



**Rooks County FSA Office**  
 617 S Cedar  
 Stockton, KS 67669-0503  
 Phone: (785) 425-6302  
 Fax: (785) 425-6308

**HOURS: Monday – Friday**  
 8:00 am to 4:30 pm



### County Committee Members

James Eichman, Chairman  
 Lois Ann Gasper, Vice Chairperson  
 Steve Cook, Member  
 Everett McKenna, Advisor  
 \*The Committee meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month\*

**Office Staff:** James Adams, CED  
 Reesa Brown, PT  
 Betty Bedore, PT  
 Kacey Johnston, PT



**July 2009**

## DCP Signup Continues

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) continues until **August 14, 2009**. The **August 14, 2009** deadline is mandatory for all participants. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications.

Producers eligible for the DCP Program are also able to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program or the Counter-cyclical Program. The enrollment period for the ACRE Program will begin in the spring. You may first enroll in the DCP Program, receive advance direct payments and then later modify your enrollment to the ACRE program.

### ACRE Payments

ACRE payments are revenue-based payments and are tied to crop production and the National Average Market Price for planted, and considered planted, covered commodity crops or peanuts on the farm. ACRE payment acreage is limited to the total amount of base acres on the farm, and can only be issued for a crop if two triggers are met for the covered commodity crop or peanuts.

- State Trigger: The Actual State Revenue for the program year must be less than the State ACRE Guarantee.
- Farm Trigger: The participating farm's Actual Farm Revenue for the program year must be less than the Farm ACRE Guarantee.

ACRE Payment equals P&CP acres multiplied by 83.3 percent multiplied by (the Benchmark Farm Yield divided by Benchmark State Yield) multiplied by the lesser of: (a) the State ACRE Guarantee subtracted from the Actual State Revenue and (b) the State ACRE Guarantee multiplied by 25 percent.

The 2009 Benchmark State Yields, ACRE Guarantee Prices and computed State ACRE Guarantees will be finalized after USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service reports the final 2008/09 average market prices and 2008-crop production data.

FSA will conduct an **ACRE informational meeting on July 21, 2009 at the Nova Theater at 8:00 PM.**

## FSA County Committee Election

Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2 is the area up for election this year. This area consists of the following Townships: Plainville, Paradise, Twin Mound, Corning, and from P Rd south in Hobart, Greenfield and Medicine. Nomination period starts June 15, 2009 and ends on August 3, 2009. Ballots will be mailed to those eligible voters in LAA-2 on November 6, 2009. Ballots must be returned to the Rooks County FSA Office by December 7, 2009. Newly elected member takes office on January 1, 2009.

### Acres Reporting Deadline Approaches

Acres reporting time is just around the corner. Please remember that filing an accurate acres report for all crops and land uses, including failed acres and prevented planting acres, will prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. Failed acres must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

The final date to report CRP, corn, grass, grain sorghum, pastures, soybeans, sunflowers and silage/hay crops is August 1. Any crop report taken after August 1 will be considered late filed and will be charged a late filed rate of \$46.00 per farm. Please call the Rooks County FSA office to make your appointment to certify all acres on your farm(s) by the deadline.

### Dates to Remember

July 3, 2009 – Office closed for Independence Day

July 21 - ACRE Informational Briefing

August 1, 2009 – Final date to certify CRP, grass, pastures, and spring seeded crops.

August 14, 2009 – Final date to apply for 2009 DCP/ACRE

Continuous – Farm Storage Facility Loans

Continuous – Continuous Conservation Reserve Programs

Continuous – Direct and Guaranteed Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loans



## **Foreign Investors Reporting Rule**

Foreign owners of U. S. agricultural land are required by law to report their land holdings, acquisitions, leases of 10 years or more and land use changes within 90 days to the local FSA office. Failure to report these changes can result in a civil penalty of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of their interest in the agricultural land.

## **Reasonable Accommodations**

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call the FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.

## **Spousal Signatures**

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of one another for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

There are exceptions to the rule. Spouses may not sign FSA-211's on behalf of each other or sign on behalf of the other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities. Spouses must have a power of attorney on file or sign personally for claim settlements, such as promissory notes, and on security documents for price support loans.

Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan and Farm Storage Facility Loan Documents. A spouse's authority to sign documents on behalf of the other spouse does not entitle the spouse to review or receive agency records of the other spouse.

## **REPORT FSA FARM RECORD CHANGES**

Report record changes such as the sale of any acreage, operator change (for either fall or spring crops), estate or other entity formation or dissolution now. All changes must be reported to the county office within 30 days of the change.

## **Early Land Preparation**

CRP participants with contracts expiring this September 30 may begin early land preparation to return the land to cropland beginning July 1 without penalty. The participant must complete form CRP-1G prior to beginning any activity and also must obtain an approved conservation plan from NRCS prior to beginning tillage activities. If the soil is tilled prior to October 1, wheat or another fall seeded crop must be planted this fall. The acreage can not be hayed or grazed to begin the land preparations.

Producers in Smith, Osborne, Russell, Barton, Stafford, Pratt, and Barber, and counties west of that line may begin earlier than July 1. They will be required to forfeit the annual payment that would be earned from the date of approval through June 30. Participants who wish to begin preparations for planting corn or milo in the spring of 2009 may complete the required forms and begin applying herbicides to the contract acres after July 15, but may not disturb the soil until after September 30, 2008. The acreage may be mowed to increase herbicide-plant contact; however, the acreage can not be baled or grazed.

If you have a contract expiring at the end of September, and are planning to return the contract acreage to production, please contact the county office to discuss the options available to you.

## **TIMELY REPORT PREVENTED PLANTING**

Producers must report prevented planted acres within 15 calendar days after the crop's final planting date and complete a CCC-576, Notice of Loss.

## **ACRE Calculator**

FSA has an ACRE calculator with preliminary yields and prices for 2009. The site is <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp>. Click on [xls](#) in the Acre Calculator Spreadsheet Version. For information purposes only and do not guarantee any future outcomes or results.

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