



# Kingman Co. FSA News

Farm Service Agency

OCTOBER 2008

### Kingman County FSA

1137 E 54 Hwy  
Kingman, Ks 67068-1820  
TEL: (620) 532-3116  
FAX: (620) 532-1068

### Service Center Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

### Farm Loan Programs:

By appointment for Kingman County  
visits: (620) 326-2269

### County Committee

Paul Meng, Chairperson  
Mike Demmer, Vice-Chairperson  
Bernie Albers, Member  
*COC meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of the month  
@ 8:00 a.m.*

### Employee Information

Gregory Weaver, CED  
Tiffany Blank, Program Technician  
Vanessa DeWeese, Program Technician  
Deb Osborn, Program Technician  
Dianne Taber, Program Technician  
Gail Flickner, Temporary PT

Farm Service  
Agency online



FSA-[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

### LOAN RATES

COMMODITY	2008
Wheat	\$3.04/bu
Corn	\$2.09/bu
Soybeans	\$4.95/bu
Oats	\$1.35/bu
Gr. Sorghum	\$3.36/cwt
Sunflowers	\$9.05/cwt
Barley	\$1.85/bu

### RECORD CHANGES

Owner/Operator changes such as: **newly purchased land, land sales, deceased individuals, or ARE renting different land**, make sure to report the changes to the FSA Office within 30 days from the occurrence. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in could lead to possible ineligibility for USDA benefits.

### In the Spotlight

**October 29** – Informational meeting on the 2008 Farm Bill. 7:00 PM at the Kingman Activity Center, Kingman Ks.

**October 30** – Informational meeting on the 2008 Farm Bill. 1:30 PM at the Kingman Activity Center, Kingman Ks.

**Nov 11** – Closed for Veterans Day

**Nov 27** – Closed for Thanksgiving

**December 1** – Final Date to return ballots.

**December 25** – Closed for Christmas

**January 1** – Office Closed New Years Day

**On-going** – Continuous CRP, Farm Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans, Rural Youth Loans.



## FARM BILL INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

We have scheduled two informational meetings to discuss the new 2008 Farm Bill. The meetings will be held at the Kingman Activity Center, on S. Main, Kingman, Kansas. The dates and times are as follows:

**October 29, 2008 @ 7:00 PM**

**October 30, 2008 @ 1:30 PM**

The new programs appear to have new options. Therefore, we strongly urge you to attending one of these meetings.

## SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURE DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SURE)

The new Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) includes the following Disaster Assistance Programs:

- 1 - Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP).
- 2 - Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP).
- 3 - Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).
- 4 - Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE).
- 5 - Tree Assistance Program (TAP).

SURE will cover crop production losses, LFP will cover grazing loss, and LIP will cover livestock death loss due to an eligible disaster.

To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for all non-insurable crops they produce. All crops in Kingman County can be covered by either insurance or NAP (including all forage crops such as alfalfa, small grass areas or waterways certified as forage).

To qualify for SURE the county must have a Secretarial Disaster Designation (or be contiguous to a county that does) or a producer will qualify if there is greater than 50% production losses on their FARM ("FARM" means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer).

## FINAL 2008 DIRECT PAYMENTS

We have processed and mailed the "Final" Direct Payments under the 2008 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP). These were processed on October 9<sup>th</sup>. If an advance payment was requested at signup you received 22% of the payment rate, the remaining 78% has now been paid.

## 2009 NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

For 2009 the NAP fee has increased to \$250 per crop not to exceed \$750 per county.

Deadlines to purchase NAP coverage for 2009:

**December 1, 2008** for small grains for grazing or forage (hay); (this includes wheat, barley, triticale, oats); grass for grazing or forage; and alfalfa.

**March 15, 2009** for forage sorghum cane for grazing or forage; and double cropped milo, beans, sunflowers and any other crop not covered by Federal Crop Insurance.

Remember you must have NAP coverage on all non-insurable crops you have in order to be eligible for the Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance Programs included in the new Farm Bill.

Your crop production must be reported to FSA even if you do not file a notice of loss. Now would be a good time to report your oats, wheat, triticale, or brome hay production. Accurate and detailed crop production records are a must, and need to be kept for the current year and the prior 3 years.



## COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

Ballots will be mailed to voters in LAA-1 (Dresden, Eureka, Rural, Union, Kingman, Peters, Liberty and Rochester townships) in early November. **Please take the time to vote and return your ballot.** Ballots must be returned to FSA or postmarked no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>. Voting by PROXY/POA is prohibited. Remember to sign the ballot. Unsigned ballots are invalid and are not tabulated.

## CLEARING LAND OR ALTERING WETLANDS

If you are planning on any land clearing, drainage, filling, existing ditch clean out, leveling or dredging, remember that you need to come into the FSA office and fill out form AD-1026 **BEFORE** you do the work. Then NRCS will determine if the action you want to carry out can be done without jeopardizing eligibility for our programs and other USDA programs. Also, if you have highly erodible fields on any of the land you own or operate, you must be actively applying an approved conservation plan or maintaining a fully applied conservation system in order to remain eligible for our programs.

## Changing Banks

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's important to keep the county office up-to-date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure uninterrupted service.

## CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

Any person convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant such as marijuana, opium poppies and other drug producing plants.

## FOREIGN INVESTORS

Foreign investors who buy, sell, or hold a direct interest in U.S. agricultural land must report their holdings to the FSA office in the county where the land is located. Those buying or selling must report the transaction within 90 days of the date of the transaction.

## SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

Special accommodation will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA Office and we will be happy to make arrangements that are needed.

## Power of Attorney

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office or any Farm Service Agency office near you for more information. If you want a crop loan, a power of attorney form will need to be completed for husband and wife, if both do not come into the office to sign the forms on the day the loan is disbursed.

## Farm Loan Programs

The FSA-Farm Loan Program Office located in Wellington will be coming to the Kingman County FSA Office by appointment. They can answer questions regarding FSA Farm Loan Programs and what is available. They will also be able to assist current borrowers with questions they may have. **Please contact their office at 620-326-2269 if you want to make an appointment.**

## 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](http://www.fsa.usda.gov), 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, eForms, and eRepresentative. Obtain more information and a brochure at your local FSA office.

## Consider obtaining Level 2

E-Authentication Access. This allows you to perform many functions on-line from your home computer, including filing e-LDPs, enrolling in DCP, checking program payment info, etc. Contact FSA for more information, including handouts and detailed instructions.



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