



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Nodaway County  
Farm Service Agency

**Nodaway County FSA**  
502 W South Hills Dr  
Suite 104  
Maryville, MO 64468  
660-582-7423 (phone)  
660-582-8366 (fax)

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

**County Committee**  
Joyce Ecker, Chairperson  
Larry Tobin, Vice Chair  
Richard Fletchall, Member

**Staff**  
Tim Dreier, CED  
Charlotte Holeman, FLM  
Tom Shelton, FLO  
Marianne Adkins, PT  
Teresa Blackford, PT  
Marilyn Buhman, PT  
Judy Fast, PT  
Tammy Luke, PT  
Re'nee Schrader, PT  
Norma Kenny, Temp PT  
Abbie Renshaw, Intern  
Cody Blackford, FA  
Greg Adkins, FA



Farm Service Agency

July/August 2007

# Nodaway County News

## Crop Certification Deadline - July 31, 2007

The annual requirement of reporting to the FSA office can be referred to as crop reporting, acreage reporting, or crop certification. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP), Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL's), Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's) and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) payments.

**Each report must account for all the cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. The producer certification deadline for spring-seeded crops and CRP acreages is July 31, 2007. A fee of \$46 will be assessed on each late reported farm.**

## DCP Enrollment Extended

The June 1, 2007 deadline to enroll in the 2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) has been extended to **August 3, 2007**. Computer problems last spring have caused application processing delays which prompted the enrollment deadline extension.



**A late-file fee of \$100 per farm will be assessed to the producer for CCC-509's filed after August 3, 2007 and before September 30, 2007.**

Advance direct payments for the 2007 crop year are 22%. Advance payments maybe requested in any month starting with December 2006. The remaining final direct payment of 78% will be issued to participating producers in October of 2007. For clarification, contact your local FSA office.

## Haying, Grazing CRP Acres

Producers considering managed haying or grazing of Conservation Reserve Program acres need prior approval from the county committee. Before the committee can allow haying or grazing, there must be an approved haying and grazing plan.



The acreage may not be hayed/grazed prior to July 16th. Acreage that was hayed or grazed in either of the last 2 years is ineligible for release this year. A 25 percent payment reduction is assessed for every approved acre hayed or grazed. Other restrictions may apply. Stop by the office for more details.

## Wind Tower Construction

Several wind power companies have expressed an interest in building wind turbines in the area with the purpose of generating renewable wind energy.



The Farm Service Agency (FSA) supports the continued development of wind power.

However, this type of development work on a farm typically requires the consent of lien/contract holders as well as the owner of the property. As part of the lien/contract holder consent process, for any land where government assistance is being received by the farmer, (CRP, WRP, direct and/or guaranteed farm loans, etc.), an assessment of potential environmental impact is required by federal law.

If you are participating in the FSA CRP, WRP, direct and/or guaranteed farm loan program, please contact the office prior to executing leases and/or contracts with any wind power company.

## Farm Operation Changes

### --Farm Reconstitutions

When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is necessary.

The reconstitution—or recon—is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by **August 1** for farms enrolled in the Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program. If 2007 DCP direct payments have already been issued on the farm, the reconstitution will be effective for 2008 unless the payments are refunded.

## Financial FACTS for agriculture's future

Respond to USDA's Agricultural Resource Management Survey and let the financial facts be known for agriculture's policies and programs.



**NASS**  
Fact Finders for Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

## COC Candidates Sought

It will soon be county committee election time, and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) is actively looking for producers to be a candidate for the local FSA county committee. County committee members perform an important function. They represent you and your agricultural interests. They help shape how federal farm programs are implemented on the ground in local communities.

Who do you know that would make a good county committee member? Who do you know who would be able to represent you and your farming interests, as well as your neighbor's interests?

Why not talk to that person and ask if he or she would be willing to serve on the county committee? If he or she says yes, then fill out a nomination form (FSA-669), have the person sign it and then return it to the county office.

If you can't think of another producer to nominate or your prospective nominee turns you down, why not nominate yourself? Serving on the committee will take, on average, one day a month, and you will be providing your agricultural community a vital service.

The Local Administrative Area for which this year's election will be held involves the producers in the Independence, Jackson, and Polk Townships of Nodaway County. Larry Tobin currently represents this area on the county committee.



