



# FARM SERVICE AGENCY NEWSLETTER

November 2007



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

## 2005, 2006 AND FALL SEEDED 2007 CROP YEAR DISASTER PROGRAM

Farm and Foreign  
Agricultural  
Services

Farm Service  
Agency

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Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 - 4:30

**County Committee:**  
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Carol Nelson  
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**Farm Loans:**  
Steve Craig  
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**FSA INFO WEBSITE**  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

Signup began October 15<sup>th</sup> and at this time there is no deadline to submit applications. The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops from natural disasters, if the crop was planted before February 28, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before February 28, 2007. USDA will announce and conduct signup for quality losses as soon as possible. Farmers can only receive benefits in one year. You can apply for losses on multiple crops 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 Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. You must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. **CALL THE OFFICE FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO APPLY, PLEASE.**

## LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

The Livestock Indemnity Program compensates livestock producers for livestock losses between Jan. 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007 that resulted from natural disasters. The livestock must have died during the disaster declaration. Sanilac County has been designated as a primary county and was declared a secretarial disaster county in 2005 & 2006 for hail and high wind storms.

- |    |                |                                   |
|----|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | June 5, 2005   | hail, high winds, excess moisture |
| 2. | April 26, 2006 | hail, high winds, excess moisture |

If you lost livestock during one of the declared disaster declarations, please contact the office for further information on this program. Signup began September 10<sup>th</sup> and at this time no deadline has been announced

## 2008 Program Information

**Farm Changes** – report any farming operation changes so that we can keep your records current. This includes changes in landownership, or crop share arrangements or adding new land to your operation. Plan to update your **payment limitation** documents and other program eligibility records. FSA records should match lending institutions, crop insurance, sugar beet contracts and local elevators. If you are an entity (corporation, LLC, estate, trust, etc.) all records should reflect the same entity.

**Reconstitutions** – changes that require farm reconstitutions should be reported as soon as possible so we can update your records prior to any 2008 program payments. August 1, 2008 is the final date to request a recon.



**UNTIL A 2008 FARM BILL IS IN PLACE – THERE IS NO DCP CONTRACT SIGNUP.**

## LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM (LCP)

**Signup began Sept 10, 2007**

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) compensates livestock producers for feed losses or incurred additional feed costs directly resulting from the actual natural disaster occurring between Jan 1, 2005, and Feb 28, 2007. Sanilac County has been designated as a primary county and was declared a secretarial disaster county in 2005 & 2006 for hail, high winds and excessive moisture (June 5, 2005 and April 26, 2006). Producers incurring a loss or additional feed costs in more than one of the 2005, 2006 calendar years must choose only one year for which they want to apply for benefits. Signup began September 10, 2007 and currently no deadline has been announced. For livestock to be eligible under LCP they must:

1. be dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, sheep, goats, swine or deer that have been physically located in Sanilac County on the beginning date of the applicable disaster period;
2. have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation on the beginning date of the disaster period;
3. and not have been produced and maintained for reasons other than commercial use as a part of a farming operation. Such excluded uses include, but are not limited to, wild free roaming animals or animals used for recreational purposes such as pleasure, hunting, pets, roping or for show.

Kind of Livestock	Type	Weight Range	2005/2006/2007 payment per head
Beef	Adult	Cows and Bulls	\$10.66
	Non-adult	500 pounds or more	\$8.00
Dairy	Adult	Cows and Bulls	\$27.72
	Non-adult	500 pounds or more	\$8.00
Buffalo	Adult	Cows and Bulls	\$10.66
	Non-adult	500 pounds or more	\$8.00
Sheep, Goats, Deer	All		\$2.67
Equine	All		\$7.89
Swine		Less than 45 pounds	\$0.32
		45 to 124 pounds	\$0.74
		125 to 234 pounds	\$1.28
	Sow	235 pounds or more	\$4.37
	Boar	235 pounds or more	\$2.56
Elk		Less than 400 pounds	\$2.35
		400 pounds to 799 pounds	\$4.37
		800 pounds or more	\$5.76
Poultry	All	Less than 3 pounds	\$0.07
	All	3 pounds to 7.9 pounds	\$0.13
	All	8 pounds or more	\$0.31
Reindeer	All		\$2.35

