



February 2007

Shannon/Reynolds County News

**Shannon/Reynolds County
USDA Service Center**

**Shannon/Reynolds County
FSA**
Highway 19 South
Eminence, MO 65466
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www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Lloyd Detwiler
Roberta Copeland
Gary Gant
David Barnett

County Committee meets:
The First Thursday of each
Month

County Staff:
Jim Kyle, DD
Elvie Younger, CED
Sharon Parks, PT

Farm Loan Staff:
Jared Weydert, FLM
Debi Huff, FLPT

County Committee Election Results

Congratulations to David L. Barnett! David was elected to represent farmers from the northern half of Shannon County on the county committee. David was elected to his first consecutive term. The election results for Local Administrative Area 2 are:

David Barnett — Elected to the county committee (COC),

Elvin Wayne Terrill — 1st alternate to COC,

Effie Carnes — 2nd alternate to COC.

FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

The committee members held their organizational meeting January 4, 2007. It was determined that Lloyd Detwiler would serve as county committee chairperson and Gary Gant vice-chairperson.

Spousal Signatures

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other as individuals 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.



Leaving the Shannon/Reynolds County Committee, fulfilling 21 years of service was Wayne Young. Wayne served three consecutive terms, which is the term limit. Wayne was commended for his work with Farm Service Agency with a plaque and pen set presented by Lloyd Detwiler, Chairperson.

March 15 NAP Closing Date

March 15 is the deadline for producers to apply for Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, or NAP, coverage using Form CCC-471, Application for Coverage, and pay the service fee at the county office. The application and service fee must be filed by March 15 – the application closing date for 2007 spring seed crops along with vegetables.

The service fee is \$100 per crop per county or \$300 per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$900 per producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver of service fees.



To qualify, a producer must be a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop.

Acreage Reporting

Acreage reporting time is rolling around. As a producer, you should remember that filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Acreage reports are required if you want to receive marketing assistance loans, loan deficiency payments (LDPs), Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) payments or Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) rental payments. For crops other than NAP purposes (Non-insured Assistance Program), acreage reports are to be certified by June 30 for small grain and July 31 for all other crops.



Wool and Mohair LDP

The Farm Service Agency has a Loan Deficiency Program (LDP) available for wool and mohair producers. To be eligible, the producer must retain either beneficial interest in the wool and/or mohair or retain possession of the wool and/or mohair. Once beneficial interest is lost, the commodity remains ineligible for loan or LDP, even if the producer regains control, risk of loss or title later. If you intend to **sell all or part** of your wool or mohair, you need to **sign a CCC-633EZ Page 1** form at our office **prior to shearing.**

If you intend to **store** your wool or mohair, and therefore, retain ownership and you want an LDP, you need to **sign a CCC-633EZ Page 4** form and **certify** to the pounds of wool or mohair shorn.

Producers are not required to repay an LDP. Some producers will be spot-checked. Therefore, if you sell or give away your wool or mohair, please provide copies of your sales tickets or documentation.

Producers who may have questions concerning beneficial interest provisions should contact the county office staff for additional information.

Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

Controlled Substance

Any person who is convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium, poppies and other drug producing plants.

Annual DCP Enrollment

To participate in DCP, producers are required to **designate shares and sign the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program Contract (CCC-509) on a yearly basis.** The annual DCP sign-up period runs from October 1 to June 1 of the applicable program year. To be considered enrolled timely, the CCC-509 must be submitted by June 1 of the applicable program year. In cases where a farm is reconstituted, all resulting farms will need to enroll (signatures obtained) if the producers intend to participate. CCC-509s with signatures obtained after June 1, but by September 30, will be accepted, but the farm will be assessed a late-filed sign-up fee of \$100. All supporting documentation, such as CCC-502, AD-1026, and CCC-526, must be submitted before payments can be issued. Annual acreage reports indicating uses of all cropland on a farm must

be filed by the applicable established reporting dates. Acreage reports filed after the applicable final reporting date may be accepted if all requirements are met and a late-filed fee is paid.

Due to an audit in 2006 on improper forms, we will require all new forms for 2007. The forms include 502s, 1026s and 526s. These are same forms we have had in past but will have new dates.

Continuous CRP



The Continuous Conservation Reserve Program is a private lands environmental improvement program that allows participants the opportunity to enroll acreages in conservation practices that will reduce soil erosion, improve water and soil quality and provide wildlife habitat and food sources.

The Continuous CRP program is a voluntary enrollment program. Eligible landowners enter into contracts that range from 10 to 15 years in length. In return, the landowners will receive annual rental and maintenance payments, incentive payments for certain activities, and cost share for establishment.

To be eligible for enrollment in the Continuous CRP, participants and acreage must meet certain requirements. Provided the eligibility requirements are met, FSA will automatically accept enrollments of acreage into Continuous CRP. Landowners may enroll in the program at any time during the year.

Changing Financial Institutions

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been determined that the chance of having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

Loans for Socially Disadvantaged

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) can make and guarantee loans to socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family size farms and ranches. Funds specifically for these loans are reserved each year. A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians and Pacific Islanders. Contact your local FSA Farm Loan Manager or Officer for more details and assistance in applying.

Special Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

Accepting Cash In County Offices

Beginning February 26, 2007, County Offices with 1 full-time employee or less shall **only** accept remittances of cashier's checks, money orders, or personal checks.

Facts or Opinions?

Which would you choose to make decisions?

Make the facts known to agriculture's leaders. If asked, please respond to USDA's Agricultural Resource Management Survey.



NASS
 Fact Finders for Agriculture
 U.S. Department of Agriculture

Dates to Remember

Feb. 19	President's Day Holiday
March 15	Last day to purchase NAP insurance for 2007
June 1	Direct & Counter Cyclical Program Contract deadline
July 31	Deadline to file 2007 acreage report
Continues	Continuous CRP

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