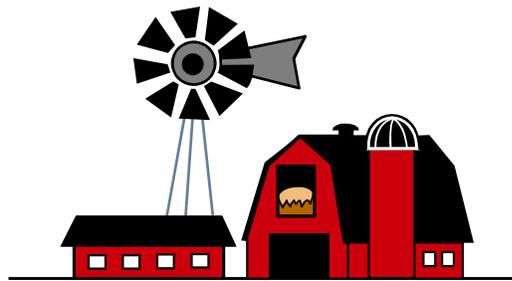


"PLAINS" TALK



PHILLIPS COUNTY
FARM SERVICE AGENCY NEWS

July 2006

From the desk of

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office Hours - 8:00 to 4:30

Ronald L. Wyckoff

Phillips Co. FSA Office

Phone - (785) 543-2732

County Executive Director

Phillipsburg, KS 67661

FAX - (785) 543-6324

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Managed Haying/Grazing is still allowed on ALL CRP contracts

Regulations governing the CRP program permit "managed haying/grazing activities" to be performed on acreage under a Conservation Reserve Program contract 1 out of every 3 years after the cover is fully established. **Before haying or grazing can be authorized, CRP participants must do the following:**

- **request approval to hay or graze eligible acreage prior** to conducting any haying/grazing activities
- **obtain a modified conservation plan to include haying or grazing requirements, as determined by NRCS**

The following provisions apply:

- ❖ Shall not hay and graze the same acreage
- ❖ Shall not hay or graze any acreage hayed or grazed under managed or emergency provisions in the two previous years.
- ❖ **Haying allowed July 16 through August 15, grazing allowed July 16 through November 12.**
- ❖ Shall be assessed a payment reduction based on the number of acres actually hayed or grazed times the CRP annual rental payment times 25%
- ❖ Shall remove all hay from the CRP fields within 30 days from the final date to hay the acreage.
- ❖ May lease the haying or grazing privilege to any eligible livestock producer.
- ❖ Hay harvested under managed provisions may be sold.

If you are interested in haying or grazing your CRP acreage under the managed haying/grazing provisions, please stop by our office for more details.

NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP) INFORMATION

If you have a crop loss, and are covered under the NAP insurance - A notice of crop loss is to be filed within 15 days of when the loss becomes apparent, and give FSA the opportunity to inspect the acreage. All harvested production must be verified by FSA **prior to feeding** or other disposal and all unharvested acreage must be appraised. **Loss claims on oats hay, and brome grass hay need to be filed by July 20.**

You may purchase NAP coverage for 2007 crops now. Different crops have various sales closing dates. The earliest sales closing date is September 1, 2005 for 2006 crop year small grains for grazing or forage. Check with the FSA for all sales closing dates or any other information.

Your crop production must be reported to FSA even if you do not file a notice of loss. **Accurate and detailed crop production records are a must.**

County Committee Election

This fall, producers in LAA-1, will hold its election. Paul Merklein currently represents this area, which consists of Long Island, Granite, Prairie View, Dayton, Beaver, Mound, Logan, and Towanda townships.

Each County Committee (COC) member is elected by the eligible producers in their area. They are responsible for administering several FSA programs at the county level and determining producer eligibility for many of them, including DCP, price support and farm loan programs, and conservation and disaster programs.

Nomination petitions were mailed in June by our State Office or are available at the office, and are now being accepted for any eligible voter to be a candidate for the COC from LAA-3. FSA is required to ensure diversity on the County Committee and solicit and accept nominations from all eligible producers in the election area, including women and minority nominees. Election guidelines and other election information are available on the internet at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/>

Nominating Petitions must be returned to this office by August 1, 2005. Voters in LAA-3 will then be mailed a ballot this fall and directly elect a County Committee member and alternates. An informational meeting will be held at the Phillips County FSA Office on July 21 at 9:00 am to discuss the COC election process and answer any questions.

Acreage Reports

August 1, 2006 final date for acreage reports for corn, grain sorghum, forage sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, and other spring planted crops.

Stop in now to report your acres if you have not already done so.

Complete acreage reports are required to earn all program benefits.

Late filed acreage reports require a fee to be accepted.

PHILLIPS COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE

Paul Merklein
Mark Losey
Jimmy DeBey
Marlene Peters

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
Regular Member
Advisor

The Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.