**You must have incurred the loss of feed during the actual date of the storm, or it had to be the contributing factor in the loss of feed.**

### SALE OF FARM LAND FOR NON AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES

If a portion of cropland will be sold to conduct other than agricultural purposes such as residential, recreational, or industrial use, the parent farm owner and purchaser can designate by the Landowner Method the division of contract acres (base acres). This will keep the contract acres and payment on the agricultural land. All parties involved in the sale must sign in the designated area on the FSA-155 "Reconstitution form" and agree to the division of the contract acres or use a memorandum of understanding in the sale documents. This method of division may be used to divide tracts or farms. The land sold or transferred must have been owned for at least 3 years. The County Committee can waive the 3-year ownership requirement, if the sale was not primarily to keep or sell contract acres, or the land is sold and will be devoted to non-agricultural, recreational, residential or industrial use. **REMEMBER** all buyers and sellers must sign the form or have a memorandum of understanding in the sale documents.

Please notify the office of any banking changes so we can update your Direct Deposit records

The Secretary has announced that there will be no 2006 crop counter cyclical payment for wheat, oats, barley, soybeans and corn. The 12 month marketing year will end in October, but with higher commodity prices no counter cyclical payments are expected.

### LDP and Commodity Loan Reminders

Producers have until MAY 31, 2008 to apply for LDP's or Loans on 2007 corn or soybeans and MARCH 31, 2008 for wheat and small grains. It is the producer's responsibility to ensure the proper forms are on file in the office. Remember if your commodities are already under loan, you need to contact the office before delivering to the elevator or removing any quantity. If you plan to request multiple loans, be sure to inform the office that you will have a wheat, corn and soybean loan.

SANILAC COUNTY 2007 COMMODITY LOAN RATES	
CROP	LOAN RATE
Barley	\$1.69
Corn	\$1.90
Oats	\$1.34
Soybean	\$4.96
Red Wheat	\$2.44
White Wheat	\$2.36

### FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

The FSA offers loans for farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing thru a commercial lender. In other instances, borrows might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$200,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$949,000. Emergency loans are always direct loans for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are also available thru FSA.

For detail information loan eligibility or the different available loan programs, just contact the county office staff for an appointment with a farm loan manager.

### Local Youth May Qualify for Special Loan Program

FSA can make loans to rural youths to establish and operated income-producing projects in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, Future Farmers of America and similar organizations.

Each project must be part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization adviser, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan size is \$5,000 although most youth loans are much smaller.

To qualify, you must be:

- Between 10 & 20 years old;
- Live in a town of less than 10,000 people;
- Be unable to obtain a loan from other sources;
- Conduct a modest income producing project in a supervised program of work



Applicants must also be capable of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project adviser. The project adviser must recommend the project and the loan, and agree to provide adequate supervision. If this special Youth Loan program sounds like it will fit your needs, please contact your local Farm Loan Manager

### Tools for Farm Loan Programs borrowers

FSA direct loan borrowers can now check the status of their accounts any time, day or night, using a new toll-free telephone number. The number is (888) 518-4983.

The new, user-friendly system provides direct loan borrowers with the following information:

- Loan number
- Original loan amount
- Current unpaid principal
- If delinquent, the amount of the delinquency
- Due date of the next installment
- Principal and interest amount of the next scheduled installment
- Date last payment was received
- Interest paid in current calendar year
- Interest paid in prior loan year.

You will need your Tax ID number (usually your social security number) and personal identification number, PIN (which you create during your initial call) to access your confidential records. You will need your PIN each time you access the system and can change you PIN as often as you like.

For payoff information, or special circumstances, please contact your Farm Loan Manager.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program 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, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.