



November 2007

Wright County News

USDA Service Center

Wright County FSA
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County Committee
Evelyn Livermore-Fisher
Gale Kinser
Gary Taylor

Meeting Dates
3rd Friday of the Month

Program Technicians
Sheila Divine
Samm McDaniel

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

County Executive Director
Clyde Connelly

District Director
Jim Kyle



Sign-up Dates for New Disaster Programs

Sign-up dates for the new Livestock Compensation Program (LCP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), and Crop Disaster Program (CDP) have been announced. Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive benefits starting September 10 for LCP and LIP, and October 15 for CDP.

Producers in primary counties declared secretarial or Presidential disaster areas between January 1, 2005, and February 28, 2007 are eligible. All counties in Missouri are eligible for all 3 Years (2005, 2006, and 2007).

Crop Disaster Program

CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops from natural disasters if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 07. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006, or 2007 must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple commodities 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 Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.** Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35% to be eligible for CDP. Contact the county office for details. Crop Disaster rules are not final at this time.

NAP Coverage

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available.

The application deadline date for the 2008 NAP coverage for wheat and barley is September 30, 2007. The deadline for coverage on apples, peaches and grapes is November 20, 2007. The deadline to purchase coverage on all other crops is March 15, 2008.

Producers who already have coverage on 2007 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2008, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date. A new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops.

Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee.

Producers with 2007 NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.
- File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail, etc.

For more information on NAP coverage please contact your nearest Farm Service Agency office.

Livestock Compensation Program

LCP provides benefits to livestock and catfish producers who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs directly resulting from natural disasters occurring between Jan. 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007. Wright and Webster Counties received a disaster designation for drought in both 2005 and 2006. Producers will choose which year to be compensated for.

To be eligible for LCP, producers must have:
- either owned or cash leased eligible

livestock (but not both for the same livestock) on the beginning date of the applicable disaster period(s); and

- suffered an eligible feed loss from produced or purchased forage or feedstuffs, or incurred additional feed costs as a result of an eligible disaster event(s) during the applicable disaster period(s) and the feed lost or additional incurred feed costs were intended for use with eligible livestock.
- To be eligible under LCP, Livestock must:
- be dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, swine or deer that;
 - have been physically located in an eligible county on the beginning date of the applicable disaster period;
 - have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation. Such exclusions 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.

No ending date for sign-up has been announced.

Livestock producer will need to provide the following information: Livestock numbers as of Jan 1, 2005 and Jan. 1 2006 in the categories listed below:

Beef adult cows & bulls	\$10.66
Beef non adult 500lbs +	8.00
Dairy adult cows & bulls	27.72
Dairy non adult 500lbs +	8.00
Buffalo/Beefalo adult	10.66
Non adult 500lbs +	8.00
Sheep-all	2.67
Goats-all	2.67
Deer-all	2.67
Equine-all	7.89
Swine less than 45lbs	.32
45-124	.74
125-234	1.28
Sow-235lbs +	4.37
Boar-235lbs +	2.56

Other livestock may qualify but space limits what I can print. Bring those numbers with you to the office or call if you have a question. Your payment will not be factored.

We will print maps for producers to designate grazed acres. Temporary grazing such as wheat, oats, ect. is not eligible to count a loss on. Pasture considered eligible is native pasture (unfertilized), improved pasture (fertilized) and forage sorghums (seeded). We will need original receipts for extra food stuffs purchased in excess of normal purchases, verifiable if requested by tax documents.

This office will calculate costs for livestock per head and calculate forage loss, the producer will receive the lesser of the two.

PRODUCERS MUST CALL OR VISIT THE FSA OFFICE TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO COMPLETE THE LCP APPLICATION PROCESS.

Livestock Indemnity Program

Producers will need certifications of livestock deaths due to the disaster. If evidence of loss is not available a third party certification is required. Other compensation such as insurance will be a factor in the payment. If you had death losses of livestock due to a disaster between Jan. 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007, contact the office for more information.

Producers incurring eligible livestock losses in more than one of the 2005, 2006, or 2007 calendar years **must choose only one year** for which they want to receive benefits.

The payment rate is to be not less than 26 percent of market value of the livestock on the day before the date of death, as determined by the Secretary.

The following are among the eligible livestock: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, catfish, crawfish, equine, sheep, goats, swine, poultry or deer.

Electronic Forms

Producers with Internet access can fill out and print a variety of FSA paper forms at home.

Producers are encouraged to register for secure electronic access that will allow you to e-file (electronically sign and transmit) some forms directly to the county office staff.

