



Warren/Edmonson County News

January 2008

**Bowling Green
FSA Service Center**
925 Lovers Lane
Bowling Green, KY
42103
270-843-1111 (phone)
270-783-9009 (fax)
1-800-441-2592, ext. 1

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

Area Committee
Jack Estes, Chairperson
Tim Westbrook, Vice-
chairperson
Dale Watt, Member
Danny Davenport,
Member
Charlie Tarter, Member
Romanza Johnson,
Advisor
Joseph Jewell, Advisor

Staff
County Executive Director
Donald L. Dunn
Farm Loan Manager
Bryan Denison
Farm Loan Officer
Brian Turner

Program Technicians
Sherri Brown
Melanie Barnes
Linda Lindsey
Barbara Whitley
Barbara Kincheloe
Penny Vincent
Debbie Hammers
Mindy Keeling, Temp.

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Committee Organization

Jack Estes of Smiths Grove was re-elected by the members of the Warren-Edmonson FSA area committee to serve as chairperson. Mr. Estes is serving in his 7th year on the committee and is in a family farm partnership producing grain, forage crops, beef cattle, and a dairy operation. Tim Westbrook of Alvaton was re-elected as the vice-chairperson of the committee. Mr. Westbrook is in a family farm operation producing grain, forage, beef cattle, and a dairy operation. Other members of the committee are Dale Watt, Danny Davenport, and Charlie Tarter.

DTN Available

The Warren County Farm Bureau provides a DTN terminal in the lobby of the Service Center to allow access to current markets, weather information, and news updates. Try it out on your next visit.

Prohibited Substances

Program participants convicted under Federal or State law of planting, growing, producing, harvesting, or storing controlled substances are ineligible for program payments and benefits for the current and the succeeding four crop years. Program participants convicted of drug trafficking or possession shall be at the discretion of the court as to eligibility to earn payments.

Important Telephone Numbers

If you are outside Warren County, you may contact the Warren-Edmonson FSA toll free by telephoning 1-800-441-2592, extension 01. To fax information to FSA, our fax number is 270-783-9009.

Honey Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments

The 2007 honey loan rate has been announced at \$0.60 per pound. Honey producers should monitor the posted county price in order to possibly earn a loan deficiency payment. Contact FSA before marketing honey to file application.

2007 Marketing Assistance Loan Rates

The Farm Service Agency offers 9-month commodity loans to grain producers. This allows producers who store their grain an opportunity to market grain at a time when prices may be more favorable. The 2007-crop year loan rates are:

Crop	Edmonson	Warren
Wheat	\$2.60	\$2.58
Barley	\$1.65	\$1.65
Oats	\$1.42	\$1.42
Corn	\$2.02	\$2.05
Soybeans	\$5.19	\$5.19
Grain Sorghum	\$3.57 cwt	\$3.62 cwt

Protecting Producer Information

The Farm Service Agency takes several security measures to ensure that producer information such as social security numbers, addresses, and other personal identifiers are protected. In the modern age, identity theft is a major concern of the Farm Service Agency and we work hard to ensure that private information is not disclosed to unauthorized individuals. There are several credit reporting services available for persons to request a copy of their credit history.

FSA Loan Program

FSA makes direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operating loans (OL) to family-size farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank, Farm Credit System institution, or other lender. FSA loans can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed, and supplies. Our loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements.

Beginning Farmers Applicants

FSA provides direct and guaranteed loans to beginning farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain financing from commercial credit sources. Each fiscal year, the Agency targets a portion of its direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operating loan (OL) funds to beginning farmers and ranchers.

A beginning farmer or rancher is an individual or entity who (1) has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years; (2) agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA; (3) substantially participates in the operation; and, (4) for Farm Ownership (FO) loan purposes, does not own a farm greater than 30 percent of the average size farm in the county. (Note: all applicants for direct FO loans must have participated in the business operation of a farm for at least 3 years.) If the applicant is an entity, all members must be related by blood or marriage, and all stockholders in a corporation must be eligible beginning farmers.

Current Interest Rates

Operating Loans ----- 4.375%

Farm Ownership Loans – 5.125%

Guaranteed Loans are at the lender's rates and terms but must be within the guidelines of FSA.

Socially Disadvantaged Applicants

FSA makes and guarantees loans to approved socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family-size farms and ranches.

A socially disadvantaged (SDA) farmer, rancher, or agricultural producer is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as a member of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. SDA groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Special Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made upon request, for persons with disabilities, vision or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please contact Donald Dunn, County Executive Director at (270)843-1111 or toll free at 1-800-441-2592, extension 01.

Producer Information Needed

As technology advances and society becomes more mobile, the Farm Service Agency is collecting email addresses and cellular telephone numbers to provide you better service. This data is protected from disclosure and we do not share the information with others.

Report of Producer Payments, CCC-1099s

The Farm Service Agency will be mailing CCC-1099s or IRS-1099s to producers who received program payments in the 2007-tax year. The producer payment reports will be mailed to program recipients around January 25, 2008. If you do not receive a Producer Payment Report by mid February 2008, contact the FSA and a duplicate copy will be requested for you.

Area Committee Election Results

Jack Estes of Smiths Grove was re-elected to a three-year term on the Warren-Edmonson FSA area committee representing producers in local administrative area 2 of Warren County. Gail Balance was elected as the 1st alternate and June Hendrick was elected as the 2nd alternate.

Robert Dale Watt of the Shady Land community of Edmonson County was elected to represent the producers of local administrative area 4. Theo Hammonds was elected to serve as the 1st alternate and Ronell Alford was elected as the 2nd alternate.

Committee members elected will join other committee members Charlie Tarter, Tim Westbrook, and Danny Davenport along with advisors Joseph Jewell and Romanza Johnson.

Alternates serve when regular members are unable to attend.