



February 2007

Texas/ Dent County News



Texas/Dent County
USDA Service Center

Texas/Dent County FSA
6726 Highway 63 Suite A
Houston, MO 65483
(417) 967-2028 (phone)
(417) 967-4059 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/

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

County Committee:
Shirley Best
Pauline Chapman
Jim O. Freeman
Charlie Kiser

County Committee meets:
The First Tuesday of each
Month.

County Staff:
Elvie Younger, CED
Loretta Hinton, PT
Lori Martens, PT

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

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.

Acreage Reporting

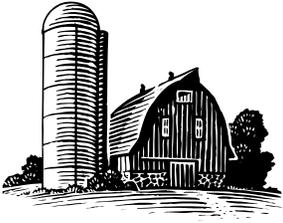
Acreage reporting time is rolling around. As a producer, you should remember that filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. Acreage reports are required if you want to receive marketing assistance loans, loan deficiency payments (LDPs), Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments or Conservation Reserve Program rental payments. On crops for other than NAP purposes, acreage reports are to be certified by June 30 for small grain and July 31 for all other crops.

March 15 NAP Closing Date

March 15 is the deadline date 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 15th 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 interest 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.

Bank Account Changes

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA County office staff if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments will be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.



County Committee Election Results

Jerry "Charlie" Kiser was elected to represent farmers from Local Administrative Area 1, the area west of Highway 63 in Texas County. Charlie was elected to his first consecutive term. The first alternate is Sid Hagashi.

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 3rd. Shirley Best will serve as county committee chairperson and Jim Freeman as vice-chairperson.

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.

For more information on Continuous CRP enrollments or local Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) availability, please contact your local FSA office or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/facts/html/crpcont03.htm>.

Wool and Mohair LDP

The Farm Service Agency has a Loan Deficiency Program (LDP) available for wool and mohair producers. To receive a 2007 wool or mohair loan or LDP, **you must sign and complete a CCC-633EZ page 1** prior to losing beneficial interest in the wool or mohair. You may request the LDP on the wool or mohair while in storage, when it is sheared or after it is sold. The CCC-633EZ, page 4 and production evidence must be submitted to our office before January 31, 2008, to receive payment.

Some producers will be spot-checked. Therefore, if you sell or give away your wool or mohair, please provide the office copies of your sales tickets or documentation.

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 within 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.

Spousal Signatures

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

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.

Loans for Beginning Farmers, Socially Disadvantaged

FSA is authorized to assist beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person whom:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average farm size.

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements. Loan approval is not guaranteed. Socially disadvantaged groups are Hispanics, American Indians, African Americans, Asians, Pacific Islanders and women.

Youth Loans

Remember FSA makes operating loans to individual rural youths age 10 through 20 to establish and operate income producing projects. These projects must be of modest size and be initiated, developed, and carried out by rural youths participating in 4-H Clubs, FFA, or similar organizations or with a vocational teacher or county extension agent. The project must be an organized and supervised program of work. It must be planned and operated with the assistance of the organizational advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. Contact your local FSA office for more details.

Financial FACTS

for agriculture's future

Respond to USDA's Agricultural Resource Management Survey and let the financial facts be known for agriculture's policies and programs.



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

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.



County Executive Director, Elvie Younger, presents Ed Moore with a certificate for his service on the Texas/Dent County Committee. We appreciate his dedication to the Texas and Dent county producers over the past thirteen years.

Dates to Remember	
March 15	Last day to purchase NAP insurance for 2007.
June 1	Direct and Counter-cyclical Program contract deadline
June 30	Deadline to file 2007 acreage reports for small grains.
July 31	Deadline to file 2007 acreage reports.
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program

Visit our Web site at: www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (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 USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.