



July 2006

Shannon/Reynolds County News

Shannon/Reynolds
County
USDA Service Center

Shannon/Reynolds
County FSA
Highway 19 South
Eminence, MO 65466
(573) 226-3241 (phone)
(573) 226-5491 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

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

County Committee
Lloyd Detwiler
Roberta Copeland
Wayne Young
Gary Gant

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



Nominations Open for Election

The county office staff is accepting nominations for candidates to serve on the Shannon County Farm Service Agency committee. The nomination period closes *Tuesday, Aug. 1*.

"Farmers and ranchers have an important opportunity to ensure that their FSA county committees represent them by participating in the county committee election process," said Ag Sec. Mike Johanns. "I encourage agricultural producers across the country to nominate eligible candidates, especially minorities and women, to serve on their local county committees and to vote this fall."

Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help make decisions necessary to administer federal farm programs offered in their communities. County committees make decisions on agricultural issues such as commodity price support loans and payments, conservation programs, disaster payments and employing county executive directors.

If you participate or cooperate in programs administered by FSA and live in the local administrative area conducting an election, you may be nominated for candidacy for a committee. You can obtain a complete list of eligibility requirements by visiting the county office or online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/facts/html/cocelig06htm>.

You can nominate yourself or others as candidates. Community based organizations representing minorities and women can nominate candidates. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected.

Keep the following important dates in mind during the 2006 county committee election process:

- The nomination period ends August 1.
- Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by

Nov. 3. The last day to return voted ballots to the county office is Dec. 4.

- Newly elected county committee members take office Jan. 1, 2007.

For detailed information about FSA county committees or to obtain a nomination form (FSA-669A), visit the county office or go online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/Default.asp>.

CRP Cover Maintenance

You are required to maintain your Conservation Reserve Program acres according to the conservation plan you agreed to with the Natural Resources Conservation Service technician. You need to make sure you:

- Have adequate approved vegetative cover to control erosion for the contract period
- Control weeds and other types of undesirable vegetation
- Take control measures outside of the primary nesting season.

Please keep in mind mowing for cosmetic purposes is prohibited. That is why it is important to review your conservation plan and talk to NRCS if you think undesirable plant species are invading your CRP land.

Conservation Reserve Program Continuous Signup

USDA Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a voluntary program available to agricultural producers to help them safeguard environmentally sensitive land. Producers enrolled in CRP plant long term, restore quality of water, control soil erosion, and enhance wildlife habitat. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost share assistance.

Environmentally desirable land devoted to certain conservation practices may be enrolled in CRP at any time under continuous sign-up.

Offers are automatically accepted provided the land and producer meet certain eligibility requirements. Offers for continuous sign-up are not subject to competitive bidding. Continuous sign-up contracts are 10 to 15 years in duration. To offer land for continuous sign-up, producers should contact their local FSA offices.

Contract Effective Date

For continuous sign-up, the effective date of the CRP contract is the first day of the month following the month of approval. In certain circumstances, producers may defer the effective date for up to 6 months.

Eligible Producers

To be eligible for CRP continuous sign-up enrollment, a producer must have owned or operated the land for at least 12 months prior to submitting the offer, unless:

- The new owner acquired the land due to the previous owner's death;
- The ownership change occurred due to foreclosure where the owner exercised a timely right or redemption in accordance with state law; or
- The circumstances of the acquisition present adequate assurance to FSA that the new owner did not acquire the land for the purpose of placing it in CRP.

Eligible Land

To be eligible for placement in CRP, land must be either:

- Cropland (including field margins) that is planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity 4 of the previous 6 crop years from 1996 to 2001, and which is physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity; or
- Certain marginal pastureland that is enrolled in the Water Bank Program or suitable for use as a riparian buffer or for similar water quality purposes.

Farm Loans

FSA offers direct and guaranteed Farm Ownership Loans to farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain commercial credit. Often, borrowers are beginning farmers who cannot qualify for conventional loans because they have insufficient financial resources. The Agency also helps established farmers who have suffered financial setbacks.

FSA makes operating loans to individual rural youths age 10 through 20 to establish and operate income-producing projects. The projects must be of modest size and be initiated, developed, and carried out by rural youth's participation in 4-H clubs, FFA, or similar organizations or with a vocational teacher or county extension agent.

Contact the local Farm Service Agency county office for more information.

Farm Loans Available for SDA

The FSA can make and guarantee loans to socially disadvantaged applicants (SDA) to buy and operate family-sized farms. Funds specifically for these loans are reserved each year.

A SDA is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as a member of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities.

Direct loans may be made to applicants by FSA for both farm operation and ownership. Guaranteed farm loans also may be made for ownership or operating purposes, and may be made by any lending institution subject to Federal or state provisions and guaranteed by FSA. FSA typically guarantees 90 or 95 % of a loan against any loss that might be incurred if the loan fails. Persons who are primarily and directly engaged in a family-sized farming operation may apply.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS:

Special accommodations will be made, upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA office and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are needed.

Acreage Reporting

Now is a good time to report your intended use of the acreage of your farm to the Farm Service Agency. This is a good record of your year to year operation of farm. The deadlines to report are:

June 30th: Wheat and all other Spring crops

July 31st: CRP, seed, pasture, hay, corn, Milo and all other Summer crops

CCC-633-EZ Reminder

Producers, remember we've switched to the CCC-633-EZ form. Be sure to complete and sign page 1 of the EZ form as soon as possible and certainly before you lose beneficial interest.

Then, depending upon the crop, page 2, 3 or 4 is used to request an LDP any time during the loan/LDP availability period before or after losing beneficial interest.

For the 2006 crop year, the CCC-633 EZ and eLDP online requests are the only methods available to request LDPs.

LDPs For 2006

To request a 2006 LDP on all commodities which includes wool and mohair and unshorn lambs if they are sold for slaughter, the 633EZ must be signed **before** you lose control of the commodity or wool. A good idea is to sign a 633EZ at the beginning of each year. That way if you feed or sell the commodity or wool, you can still collect the LDP payment. LDP payments are based on the daily market value. You can certify to the amount of wool in pounds or bushels for other commodities for the LDP. For more information, call the local office at 1-800-658-3340, Ext. 2.

Farm Reconstitutions

In Farm Service Agency terms, farms are *constituted* to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is called for. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation.

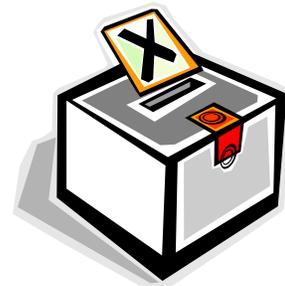
Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by Aug. 1 for farms enrolled in the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

The final date to request a 2006 reconstitution is Aug. 1, 2006. If 2006 DCP direct payments have already been issued on the farm, the reconstitution will be effective for 2007, unless the payments are refunded.

FSA County Committee Elections

August 1 is the deadline to get your name on the FSA County Committee Election ballot. If you reside in Northern Shannon County and you are farming, then you are an eligible candidate.

Visit us online: www.fsa.usda.gov for nomination forms and more information.



Dates to Remember	
July 31	Final acreage reporting date
July 31	Final planting date for summer seeded crops, CRP.
August 1	Deadline to submit County Committee Nomination Forms
August 1	Final date to request farm reconstitution for current fiscal year.
Sept. 4	Labor Day – Office Closed
Sept 30	Final date for 2006 DCP Contract revisions
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Visit our Web site: <http://www.fsa.usda/mo>

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