



BROWN COUNTY FSA
1310 OREGON
HIAWATHA, KS 66434

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

County Committee:
Van Koelliker
Douglas Meyer
Douglas Rodvelt

Advisor:
Evelyn Lierz

COC MEETINGS:
1st Tuesday of each
month at 8:30 A.M.

Staff:
Kim Kee, CED
Linda Kelsey, PT
Rosemary Kopp, PT
Lucinda Schilling, PT
Barbara Shefferd, PT
Robbie Roesch, TF

Loan Manager:
Bruce Nutsch
(913) 833-533-5460

Internet Web Sites:
USDA-www.usda.gov
FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov
NRCS-www.nrcs.usda.gov

IN THIS ISSUE:
COC Election Results
Protect PII
Crop Disaster Signup
Livestock Disaster Signup
CRP Maintenance Issues
2007 Small Grains Loans
2008 Wool Mohair Loans
2008 Small Grains Certification
Dairy Disaster Signup
Unauthorized Disposition
Farm Bill Stay Tuned
Important Dates

Loan Rates
2007

WHEAT	\$2.99
CORN	\$1.85
SOYBEANS	\$4.90
OATS	\$1.34
GR SORGHUM	\$3.36
SUNFLOWERS	\$7.96

Interest Rates

Commodity Loans – 4.125%
Farm Stored Facility Loans – 3.5%

BROWN COUNTY FSA FARMLINE

February/March 2008

ELECTION RESULTS

Douglas Rodvelt was elected to the Brown FSA County Committee as a result of the ballot count in December, 2007 and Owen Jacobsen as alternate. The 2007 election for the Brown County Committee was for Local Administrative Area 2. This area included Hamlin, Hiawatha and Mission townships. The term for this year's election began on January 1, 2008 and continues for three consecutive years. The Brown County FSA Committee is made up of three elected farmers, and one State Committee appointed advisor. At their recent organizational meeting, Douglas Meyer was elected chairperson and Van Koelliker elected vice chairperson for 2008. Douglas Rodvelt will serve as the member. The current advisor is Evelyn Lierz. Thank you to all the voters in LAA #2 who took the time to cast their ballots.



**USDA WORKS TO PROTECT
PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE
INFORMATION (PII)**

USDA has formally launched a Department-wide campaign to make certain that producers' "Personally Identifiable Information" or PII, is being protected. The PII generally refers to information which is maintained by a USDA agency about an individual, including USDA customers and USDA employees. Information may include details of financial transactions between a customer and the Department; such unique information as a Social Security number and a date or place of birth which could be used to trace an individual's identity; and other personal information; including medical or criminal history, which is linkable to a particular individual.

As part of USDA's official policy on social security numbers, USDA will collect, use, maintain, and/or disseminate Social Security numbers only when required by statute or when specifically authorized to do so. USDA agencies will not use the number as an identity number. Agencies must mask or encrypt Social Security numbers so that they cannot be viewed on computer screens, reports, or other products. Agencies will not use Social Security numbers to access customer records.

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006 or 2007 crops. The program has undergone

one change. Losses on the 2007 feed grain crops have been added. Previously, only 2007 crops planted before February 28, 2007 were eligible.

Producers who incurred qualifying losses in more than one of the qualifying years must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Producers may apply for benefits on 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. Losses must be in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP.

**LIVESTOCK DISASTER
PROGRAMS**



The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) signups continue. Eligible livestock producers can apply to receive LCP compensation for feed losses or LIP for livestock losses occurring between Jan. 1, 2005 and Dec. 31, 2007 due to a natural disaster. These programs have now been extended to include all of 2007 also.

LIP provides monetary assistance to eligible livestock owners for livestock deaths that occurred between the above listed dates in eligible disaster designated counties. Drought is not an eligible disaster event under LIP. Eligible owners must have owned the livestock on the day they died in an eligible county as a direct result of the disaster event. Documentation must be provided with the application to prove kind, type, weight and number of livestock that died.

LCP provides benefits to livestock producers who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs directly resulting from natural disasters occurring between the same above listed dates. Eligible livestock must have been owned on the start date of the disaster designation and physically located in the disaster county. Livestock owners must have suffered a grazing loss or eligible feed loss from produced or purchased forage or feedstuffs, or incurred additional feed costs as a direct result of the disaster event. Documentation must be provided with the application to prove feed losses or any additional feed costs.

CRP MAINTENANCE ISSUES

All Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants are required to maintain the CRP practices they have. This means on all practices that did not have trees or shrubs planted in them according to a CRP Plan of Operations; trees and shrubs must be controlled by whatever means will accomplish the control. Cutting, spraying and burning are all allowed. However, please check with FSA personnel before burning to make sure it will not impact other CRP issues. *Always refer to your Plan of Operations to determine what operations are required and when.*

Over the past several years intense reviews have been completed and it was apparent some CRP fields were not being properly maintained. Not completing the required maintenance measures will cause non-compliance and monetary penalties to be assessed.

Trees and shrubs on CRP are not the only examples of violations. Non-control of noxious weeds such as musk thistle, Johnson grass, Sericea lespedeza, and bindweed among others, is also a violation. Some other examples of violations are: permanent roads or trails, trash and brush disposal areas, parking or storage of junked machinery and autos, livestock hay or feed storage, buildings or houses, mowing strips for hunting, or cosmetic mowing to make it look nice.



FINAL 2007 SMALL GRAINS LOANS

The deadline to request a 2007 crop wheat, oats or barley loan is **March 31**. Low interest, 9-month loans are a great marketing tool to utilize working capital while you wait for local prices to rise, pay off higher interest notes with low interest money, or purchase next year's inputs at reduced rates.



2008 WOOL, MOHAIR & UNSHORN PELTS LOANS AND LDPS

We are now accepting 2008 crop year marketing assistance loans and LDP requests for graded and ungraded wool, mohair, and unshorn pelts through **March 15, 2008**. Unshorn pelts are eligible for LDP ONLY. Loans or LDP requests for other commodities other than wool, mohair and unshorn pelts is prohibited.

2008 SMALL GRAIN CERTIFICATION

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Producers are required to file reports by **May 31, 2008** for small grains; wheat, barley, oats, rye and triticale.

DAIRY DISASTER AID SIGNUP

Eligible dairy producers can sign up for the recently announced Dairy Disaster Assistance Program (DDAP-III) at local FSA service centers. DDAP-III will help dairy producers recover production losses resulting from a variety of adverse weather conditions in the last few years. The program provides benefits to dairy producers for production losses that occurred between Jan. 1, 2005 and Dec. 31, 2007 because of qualifying natural disasters.

UNAUTHORIZED DISPOSITION OF LOANED GRAIN

If loan grain has been disposed of through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office, it is considered unauthorized disposition. The financial penalties for unauthorized disposition are severe and a producer's name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. *Always call the office before any grain under loan is fed, sold or moved.*

2008 FARM BILL STAY TUNED

The House and Senate are working to come to a consensus on their different bills for the President to sign by **March 15, 2008**. Stay tuned.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

March 9	Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 15	Wool, Mohair, Unshorn Pelts MAL or LDP deadline
March 31	Small grains loans deadline
May 26	Memorial Day Office Closed
May 31	Small grains certification
On-going	Livestock Disaster Signup
On-going	Crop Disaster Signup



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