

# Osborne County Farm Service Agency

1117 W Hwy 24; Osborne, KS 67473

Phone: 785-346-2128 Fax: 785-346-2057 January 2007

E-mail: [Karen.mccune@ks.usda.gov](mailto:Karen.mccune@ks.usda.gov) Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

County Committee meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month @ 12:30 P.M. November through May and @ 8:30 A.M. June through October. Members are: Alan Beisner, Donald Harzman, Dean Kurtz and Imogene Thornburg, Advisor.

## DCP Signup and Certification

Signup is currently under way for the 2007 Direct and Countercyclical Program. The county office will also be reviewing all eligibility forms for each participant, which may require a few more forms to be signed and a little more time to complete the signup process.

Producers may also certify at this time. The final date to certify small grains is May 31<sup>st</sup> or 15 days prior to grazing or haying. For most NAP producers with grass or alfalfa coverage, this would be April 15.

To minimize the time producers will need to spend at the office, we are making appointments for signup and certification. Please contact the office to schedule an appointment that is convenient for you.

## Advance Payment Change

Advance payments on the direct portion of your DCP contract are available by request at the time of enrollment. This year's advance rate is 22% of the total direct benefit. The balance will be paid in October, 2007.

## Farm Storage Facility Loans

Seven year Farm Storage Facility Loans are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, or remodeling existing facilities.



All loans are secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85 percent of the net cost, up to \$100,000 for each borrower. A 15% down payment is also required. For more information, contact the FSA office.

## New Measurement Service Charges

The basic fee for performing measurement services in Kansas has been raised to \$46 for the first hour and \$8 for each additional half hour. This fee applies to field staking and referencing, bin measurements and late-filed crop reporting verification and is charged on a per farm basis.

## Foreign Investors 90 Day Reporting Rule

Foreign investors acquiring or transferring any interest in agricultural land exceeding 10 acres are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days. Failure to disclose this interest can result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the land's market value.

## Signing Documents Properly



**Spouses** can sign FSA program documents on behalf of each other for most FSA farm programs in which either has an interest, without signing any special forms. This signature authority for spouses to sign for each other will be in effect unless notification denying either spouse this authority has been provided to FSA. For crop loans, an FSA power of authority form, FSA-211, must be on file for spouses to sign for each other.

**Individuals** may grant other individuals or entities authority to sign documents on their behalf on an FSA-211.

**General Partnership** – Any member of a general partnership may sign for the partnership and bind all members unless the Articles of Partnership are more restrictive. The partnership must provide the Articles of Partnership to the FSA office. If no Articles of Partnership are available, IRS documents such as Form 1065 (Schedule K-1) showing members and their shares may be used.

**Corporations, Limited Partnerships, Limited Liability Partnerships, Limited Liability Companies, and Other Similar Entities** are required to provide the FSA office with a copy of one of the following which authorizes an officer, manager, or member to sign in most cases:

- The corporate charter, bylaws, Articles of Organization. or partnership papers executed according to State law, that designates the officer, member, or manager.
- Resolution by the corporation's board of directors, signed by the corporation's secretary or other officer other than the designated agent.
- Signed corporate minutes.

**Estate, Trust, Conservatorship, or Guardianship** type entities need to provide to the FSA office a document executed according to State Law which states who can sign as administrator, executor, trustee, guardian, receiver, or conservator. Types of documents may include court orders of appointment, court approved certificate or letter of administration, trust agreement or last will and testament that established the trust, or other similar document approved by FSA's regional attorney. These documents must be signed or certified by an officer of the issuing court except those approved by the regional attorney.



### Beginning Farmers and Rural Youth Loans



FSA is authorized to assist beginning farmers to finance agriculture enterprises. Under these programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. A beginning farmer or rancher is an individual or entity who (1) had not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years; (2) meets the loan eligibility requirements of the program to which he/she is applying; (3) substantially participates in the operation; and, (4) for Real Estate (FO) loan purposes, does not own a farm greater than 30 percent of the average size farm in the country. (Note: all applicants for direct FO loans must have participated in business operation of the 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.

FSA also makes operating loans to individual rural youths ages 10 through 20 to establish and operate income-producing projects. These projects must be of modest size (loan size limited to \$5,000) and be initiated, developed, and carried out by rural youths participating in 4-H clubs, FFA, or a similar organization. The youth must be recommended by a project advisor such as a county extension agent, 4-H club or project leader or vocational teacher.

### Farm Changes



It is important that you notify the FSA office if changes for the 2007 crop year have been made to any of the farms you have an interest in. Changes to report include ground that has been purchased or sold, share changes, or if an owner or operator has formed a trust, corporation, partnership, or estate.

### COC Election Results

Alan Beisner was re-elected for his third term representing local administrative area 2. We at FSA would like to thank Alan, as well as Don, Dean, and Imogene for their service to the office and to the producers of Osborne County.



### Burning on CRP

Please visit the FSA office early if you are considering burning your CRP as it may require a modification to your CPO. For maintenance purposes, the CRP needs to start greening up, usually around March 1. The practice must be completed no later than April 15. Prescribed burning cannot be conducted in 2 consecutive years on the same acreage or in the same year as managed haying or grazing.

### NAP Deadline

March 15 is the deadline to purchase NAP coverage for sorghum forage for hay for the 2007 crop year. NAP coverage is available at the FSA office for a \$100 administrative fee. Producers will need to contact their RMA insurance company to purchase silage coverage.

### No Guns Allowed



Beginning January 2007, under the Personal and Family Protection Act, qualified Kansan's may be approved to carry concealed handguns. However, USDA customers are reminded that any weapon, including licensed concealed, is prohibited by Federal Law in Federal facilities and parking areas.

### OSBORNE COUNTY LOAN RATES FOR 2007

WHEAT	\$2.90/ bu
BARLEY	\$1.80/bu
OATS	\$1.34/bu

Dates to Remember	
Mar 15	Final date to purchase NAP for 2007 sorghum forage
Mar 31	Final date to request loan or LDP for wheat, oats, and barley
May 31	Final date to request loan or LDP for corn, milo, and soybeans
May 31	Final date to report small grain crops
June 1	Final date to signup for DCP.
Aug 1	Final date to request reconstitution for 2007.
Aug 1	Final date to report spring crops

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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.