



October 2006

Hopkins County News

**Hopkins County
USDA Service Center**

**Hopkins County FSA
1105 National Mine Road
Madisonville, KY 42431
(270) 821-4430 phone
(270) 821-6942 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/ky**

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

**Hopkins County
Committee**

**Johnny A. Brown
Doug Ashby
W. T. Fowler
Gigi Smith**

**County Committee
meets on first Monday of
each month at 8:00 a.m.**

**Hopkins County Staff
Julie Gulley, PT
Joey Peyton, PT
Debbie Rudd, CED**

HOPKINS COUNTY LOAN RATES

2006 Commodity Loan Rates for Hopkins County are:
WHEAT - \$2.74 bu.
CORN - \$2.10 bu.
GRAIN SORGHUM – \$3.67 cwt.
SOYBEANS - \$5.17 bu.

Producers have from the date of harvest until March 31, 2007 for wheat and May 31, 2007 for corn, soybeans and grain sorghum to apply for 2006 crop year marketing assistance loans (MAL's) or loan deficiency payments (LDP's).

Marketing assistance loans are issued on up to the number of bushel produced by an eligible producer and stored on the farm. Producers must meet eligibility requirements and have proper documentation on file at the FSA Office with a complete crop report for 2006.

Commodity loans mature on demand, but no later than the last day of the ninth month after the month in which the loan is disbursed.

The producer is responsible for maintaining quantity, quality and storability of the mortgaged grain.

The interest rate for commodity loans shall be equal to the interest rate announced by CCC for the month in which the loan is dispersed and adjusted on January 1 to equal the interest rate announced for the month of January by CCC.

The producer may request and receive measurement service for the quantity requested.

For further details on 2006 commodity loans, feel free to contact our office.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

Ballots will be sent shortly for the selection of a committee member to represent LAA 1. This is the western end of Hopkins County which includes the Dawson Springs, Dalton and Nebo areas of the county.

Producers in LAA 1 are encouraged to vote for the person they feel will best serve their community. Candidates on the ballot in this years' LAA election are: Danny Peyton and Ricky Roberts. Producers may also include write-in votes if desired.

No member of the County Committee may serve more than 3 consecutive 3-year terms.

CRP MAINTENANCE ISSUES

CRP participants are reminded that it is their responsibility to maintain the approved cover for the life of the CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) contract.

Annual mowing for generic weed control is prohibited. Mowing options may include strip mowing or mowing every other year.

Mid-contract maintenance is conducted to ensure plant diversity and wildlife benefits. Mid-contract management options include disking, prescribed burning and interseeding. These options are included in the Conservation Plan of Operations signed by the producer and government agency representatives.

TRAINING AVAILABLE FOR TTPP PARTICIPANTS

Hopkins County producers who participated in the Tobacco Transition Payment Program are eligible for computer and welding training for farmers. For a minimal cost, participants receive classes in Computer Basics for Farm Use or Beginning MIG Welding for farmers. At the end of these classes, participants receive a computer or welding equipment.

Classes are provided through Madisonville Community College. Applications can be obtained through George Kelley at the Hopkins County Cooperative Extension Office. Call George Kelley at 821-3650 or Debbie Rudd at 821-4430 for further information.

PRE-HARVEST SECURITY GUIDELINES AND CHECKLIST

Threats to farm security are varied and numerous. The prevention of intentional or unintentional injury to crops or livestock is of primary concern in agricultural production.

The county office has available Pre-Harvest Security Guidelines and Checklist 2006 that can be a guide to assist in making our farms safer. It gives guidelines for general security and specific ideas for crop and livestock security.

CRP ANNUAL RENTAL PAYMENTS BEING ISSUED

Beginning October 2, the county office has been authorized to issue annual rental payments for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

This program according to Secretary of Agriculture, Mike Johanns works to conserve and preserve the soil, water and wildlife resources of our nation.

This announcement does not include rental payments for the acres recently enrolled under signup 33 as these contracts will receive the first payment in October of 2007.

FARM/CITY BREAKFAST

Farmers of Hopkins County are invited to attend the 2007 Hopkins County Farm-City Breakfast.

This event is held annually on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving at 6:30 a.m. in the family life center of the Lighthouse Pentecostal Church.

Each year a Farm Family of the Year is recognized. Awards are presented to winners of the yield contests conducted with Cooperative Extension Service.

This gives the opportunity to share breakfast with friends and celebrate agriculture in Hopkins County. The event is sponsored by local financial institutions, the Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce and other organizations.

2006 Final Direct Payments

The county office has received authorization to issue 2006 final direct payments for covered commodities participating in the DCP (Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program) for 2006.

Participants should be receiving payment statements shortly verifying that payments have been deposited into their requested bank checking or savings account.

2005 Final Counter-Cyclical Rates for Corn and Soybeans

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 provides for CC payments for covered commodities beginning with crop years 2002-2007. A first advance 2005 CC payment for corn was issued in October 2005 and the second advance in Feb. 2006.

The final CC rate for corn is \$.07 per bushel after advances and the final CC rate for soybeans is \$0.00. Payments are in the process of being issued.

Dates to Remember	
Nov.3,2006	Ballots mailed out
Dec, 4, 2006	Election Ballot Return Deadline
Jan 1,2007	New Committee person takes office

This office will be closed on November 23, 2006 in observance of Thanksgiving and December 25, 2006 for Christmas.