



**October 2006**

# **Barren County News**

**Barren County  
USDA Service Center**

**Barren County FSA**  
207 YMCA Way  
Glasgow, KY 42141  
(270)629-2081 phone  
(270)629-2706 fax  
www.fsa.usda.gov/ky

**Hours**  
Monday – Friday  
7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**  
Bobby Morrison, chairman  
Watha Wood, vice-chair  
Joe Alan Mutter, member  
Bobby Elliott, advisor

County Committee meets  
First Tuesday each Month

**Staff**  
Jeffrey Houchins, CED  
Cherry Martin, PT  
Martha Steen, PT  
Diane Williams, PT  
Sherry Perry, PT  
Helena Pitcock, FLM  
Debbie Turner, FLO  
Veronica Beard, FLO  
Becky Bush, FLP PT  
Nancy Gerald, FLP PT  
Karen Roy, FLOT

## **FSA – FARM LOAN FUNDS AVAILABLE**

### **Socially Disadvantaged Applicants**

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Loan funds are available for **Socially Disadvantaged Applicants (SDA)** each year. A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asians and Pacific Islanders.

For those who qualify and are eligible, our funding includes loans for operating purposes, to purchase livestock and equipment and to purchase farms. In some instances, we can refinance operating debts as well. For more information concerning loan eligibility, contact the local Farm Loan Program Staff at 270-629-2085, Farm Loan Manager is Helena Pitcock, Farm Loan Officers are Debbie Turner and Veronica Beard and Farm Loan Program Technicians are Becky Bush and Nancy Gerald.

### **CHANGING MILC START MONTH SELECTION FOR UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR**

Producers in a dairy operation must make their start month selection on or before the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month before the month for which payment is sought. For example, a dairy operation wanting their MILCX payments to begin in October of the Fiscal Year 2007, the dairy must designate that month on their CCC-580X on file in the FSA Office on or before September 14, 2006.

A dairy operation cannot select a month for payment which:

- Has already begun
- Had already passed

- During which no milk was produced by the dairy operation

One helpful note the fiscal year for MILCX is from October 1<sup>st</sup> of 2006 through September 30, 2007. Delaying the starting month is only beneficial if the producer will exceed the 2.4 million pounds per dairy operation.

### **NEW FARM MAPS TO BE MAILED**

The Barren County Farm Service Agency office is currently creating a new set of computer generated maps for each farm. The process of converting to a new system will eventually allow for “on line” services.

The computer generated maps will be mailed to all owners and operators of farmland on October 30, 2006. Please review your boundary lines for accuracy. If your boundary lines are not correct, please provide a survey, plat, or a PVA map of your property. Also, review each of your fields on these maps for accuracy. If field boundaries appear to be in the wrong place please let us know, so we can correct the map. If we do not hear from you within 30 days after October 30, 2006, we will consider the information correct and use the new acreage for future program purposes.

### **EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

Participants of ECP (Emergency Conservation Program) who have completed their fencing and debris removal are reminded that they need to furnish sales slips, invoices, or other evidence for the materials used in connection with each practice so it can be used in determining your cost-share payment.

If using personal contributions please include the following on your itemized statement: dates, type of equipment, type of personal labor, type of material with the charge per hour and number hours and total cost. This statement

**ECP--continued**

must also have a signature for certification purposes.

Please beware of the practice expiration date that is printed on form AD-245 that has been mailed to you with your approval information.

**GREEN RIVER  
CONSERVATION  
RESERVE  
ENHANCEMENT  
PROGRAM**

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a voluntary land retirement program that will help Barren County producers protect environmentally sensitive land, decrease erosion, restore wildlife habitat, and safeguard ground and surface water.

The program is a partnership among producers, state, and federal governments and in some cases, private groups.

Eligible CRP practices for the Kentucky CREP will be:

- CP-1 Introduced Grasses and Legumes
- CP-2 Native Grasses, Legumes and Forbs
- CP-3 Tree Planting
- CP-3A Hardwood Tree Planting
- CP-4B Permanent Wildlife Habitat (Corridors), Non-easement
- CP-4D Permanent Wildlife Habitat, Non-easement
- CP-8A Grassed Waterways, Non-easement

- CP-9 Shallow Waterways for Wildlife
- CP-10 Vegetative Cover – Grass – Already Established
- CP-11 Vegetative Cover – Trees – Already Established
- CP-12 Wildlife Food Plots
- CP-15A Permanent Vegetative Cove (Contour Grass Strips), Non-easement
- CP-21 Filter Strips
- CP-22 Riparian Buffer
- CP-23 Wetland Restoration
- CP-25 Rare Declining Habitat

The primary objectives of this program are to reduce soil erosion and to increase wildlife habitat. So, what is your contribution? The goal of this program is the installation of Best Management Practices (BMP's). There are several practices involved with this program that primarily involve the planting of native warm season grasses, trees, or a combination of both. There is even a practice in which cool season grasses may be planted, but the financial incentive is not as beneficial due to the decreased wildlife habitat benefits. Any land adjacent to creeks or streams (including seasonal streams) that can be categorized as at least marginal pastureland may be eligible. In addition, upland fields with required cropping history and that meet USDA erodibility standards may also be eligible. Remember, the "enhanced" part of this program is primarily financial, thus directly benefiting the landowner that chooses to enroll. Federal, state, and non-profit organizations joined

to ensure that incentives were added and that cost share rates were increased to allow this program to compete financially with traditional farming income. On some practices, annual rental rate amounts were doubled to what one could earn under the continuous CRP. Listed below are some more specific benefits to landowners:

- In nearly every real world example calculated within the region, more money can be made by enrolling land into CREP than by farming it.
- CREP income over the contracted 10-15 years does not depend on market prices, weather, or other factors that often influence our profession; it is a dependable and consistent income.
- The installation of these practices is cost-shared by both the federal and state governments, along with incentive (bonus) payments, thus often the landowner makes money on this part of the process.
- You choose what parts of your farm (that meet eligibility requirements) that you want to enroll...we can work with you to design practices that work for everyone.
- At the end of your contract, you may choose to return to farming these lands if you so desire. There is an optional easement that may be utilized for long term protection and additional financial benefits as well.

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
10/30/2006	Maps to be mailed
11/03/2006	COC Ballots mailed