

Osage County Ag Wire

Newsletter of the USDA Service Center in Lyndon Kansas:
Farm Service Agency - Natural Resources Conservation Service - Osage Conservation District



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

November 2007

Quick Reference Guide

SERVICE CENTER PHONE	(785) 828-4631
CONSERVATION DISTRICT PHONE	(785) 828-3458
FAX	(785) 828-3716
ADDRESS	115 West 17 th Lyndon, KS 66451-9561
E-MAIL	brandon.wilson@ks.usda.gov



Mark Your Calendar

November 12 –Veterans Day - Office Closed

November 22 – Thanksgiving - Office Closed

December 3 – County Committee Election ballots due

December 25 – Office Closed



USDA Field Services

FSA provides bin and acreage measurement services for a nominal fee. Many producers request bin measurements to determine the quantity of the crop in the bin for loans, LDP's or crop insurance production. Acreage determinations are often requested by producers who wish to delineate acreage on their farms using GPS technology. Field assistants can also meet with CRP participants at their fields to discuss compliance issues. Field assistants working for FSA are Gayle Miles and Davin Supple.

Annual Meeting

The 67th Annual Meeting of the Osage County Conservation District will be Monday, February 11, 2008, at the Osage City Elementary School lunchroom. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm, compliments of the Osage County banks. Conservation awards and poster, essay and limerick awards will be given. There will be a short business meeting to elect two supervisors. The Board of Supervisors will also give a full report of District activities. Reservations are required. Please call 785-828-3458 by February 1 and make your reservation.

2007 Commodity Loans

Loans are now available to eligible Osage County producers on 2007 commodities. Low interest rate loans through USDA give producers the advantage of using proceeds for operating costs or other expenses while speculating future grain prices. Nine month loans may be obtained on farm stored or warehouse stored wheat, corn, sorghum soybeans or wool. Producers applying for farm stored grain loans can request a measurement service or certify the loan quantity. Grain under loan must be within maximum moisture levels and stored in bins having permanently attached ladders that are easily and safely inspected. Once under loan, the commodity may not be moved for any reason without authorization from our office. For warehouse stored loans, a warehouse receipt showing proof of prepaid storage will be required.

Osage County 2007 Commodity Loan Rates are:

Hard Red Winter Wheat	\$3.00 bu
Corn	\$1.94 bu
Grain Sorghum	\$3.39 cwt
Soybeans	\$4.95 bu
Ungraded Wool	\$.40 lb

Crop Disaster Program Sign-up

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity losses for 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops. CDP signup began October 15, 2007. Losses from natural disasters may qualify for financial assistance if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose **only one year** to apply for benefits. Participants may apply for loss benefits on multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. Please call the office for more details.

Storage Facility Loans Available

With terminal grain markets near Osage County and with record lack of warehouse grain storage, farm operators may be considering adding additional grain storage. Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities including wheat, milo, soybeans and corn. Eligible facilities include new conventional types of bins or cribs and new and remanufactured oxygen limiting and other upright silo-type structures.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The Osage County Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 a.m.

County Committee Election

Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters in LAA 1 (northeast part of the county) starting on November 2, 2007. If you don't receive a ballot, notify the county FSA office. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 3, 2007. If you have Power of Attorney (POA) you CANNOT vote and sign for that person.

Farm Loan Program News

The FSA Farm Loan Program Office located in Ottawa administers farm loan programs for Osage County producers. Loans available are direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans to family-size farmers and ranchers. Producers must be involved in either crop production, livestock, fruits, vegetables, nuts or other farm related products grown on a farm. Please contact their office at (785) 242-3527 extension 38 or 41 if you have any questions about FSA loans or want to make an appointment.

Final Payments for 2007 DCP & CRP

Final payments have been issued for Direct & Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) and Conservation Reserve Program. If you have not received your payment please call the office.

