



WABAUNSEE COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY



United States
Department of
Agriculture

County Committee:

Shirley A Stuewe, Member
Gerald Hund, Member
Robert Kraus, Member

Monte N. Johnson
County Executive Director
Wabaunsee County FSA Office
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Alma, Kansas 66401

Office Staff:

Deb Ridgway
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COC Mtg. 2nd Wednesday of the Month @ 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

June 2007

Phone: (785) 765-3329
Fax: (785) 765-3673

Acreage Reports

Acreage reporting time is here. Please remember that filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

The final date to certify corn, milo, soybeans, sunflowers, fallow, alfalfa and other feed crops is **August 1**. Crops covered in the Non-Insured Assistance Program have earlier dates

Crops reported after the deadline will be assessed a late-file charge of at least \$46.00/farm.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for commodities.

The seven-year Farm Storage Facility Loans are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, or remodeling existing facilities. Eligible facilities include new conventional-type cribs or bins and new and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures.

All Farm Storage Facility Loans are secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85 percent of the net cost of the storage or handling equipment, up to \$100,000 for each borrower. A minimum down payment is also required. For details, contact the county office staff.

Special Accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or  hearing impairment. If  special accommodations are required, please call the office at 785-765-3329 and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are needed

Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program

Sign-up for the 2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) Program is currently available. Farms must be annually enrolled into a DCP contract if benefits are desired. A CCC-509 (DCP) contract must be submitted with signatures from both owners and operators sharing in payments by **August 3, 2007**. Contracts with signatures obtained by the county office after August 3, 2007, but before Sept 30, 2007, are considered timely filed, but will assessed a late-file sign-up charge of \$100/farm.

FOREIGN INVESTORS 90-DAY 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% of the fair market value of their interest in the agricultural land.

Important Dates

June 15-Nominations for COC election begin

July 4- Office Closed

August-1—Final date to certify spring seeded crops & CRP.

Final date to request a farm reconstitution

Final date to receive Nominations

August 3---Final date to sign up for the DCP, without paying a late fee.

September 3—Office Closed



CCC Commodity Loans and LDP's

The 2007 crop loan rates for Wabaunsee County are:

Wheat	\$2.92	Grain Sorghum	\$3.34 cwt.
Corn	\$1.96	Soybeans	\$4.91
Oats	\$1.37	Barley	\$1.80

Producers should be thinking **now** about having the appropriate form in place for the anticipated LDP season.

COC Election

The 2007 Wabaunsee County Committee election will be held. Nominations must be in by August 1, and are encouraged from minorities and unrepresented groups. Nomination forms and Fact Sheets can be obtained from any FSA Office or at www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/

The election for a county committee (COC) Election member this year will be for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1 comprised of Kaw West & East, Newbury North, Maple Hill North & South, Part of Newbury South, part of Wabaunsee North and Northeast part of Wabaunsee South. Eligible voters must be of legal voting age, and have an interest in farmland as an owner, operator, tenant, sharecropper, or be eligible to participate in agency programs.

Ballots listing the candidates will be mailed on Nov 2 to all eligible voters. Only eligible farmers and ranchers within the LAA which has the vacant seat will vote in this year's election.

In order to be counted, **ballots must be completed, signed and returned to the local FSA office by Dec. 3, 2007.** Unsigned ballots, those received or postmarked after Dec. 3, 2007, and those incorrectly completed, will be discarded.



CRP Maintenance Reminder

Spot checks will be conducted in late June and July on CRP. Contract with finding from 2006 will be checked again this year.

Compliance reviews are conducted to determine:

- 1) Presence of noxious weeds including Johnson grass, Musk Thistle, and **Sericea Lespedeza.**
- 2) Presence of other undesirable weeds, plants (including **cedar and other trees**), insects, and pests.
- 3) Proper maintenance of approved cover including adequate fertilization and preventing haying, grazing, or other unauthorized use of CRP acres.
- 4) Required management activities according to the conservation plan are being performed.

If you have sprayed your CRP for brush and Sericea, please notify us it is done.

Emergency Loans

Emergency Loans (EM) are available if a natural disaster has been declared (disaster Declaration) in the county in which you operate a farm or ranch, or in a county adjoining such an area. To qualify for an EM loan, an applicant must be an established family farm operator, provide evidence of having a qualifying production of physical loss of at least 30% and be unable to obtain suitable credit from a source other than FSA. Farmers and ranches have eight months from the date of the disaster declaration to apply.

Wabaunsee County FSA has been declared disaster for Severe Storms, tornadoes and flooding from May 4th –to May 18, 2007. Applications will be accepted until January 1, 2008.

If interested, please contact Jane Armitage and Kurt Schweinler at 620-343-3069.

Non-Discrimination Statement

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