



POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY



County Committee:

Jonathan E. Berges
William J. Budenbender
Clara M. Ebert

Office Staff:

Pottawatomie County FSA Office
501 State St., PO Box 368
Westmoreland, Kansas 66549

Pam Lauer
Debbie Lundgren
Diane O'Shea
Rhonda Schley
Monte Johnson

COC Meeting - 2nd Tuesday of the Month

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

March 2008

Phone: (785) 457-3661
Fax: (785) 457-2868

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Clara Ebert was re-elected to the Pottawatomie FSA County Committee as a result of the ballot count in January, 2008. The election for the Pottawatomie County Committee was held in Local Administrative Area 3. This area is the South part of the county. The term for this year's election began on February 1, 2008 and continues for three consecutive years. At the organizational meeting, Jonathan Berges was elected as chairperson and Clara Ebert was elected vice chairperson. William Budenbender will serve as the regular member.

2008-CROP ACREAGE REPORTS

JUNE 2, 2008 will be the deadline to timely file acreage reports for 2008-crop **wheat, oats, triticale, and barley**. A Report of Acreage must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted.

DAIRY DISASTER AID SIGN-UP

Eligible dairy producers can now 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. **MAY 5, 2008** is the deadline for DDAP-III.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

Special accommodations 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 any arrangements that are needed.

CCC COMMODITY LOANS AND LDPS

The 2007-crop loan rates for Pottawatomie County are:

Wheat - \$2.94/bu.	Grain Sorghum - \$3.31/cwt.
Corn - \$1.88/bu.	Soybeans - \$4.86/bu.
Oats - \$1.34/bu.	Sunflowers - \$8.11/bu.

March 31, 2008 is the last day to request a 2007-crop wheat /oats loan or LDP, and May 31, 2008 is the last day for corn, grain sorghum, soybeans and sunflowers.



CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM SAFE PROJECT CP38E

Sign-up

Sign-up begins the later of March 17, 2008, or re-authorization of CRP by Congress, at local FSA offices for the CRP SAFE Habitat Initiative and runs continuously until the acreage goal is met.

Eligible Land and Practices

All areas of Kansas will be eligible for this practice. Special focus will be given to land located in Kansas CRP Conservation Priority Areas 2, 5 and 8. In addition, land must meet basic CRP eligibility requirements.

Acceptable land is cropland that was planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity in four out of six years between 1996 and 2001 and is physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity.

Rental Rates

Rental rates are based on three predominant soils on land offered for enrollment. FSA bases rental rates on the average value of dry-land cash rent for the past three

years and adjusts rates to reflect the relative productivity of soils within each county.

SIP and PIP Payments

A one-time up front signing incentive payment (SIP) of \$100 per acre for CRP contracts for 10 or more years will be paid by FSA after eligibility criteria are met and the CRP contract is approved.

A one-time practice incentive payment (PIP) equal to 40 percent of the eligible installation costs will be paid after the CRP practice is installed, eligible costs are verified and other payment eligibility criteria are met.

Cost-share Payments

In addition to the payments described, FSA will pay up to 50 percent of the eligible cost of establishing a permanent cover.

Contracts

The effective date of the CRP contract is the first day of the month following the month of approval. In certain circumstances, producers may defer the effective date for up to six months. Contracts are for not less than 10, nor more than 15 years.

Cooperating Agencies

CRP is administered by USDA's FSA with assistance from USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Contact the Pottawatomie County FSA Office for more information.



LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM (LCP)

LCP provides benefits to livestock producers who suffered pasture losses directly resulting from natural disasters occurring between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007. Producers located in primary or contiguous counties declared secretarial or presidential disaster areas during the time periods listed above are eligible to apply. Pottawatomie County did have designations in 2005 and 2006.

Livestock producers incurring losses in more than 1 year may only receive assistance for one year. Eligible livestock **must have been owned** on the start date of the disaster designation. A recent change now allows producers to file on their livestock that were in one county on January 1 and subsequently moved to another county for the grazing period. The grazing loss will be figured using the percent of loss for the county in which the livestock were actually grazed.

Eligible livestock include beef, buffalo, dairy, deer, elk, equine, goats, reindeer, poultry, sheep, and swine that are used as part of a farming operation and not for recreational purposes. Livestock in confined feeding operations (**commercial or private**), as of the beginning date of the disaster designation, are not eligible for LCP.

Some basic information needed when filing an FSA-901 application is as follows:

- A) Type of cattle operation (i.e. cow/calf, feeder, etc).
- B) Number of livestock owned **on January 1, 2005 or 2006** that were intended to be put on pastures for the 2005 or 2006 grazing season. Were any culled or were any replacements purchased?
- C) **PROOF OF LIVESTOCK NUMBERS NEEDED:** previous years calf sales, bank asset ledgers, taxes, veterinarian bills, diaries or personal record keeping items.
- D) Pasture locations. Legal descriptions, stocking rates and lease terms are needed. **Signed lease agreements** (between the owner and tenant) must be provided on all leased pastures that we do not list you as the tenant. The terms and conditions must be listed in the agreement. We do not need the dollar figure, just the terms. (i.e. acres, cash or a fixed amount).

At this time a sign up deadline has not been announced. Please call the office for an appointment.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

The LIP provides monetary assistance to eligible livestock owners and contract growers, **for livestock deaths** that occurred between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007, in eligible disaster designated counties as a result of an eligible disaster event. Those incurring losses in more than 1 year may receive assistance for only one year.

Eligible owners must have owned the livestock on the day they died in an eligible county as a direct result of the disaster event. The livestock must have died no later than 60 days from the disaster event ending date, but before December 31, 2007. Eligible livestock include beef, buffalo, dairy, catfish, chickens, crawfish, deer, ducks, equine, geese, goats, reindeer, sheep, swine, and turkeys that are used as part of a farming operation and not for recreational purposes. Eligible livestock for contract growers includes poultry and swine.

Documentation must be provided with the FSA-900 application to prove kind, type, weight and number of livestock that died, and evidence that supports date, location and cause of death.

RECORD CHANGES

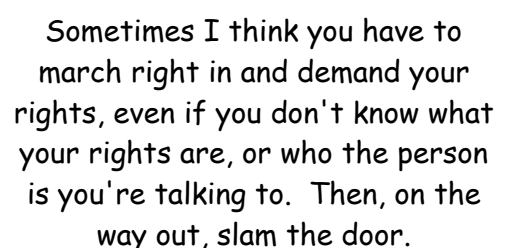
If you have bought, sold, or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the FSA Office within 30 days from the occurrence. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in could lead to possible ineligibility for USDA benefits.

Please remember to report address changes as well.

DATES TO REMEMBER -

May 5 – Deadline for DDAP-III

June 2 – Last day to report small grains (wheat, etc.)



Sometimes I think you have to
march right in and demand your
rights, even if you don't know what
your rights are, or who the person
is you're talking to. Then, on the
way out, slam the door.

~Jack Handey

