

Osborne County Farm Service Agency

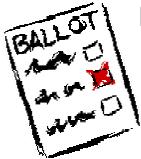
117 W Hwy 24; Osborne, KS 67473

Phone: 785-346-2128 Fax: 785-346-2057 June 2006

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

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

COC Election



FSA is accepting nominations until August 1st for candidates who are eligible to serve on the local committee.

Almost anyone participating or cooperating in an FSA program, who is of legal voting age and lives in the county's local administrative area where the election is being held, is eligible to be nominated. This year's election covers the following townships: Mt. Ayr, Kill Creek, Independence, Round Mound, Victor, Covert, Winfield, Natoma, Liberty, Valley, and Jackson.

CRP REX

Re-enrollment or extension of CRP expiring in 2007 (REX) ended April 28, 2006. Producers with contracts expiring 2008 through 2010 will need to contact our office and pay the applicable compliance fee by June 30, 2006. If you have accepted the offer to re-enroll or extend, we will be inspecting your acreage in the near future to make a compliance determination. You must be in compliance with your CRP conservation plan in order for you to continue your contract. Common non-compliance issues include the presence of noxious weeds, invasive trees, and unauthorized uses of CRP such as worn paths, unauthorized haying or grazing, and storing of equipment or hay bales.

DCP



Producers who miss the June 1 deadline to enroll in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) for 2006 may still enroll a farm by paying a \$100 late-filing fee. September 30 is the final date to enroll for 2006.

Acreage reporting is required in order for you to be eligible for payments under DCP, CRP, and for loans and LDP's. The final date to report spring seeded crops is August 1, 2006.

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.

Sodbuster – Swampbuster



Most FSA Programs require compliance with sodbuster and swampbuster provisions. These provisions require producers to follow an approved conservation plan on all highly erodible land planted to an annual crop as determined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Be sure to have determinations made on any new land you plan to plant to annual crops.

Swampbuster provisions state that converting a wetland to make possible the planting of a crop will result in the loss of all USDA benefits. To avoid this possibility it is strongly recommended that producers check with the service center before starting any kind of dirt work.

LDP's

Last August, FSA switched to the CCC-633 EZ form, which replaced the old CCC-709 and CCC-633 forms. The EZ form is a two-part form that allows producers to (1) indicate their intentions to take an LDP before losing beneficial interest in the eligible commodity, and (2) submit a request for an LDP by completing page 2 for harvested commodities, or page 4 for wool, mohair, and unshorn pelts. A key point to remember is that page 1 must be signed by the producer before beneficial interest is lost. All producers are encouraged to submit page 1 each crop year whether or not they plan to request a loan or LDP.

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.

Failed Crop Acres

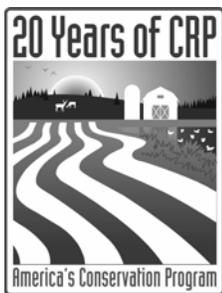
Producers need to report failed crop acreage to FSA before they destroy the crop if they wish to receive cropping history credit. Producers with a crop insurance appraisal may bring the appraisal to our office as verification of the failed crop. FSA will need to conduct a field visit on all uninsured fields to verify the failed crop prior to destruction.

Visit our website at:

www.fsa.usda.gov

CRP FIELD TOUR

Kansas FSA Celebrates the 20th Anniversary of CRP! Join us at a CRP Field Tour in Dickinson County on June 7, 2006. During the tour, learn more about Filter Strips, Rare and Declining Habitat, Contour Grass Strip Terraces, and Upland Bird Habitat Buffers. Conservation experts and landowners will share their experiences and explain the environmental benefits of these practices. In addition, special dignitaries will be at the event's kickoff to share their involvement in the 20th years of CRP



Call 785-539-3531 or e-mail betty.unterberger@ks.usda.gov to pre-register (to accommodate for food and buses.)



Toll Free Number for Borrowers

Direct loan borrowers can now check the status of their accounts around the clock using the new toll-free telephone number 1-888-518-4983.

During the first call, borrowers will enter their tax identification number or the social security number associated with the loan. They will also need to enter their zip code. Next, they will create a personal identification number for security. Customers must enter their PIN every time they use the system.

Reconstitution Deadline

To be effective for 2006, farm combinations and divisions must be requested by August 1, 2006. A request for a reconstitution made after 2006 DCP payments have been issued will be processed for fiscal year 2007 unless all advance payments are refunded.

OSBORNE COUNTY LOAN RATES FOR 2006

WHEAT	\$2.78/ bu
BARLEY	\$1.75/bu
OATS	\$1.34/bu
CORN	\$2.00/bu
GRAIN SORGHUM	\$3.19/cwt
SOYBEANS	\$4.84/bu
SUNFLOWERS	\$9.11/cwt

Exception to FAV Rule

Every rule has an exception, and the exception for the FAV – that's fruits and vegetables – rule is that FAVs may be planted without penalty on Direct and Countercyclical Payment Program base acres under the following conditions:

- FAVs are designated as and meet the definition of a home garden;
- FAVs are planted and reported with an intended use of green manure or forage and the producer pays a fee to cover the cost of a farm visit to verify that the crop has not been harvest as FAV;
- Lentils, mung beans, and dry peas (dry peas including Austrian, wrinkled seed, green, yellow and Umatilla) are not FAV crops.

Doing FSA Business On-line

Producers can obtain an eAuthentication level 2 account and conduct FSA business on-line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from home. This access requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to a USDA Service Center for identity verification. You must have an e-mail address to utilize this service.

Dates to Remember	
August 1	Final date to report spring seeded crops.
August 1	Final date to request reconstitution for 2006.
September 1	Purchase NAP policy for 2007 wheat and triticale forage crops.
Holidays Office Closed	May 29, Memorial Day July 4, Independence Day September 4, Labor Day

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call Karen McCune at 785-346-2128.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (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 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.