Committee members are reimbursed for travel expenses and are paid at the rate of a GS-6, step 1, currently \$14.72 per hour. Visit with the Farm Service Agency county office staff for more information.

## Preventing Fraud & Waste

The Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency are partners in preventing fraud, waste and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program. FSA has been assisting, and will continue to assist, RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. Producers can report suspected cases to FSA or RMA.

## **Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)**

The Nodaway County Farm Service Agency has been approved to implement the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) to provide cost-share funds to help area producers with damage to farmland and fences caused by the excessive rain and flooding in May 2007. For a producer's land to be eligible, the disaster must have created new conservation problems that, if untreated, would impair or endanger the land and materially affect its productive capacity. Under the program 75% cost-share monies would be available for the removal of debris from farmland, grading or shaping of the damaged land, restoration of conservation structures such as terraces or water impoundment structures to their pre-disaster condition, and the restoration of permanent fences.

To qualify for cost-share assistance producers must have suffered at least \$1,000 of eligible cost share expenses. Producers are not eligible to receive compensation to rehabilitate any land on which they are already required to maintain the practice which includes land under any other Federal or State cost-share program (an example – terraces built using cost-share from Soil and Water Districts within the last 10 years). Levees or the land between the levee and the river are not eligible for cost-share under the ECP program. Land on which cost-share assistance is received must maintain its agricultural use for a minimum of 10 years following the year the practice is completed.

Producers should apply for ECP cost-share assistance at the local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office before beginning the repairs or debris removal from their acreages. The deadline to apply is August 3, 2007.



### **Record Changes**



If you have bought, sold or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the Farm Service Agency office as soon as possible after they occur. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and fines if you are participating in our program.

## **Emergency Loan Designation**

Mr. Timothy Kelley, State Executive Director, Farm Service Agency has announced Nodaway County will have FSA disaster loans available due to severe storms, flooding, tornados, or freezing. Applications will be accepted at the Maryville county office for physical and production losses.

Loans for physical losses must be used to replace or repair damage to buildings, fences or to compensate for losses of basic livestock, stored crops or supplies on hand, equipment, etc., that was lost due to the disaster. Loans for production losses may also be used to buy feed, seed, fertilizer, livestock or to make payments on real estate or chattel debts. Generally, loans for production losses cannot be approved until crops have completed their production cycle or have been harvested.

In order to qualify, a farmer must have suffered a 30% loss in production or an actual physical loss that was essential to the successful operation of the farm.

Loans for actual losses are made at an interest rate of 3.75% for emergency loans to the eligible applicants who are unable to obtain the actual credit needed from another source. All loan programs of the Farm Service Agency are conducted on a non-discriminatory basis.

### **Bank Account Changes?**

As of Jan. 1, 1999, all Farm Service Agency payments are supposed to be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order to make timely payments, you need to notify the office if you close your account or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if we are not aware of changes to your account and routing numbers.

### **Unauthorized Disposition**

If grain under loan has been disposed of through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office staff, it is considered an unauthorized disposition. The financial penalties are severe and a producers name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. Always call the office before any loan grain is fed or sold.

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## 2007 Compliance Activities

FSA County Offices perform a variety of compliance reviews and spot checks to ensure the accuracy of payment and integrity of programs. Currently, these compliance reviews and spot checks are selected through a variety of processes.

Based on Office of Inspector General audit recommendations, a new compliance review and spot check selection process will be implemented for the 2007 program/crop year.

For 2007, a nationwide selection of producers has been made using a statistical sampling method. Producers were selected based on their participation in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP), Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) and Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).

For 2007, all producers selected through the selection process will be spot checked or reviewed for compliance with all programs in which they participated or received benefits as well as the accuracy of all of their acreage reports (FSA-578's).

Questions concerning this new procedure may be directed to the county office.

Dates to Remember	
July 31	Crop Reporting Deadline
August 1	Deadline to submit COC Nominations
August 1	Recon Deadline
August 3	2007 DCP signup w/o penalty ends
August 3	Deadline to signup for ECP
September 3	Office Closed for Labor Day
September 30	2007 DCP Deadline
Ongoing	Farm Storage Facility Loan Signup

**Please visit the  
 FSA Website:  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)**



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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.