 10 acres or less may be combined with another farm if one of the farms

undergoes a change in land ownership. To qualify for this exception, the owners of each of the farms participating in the new combination must be identical and have identical shares in both farms.

The deadline for requesting a 2008 reconstitution is August 1, 2008. If you know that you have farm changes requiring a reconstitution do not wait until you come in to certify to inform us. Call now!

I would also like to ask that when you call our office for an appointment and we ask if you have any changes that you think for a minute before answering. The appointments that we make are set with a timeframe in mind as to how long it will take to complete the appointment. When a producer tells us that they have no changes and they actually do it creates scheduling problems as we run into the next scheduled appointment. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

**NAP**

Producers enrolled in the NAP program are reminded that they must inform us within 15 days of when a disaster related loss becomes apparent.

For producers who have 2007, we are working on them as time permits.

*Dean E Forrester*

dean.forrester@mi.usda.gov

Dates to Remember	
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	LCP program ends
August 1 <sup>st</sup>	Recon deadline
August 15 <sup>th</sup>	Crop reporting deadline
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program

Visit our Web site at:  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/mi](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mi)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program 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.