To sign and transmit forms electronically, you must sign up and get a user name and password. To do this you will need access to the internet. Once you have accessed the internet you'll need to go to the USDA FSA website, www.usda.fsa.gov. Once you are at the website click the ONLINE Service tab, then click on e-Forms and follow the prompts to obtain your username and password. This will allow you to print forms and fill them out at home to then mail in or bring in to your local FSA office. To request a level 2 account, which allows electronic signature you will have to come into a FSA office with identification so a USDA employee verify your identity and activate your account. You will be linked to your records in our system and will be able to check your customer statement on line.

Submitting an e-Form is convenient. You can access information anytime day or night seven days a week. It's also faster. Forms and applications can be submitted and received in the county office in a matter of minutes, not days or weeks.

Eligibility and other necessary Forms:

Producers will be required to fill out eligibility forms, for all years that they make an application for disaster assistance in. Additionally they will need to sign up for direct deposit which requires a voided check. Each producer requesting

payment will need to complete all required paperwork.

County Committee Elections

Nominations for the county committee election were due in the county office by August 1, 2007. The next step in the election process is the mailing out of the ballots, which will begin on November 2, 2007. Voters have until December 3, 2007, to return their properly completed ballots to the county office. Elected committee members and alternates take office on January 1, 2008. Be watching your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters starting on November 2, 2007. If, for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office. Completed and signed ballots must be post-marked by December 3, 2007.

Prospective voter Requirements:

- Anyone who meets the requirements in either, 1 or 2, as well as Item 3, is eligible to vote for county committee members.

1. Voter is of legal voting age and participates or cooperates in any FSA program, or

2. The voter is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm.

3. The voter must also be eligible to participate in any FSA program provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

Discrimination Prohibited

- No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status. If you have questions about your voter eligibility, contact your county office staff.

Final DCP Payments For 2007

Enrolled producers can expect their final direct payment to be directly deposited into personal bank accounts sometime during the first few weeks of October.

Producers who did not elect to receive an advance direct payment will receive their entire direct payment for the year in one lump sum after the end of the fiscal year (Sep. 30).

The direct payment for a crop equals 85 percent of the farm's base acreage *times* (x) the farm's direct payment yield *times* (x) the direct payment rate.

If there are any unearned advance counter-cyclical payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the final Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments you are about to receive.

Acreage Spot Check Determinations and Notification

Each year the Farm Service Agency completes spot checks of

acreage reports. Acreage reports are the basis for delivery of many farm programs. Acreage spot checks are completed to ensure accurate acreage reports are used for farm programs.

FSA will spot check acreages on a selected number of farms in each state. Color imagery flown in summer 2007 will be used to complete all acreage determinations.

All acreage spot checks will be completed using the FSA Geographic Information System official acreages. After farms are spot checked, a Notice of Determined Acreage will be sent to the farm operator.

Producer notifications will be issued by FSA as spot checks are completed. Questions concerning determined acres should be directed to your local FSA office for clarification.

FSA Signature Policy

Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits. The following are FSA signature guidelines:

- ❖ A married woman shall sign her given name: Mrs. Mary Doe, not Mrs. John Doe
- ❖ For a minor, FSA requires the minor's signature and one from an eligible parent (Note, by signing the applicable document, the parent is liable for actions of the minor and may be liable for refunds, liquidated damages, etc.)
- ❖ When signing on one's behalf the signature must agree with the name typed or printed on the form, or be a variation that does not cause the name and signature to be in disagreement. Example - John W. Smith is on the form. The signature may be John W. Smith or J.W. Smith or J. Smith. Or Mary J. Smith may be signed as Mrs. Mary Joe Smith, M.J. Smith, Mary Smith, etc.
- ❖ FAXED signatures will be accepted for certain forms and other documents provided the acceptable program forms are approved for FAXED signatures. Producers are responsible for the successful transmission and receipt of FAXED information.
- ❖ Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office
- ❖ Spouses shall not sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities
- ❖ All members of a general partnership must sign for the general partnership unless an individual is authorized to act on the behalf of the general partnership and bind all members
- ❖ Spouses may sign on behalf of each other's individual interest in a partnership, unless notification denying a spouse that authority is provided to the county office
- ❖ Acceptable signatures for general partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, estates, and trusts shall consist of an indicator "by" or "for" the individual's name, individual's name and capacity, or individual's name, capacity, and name of entity

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Dates to Remember	
Nov. 2	County committee ballors mailed to voters
Nov. 12	Veterans Day Holiday
Nov. 20	NAP sign up for apples, peaches and grapes
Nov. 22	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec. 3	Last day to return county committee election ballots.
Continues	Continuous CRP
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans

Interest Rates for October	
Farm Operating - Direct	5.125
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.5
Farm Ownership – Direct down payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.0
Emergency	3.75
Farm Storage Facility	4.375
Sugar Storage Facility	4.875
Commodity Loans 1996 to Present	5.250

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