



Henderson County News

January 2008

Henderson FSA Service Center

706C North Green St
Henderson, KY 42420
270-826-3450 (phone)
270-826-0329 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/ky

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Mike Dossett
Lea Meredith
Eddie Crowder

County Committee
meets
2nd Tuesday of the
Month

Staff
Josh Kirkland, CED
Sandy Baird, PT
Kelly Day, PT
El Floyd, PT
Linda Mitchell, PT

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County Committee Election Results

Congratulation to Eddie Crowder was reelected to represent farmers from Robards/Hebbardsville on the county committee. Crowder was elected to his 2nd consecutive term. The election results for Local Administrative Area 3 are:

Eddie Crowder — Elected to the county committee (COC),

Steven Reed — 1st alternate to COC,

Henderson FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation. The committee members have held their organizational meeting in January to determine who will serve as the county committee chairman and vice-chairman.

Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

Controlled Substance

Any person who is convicted under federal law of planting, producing, cultivating, harvesting, growing, or storing a controlled substance will be ineligible to participate and receive payments under USDA programs. Marijuana, opium poppies, and other drug producing plants are controlled substances.

Power of Attorney

We have a power of attorney form available for those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. This can be done by completing an FSA-211, Power of Attorney. The form is available at your local USDA Service Center or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov>.

Forms obtained and completed outside the USDA Service Centers offices must be notarized. To find out more, call the office.

Bank Account Changes

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA County office staff if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

Spousal Signatures

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) programs in which either has an interest. In most cases, this option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

Financial Inquiries

As we begin the new year its time to start thinking about gathering financial records and filling out a 1040. Currently, producer financial information is not available on the USDA Customer Statement under FSA Benefits Summary. Producers can view his or her financial information on the Financial Inquiries website using their Level 2 account authorization. Producers who want to inquire about a particular electronic deposit, program payment, debt or 1099G should go to www.fsa.usda.gov and select Online Services, then Financial Inquiries for FSA Producers.

Ag Census Forms Due Feb 4th

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) began distribution of the 2007 Census of Agriculture last month and the completed forms are due back **by February 4, 2008**. Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the convenient option of filling out the Census online via a secure website at: <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.

Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Census is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. According to NASS, the Census of Agriculture provides information that is not available elsewhere. The last Ag Census was conducted in 2002.

The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation.

Policy-makers use Census data for decisions concerning agricultural and rural programs. Community planners use Census information to target delivery of local services. Companies rely on Census data when determining where to locate their operations. And farmers themselves look at Census data when deciding to make changes in their production strategies.