



March 2008

Butler County News

Butler County USDA Service Center

Butler County FSA
2503 Enterprise, Ste A
El Dorado, KS 67042
316-321-5803 (phone)
316-321-4956 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/ks

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

County Committee
Jeff Varner
Ted Wiebe
Mike Murphy
Christine Harder,
Advisor

County Committee
meets on the 1st
Wednesday of each
month

Staff
Velma Larimer, CED
Sue Reynolds, PT
Jennette Rogers, PT
Joan Sanders, PT
Suzy Martin, PT

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Farm Bill Status – Still Delayed

As soon as a new farm bill is announced and the program provisions and sign-up dates become available, this office will provide the necessary information to you through this newsletter.

Acreage Reporting

Software is now available to allow us to accept your 2008 acreage reports. Please contact the office to schedule an appointment to report your wheat, CRP, and spring seeded crops.

Crop Disaster Program Sign-Up Continues

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. CDP signup for quantity loss began October 15, 2007.

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.

CDP applications were mailed to eligible producers, based on information provided to us by Risk Management Agency (RMA). If you believe you are eligible for CDP and have not already been contacted, please notify this office.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO REPORT
FARM OPERATOR/OWNER
CHANGES**

Changing Banks
If you have changed accounts or banking institutions, please notify this office so we can update our files to insure uninterrupted service of your direct deposited farm program payments.



Conservation Reserve Program State Acres for wildlife Enhancement (SAFE)

Owners and operators of certain cropland in designated geographic areas may enroll eligible land in a new continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) conservation practice titled State Acres For wildlife Enhancement (SAFE), also known as CP38.

USDA's national goal is to restore or enhance 500,000 acres of wildlife habitat through SAFE. USDA has approved SAFE proposals to address state and regional high-priority wildlife objectives. SAFE practices provide the flexibility to meet the specific needs of high-value wildlife species in a participating state or region.

In Kansas, the goal of the Kansas Upland Game Birds SAFE project is to improve populations of bobwhite quail and other grassland associated wildlife by creating nesting/brood-rearing habitat on portions of crop fields. The SAFE effort will establish and maintain 30,100 acres in CRP consisting of diverse native grass and forbs cover. Quail, pheasant and other grassland birds are species that will benefit from SAFE enrollments. Acres enrolled in the SAFE project will also provide water quality benefits and reduce soil erosion.

Eligible land is cropland that was planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity during four of the six years from 1996 to 2001. The land must be physically capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity.

The beginning date of sign-up has not yet been announced. You may find more information about SAFE online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; click on Conservation Programs.



**America Grows
 With Agriculture**

USDA Farm Service Agency
 Salutes America's
 Farmers and Ranchers

National Ag Day - March 20
 National Ag Week - March 16-22

| Dates to Remember | |
|------------------------|---|
| March 15 | Deadline to obtain 2008 NAP coverage on spring planted crops |
| March 15 | Continuous Conservation Reserve Program Deadline |
| March 31 | Final date to apply for 2007 crop wheat, barley, oats, honey loans and LDP's |
| Deadline not announced | Crop Disaster Program (CDP) Signup |
| Deadline not announced | Livestock Indemnity Program Signup (LIP) Signup |
| Deadline not announced | Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) Signup |
| Continuous | Rural Youth Loans for 10-20 Year Olds |
| Continuous | Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loans for Beginning Farmers and Socially Disadvantaged Applicants |
| Continuous | Direct and Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans |
| Continuous | Farm Storage Facility Loans |

Michael Murphy was elected to a 2nd term in the County Committee election held in December. Mike represents Local Administrative Area (LAA) #3, which includes the southern part of Butler County in townships 27, 28, and 29. Congratulations Mike, and THANK YOU for your willingness to serve!

WEBSITES

FSA - www.fsa.usda.gov
 Kansas FSA - www.fsa.usda.gov/ks
 USDA - www.usda.gov
 Obtain a Level 2 e-Authentication Account - www.eauth.egov.usda.gov

Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) covers grazing losses suffered in 2006, due to drought. The program also covers additional feed costs incurred due to drought. Eligible livestock must have been owned on the start date of the disaster designation (January 1, 2006 for Butler County) and physically located in a disaster county. Livestock owners must have suffered an eligible feed loss from produced or purchased forage or feedstuffs, or incurred additional feed costs as a result of the disaster event. Eligible livestock include beef, dairy, deer, elk, equine, goats, reindeer, poultry, sheep, and swine that are used as part of a farming operation and not for recreational purposes.

No ending deadline to apply has been announced. If you believe you qualify, **please call the office to schedule an appointment.**

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