



COFFEY COUNTY FSA

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HOURS:

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Office Closed

Oct. 13 – Columbus Day
Nov. 11 – Veterans Day
Nov. 27 - Thanksgiving
Dec. 25 – Christmas Day

County Committee

Max Osborn
Warren Graham
Bonnie Davies

Meetings- 2nd Wednesday of every month

Staff

Kim Specht, PT
Vicki Fry, PT
Vickie Wolford, PT
Megan Wilson, PT

Loan Manager

Stacy Kull

Executive Director

Marilyn Glissman

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COFFEY COUNTY FSA NEWS

September 2008

CROP DISASTER QUALITY LOSS

In addition to the quantity loss portion of the 2005-2007 Crop Disaster Program, producers may be eligible for quality loss payments for the same years.

There are three thresholds that must be met to qualify for a crop disaster quality loss. They are: 1) Economic loss, 2) Quality loss based on grade and discount factors, 3) Quality loss that was not already compensated by crop insurance. You must have had a 25 percent loss in price received compared to the state committee price set for each commodity or price established through a marketing contract to meet an economic loss.

To apply, you must provide all production evidence for the unit including the price received, and you must have it sorted by crop insurance unit

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including wheat, grain sorghum, soybeans and corn.

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 bins and new and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other 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. Loans \$50,000 and over required a real estate mortgage.

SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURE DISASTER ASSISTANCE (SURE)

To be eligible Producers must have Multi-Peril coverage or NAP coverage on commodities. Producers will have the option to buy their way in by paying a fee equal to CAT level coverage fee or NAP fee of \$100/crop. The deadline is September 16, 2008. The SURE program covers crop production losses and/or Crop Quality losses. The county must have Disaster Designation or Contiguous Counties that have incurred losses or have 50% production losses on the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that are planted or intended to be planted for harvest by an eligible producer. Producers must have coverage on all reported crops in order to be eligible for the SURE program. The link below provides a calculator to assist in with the SURE Program.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/fbapp?area=home&subject=landing&topic=landing>



The signup deadline for the 2008 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program is September 30, 2008. All signatures must be in the office by close of business on September 30. Late filed provisions do not apply.

For 2008, 85% of the base acreage is eligible for direct payments. Shares of payments must follow the share and risk of the planted crops.

Farms with bases of 10 acres or less will not receive direct or counter-cyclical payments, unless the farm is wholly owned by socially disadvantaged or limited resource farmers or ranchers.

COC Election

The Coffey County FSA Committee (COC) election for area 3 will be held this year on December 1, 2008. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters on November 3.

Area three, which includes the towns of LeRoy and Aliceville, begins at Oxen Road and proceeds east to the Anderson County line. Its northern boundary begins at 22nd Road and proceeds south to the Woodson County line. In addition, Woodson County producers whose farms are administered in Coffey County may also be eligible to vote in this election.

The nominee in this year's election is John Henry Rolf. Mr. Rolf is from the Aliceville area, where he has a row crop operation.

The FSA committee plays an important role in the administration of local farm programs. It represents local producers and hears appeals in adverse determination cases. It also keeps the State FSA committee informed of local crop and weather conditions.

We encourage voters to participate in this election.

Reasonable Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision or hearing impairment. Please call our office and we will make any arrangements that are necessary.

Record Changes

If you have bought, sold, or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to our office, so farm records may be updated.

For farm ownership changes you need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. Operator changes must be verified by the landowner.

Continuous CRP

The Continuous Conservation Reserve Program is a private lands environmental improvement program that allows participants the opportunity to enroll environmentally sensitive 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. If you are interested in enrolling after fall harvest, contact us now and we will put your name on the list.

Maintaining CRP

CRP cover maintenance is the participant's responsibility and must be done according to the conservation plan. All CRP maintenance activity, such as mowing, burning and spraying, must be conducted outside the primary nesting season for wildlife and in accordance with the conservation plan.

Spot treatment of the acreage may be allowed during the primary nesting season if certain criteria are met. The ending date for the primary nesting season in Kansas is April 15 through July 15.

Foreign Land Ownership Requirement

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Act, (AFIDA), requires foreign persons, including corporations, partnerships, trusts, estates, associations or like entities who acquire, transfer or hold interests in Ag land, to report these holdings and changes to the Secretary of Agriculture. Reports must be submitted within 90 days of the date the land is bought, sold or transferred. Forms for reporting are available at any FSA office. Failure to timely file an accurate report may result in a penalty of up to 25% of the fair market value of the agricultural land.

Conduct Your USDA Business On-Line



If you have access to the Internet and have an e-mail account you can obtain an e-Authentication Level 2 Account and conduct some of your USDA business on-line. Access www.fsa.usda.gov, and then click on "Online Services" at the top of the page. Instructions are provided on how to obtain a Level 2 eAuth account. Once the account is set up, you can access eLDP, eDCP, Customer Statement, Financial Inquiry, and eForms. Obtain more information and a brochure at our office.

Farm Loan Program

The recently enacted farm bill has provided changes to Farm Loan Programs.

The loan limitation for Direct Farm Ownership and Direct Farm Operating loans has increased from \$200,000 to \$300,000.

The Beginning Farmer Down payment Program has been modified to provide better rates and terms as follows:

1. The interest rate is specified as the greater of the direct FO rate less 4% (which is currently 5.125%) or 1.5%. Therefore the rate for September would be 1.5%. This is a fixed interest rate for the term of the loan.
2. The loan term is extended from 15 to 20 years.
3. The required down payment is reduced from 10% to 5%.
4. The maximum loan amount is changed from \$100,000 to an amount not exceeding 45 percent of the least of (a) the purchase price of the farm or ranch acquired; (b) the appraised value of the farm or ranch acquired; or (c) \$500,000. (Note: This would result in a maximum loan amount of \$225,000 and no limitation on the purchase price). The remaining purchase price would be financed by the seller or a commercial lender.
5. The program is expanded to include socially disadvantaged applicants.

A few of the eligibility requirements for a beginning farmer is an individual or entity has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years and does not own a farm property that is greater than 30 percent of the median acreage farm in the county. Other changes will be announced at a later date. For more information, please contact the Ottawa FSA office that services this county at (785) 242-3527 ext 38 or 41. www.fsa.usda.gov

New Executive Director

Marilyn Glissman is the new Coffey County FSA Executive Director. She has a total of 26 years of FSA experience working as a CED in Sumner County, in eastern Kansas as District Specialist, and a Program Technician in Nemaha County. She moved to Burlington in July with her husband Keith, daughter Jamie, and grandson Ty. She also has a son, Derek, who is attending college in Arizona.

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

SURE Worksheet -

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/fbapp?area=home&subject=landing&topic=landing>