SHAWNEE COUNTY FSA NEWS



MARCH AND APRIL 2008

Lance H. Thompson, CED

Office Hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Shawnee County FSA Office 3231 SW Van Buren, Ste 1 Topeka, KS 66611-2291

Phone: (785) 266-9053 FAX: (785) 266-8293

County Committee Arthur N Warner Gregory J Meier Carol A Marple

Meet 2nd Thursday of the month @ 9:00 a.m.

Office Staff Linda Wohlgemuth Nicole Welborn

Nicole Welborn Kellen Liebsch Kathy Allison



Commodity Loan Rates

Commodity	Price
Wheat	\$3.02/bu
Corn	\$1.99/bu
Soybeans	\$5.05/bu
Grain Sorghum	\$3.53/cwt
Oats	\$1.37/bu

Wheat Acreage Reporting Deadline – June 2, 2008

Due to the normal wheat acreage deadline of May 31, 2008 falls on a Saturday; producers have until June 2, 2008 to report these crops without a penalty being assessed. If you need your wheat acres reported earlier for crop insurance purposes, let us know and we will work with you. Producers must report acreages to maintain eligibility for Price Support Programs, Noninsured Crop Assistance Program (NAP), and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Please call for an appointment to certify your acres so we can have your folders pulled for you.

Crop Disaster Program Sign-Up Continues!

The Shawnee County FSA office is now taking appointments to sign up producers for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP). We are accepting disaster applications for 2005, 2006, and all 2007 crops suffering a loss of 35% or more. Uninsured crops are not eligible under this program. There is currently no deadline announced to sign up. Call today to set up your appointment!

Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)

Applications are also being accepted for livestock producers who suffered grazing losses and/or increased feed costs because of drought conditions in 2005 or 2006. Eligible livestock must have been owned on January 1 of the calendar year of the loss, and still be on hand during the grazing season. There is currently no deadline announced to sign up for this program. Please call ahead for an appointment to sign up.

Farm Record and Bank Changes

If you have bought, sold or are renting different land, make sure you provide the required documentation (example: deeds, tax statements, etc.) of the changes to our office as soon as possible so farm records can be updated. Please report changes to farming operations, examples are changing from individual interest to entity interest or changing from individual interest to trusts. This also includes reporting of deceased individuals who were earning payment from our office. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land in which you have an interest can lead to possible program ineligibility and/or payment reductions. It is also important to keep our office.

Special Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment, If accommodations are required, contact Lance H. Thompson in the FSA office at (785) 266-9053.

> Always listen to experts. They'll tell you what can't be done and why. Then do it. -Robert Heinlen

US DEPARMENT OF AGRICULTURE Shawnee County FSA Office 3231 SW Van Buren, Ste 1 Topeka, KS 66611-2291

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www.fsa.usda.gov



Mark Your Calendar

March 15 – Continuous CRP funding ends (at this time)

March 17 – NAP closing date for certain vegetables, fruits and specialty crops

March 31 – Final Date to request commodity loans for 2007 wheat, oats and barley crops

May 26 – Office Closed for **Memorial Day Services**

June 2 – Final Date to request commodity loans for 2007 corn, grain sorghum, sunflowers and soybeans crops

Ongoing Activities in Office

Crop Disaster Program Sign Up, Livestock Compensation Program Sign Up, Livestock Indemnity Program Sign Up, Farm Storage Facility Loans, **Dairy Disaster Aid Program** Signup (DDAP-III), Farm Loan Program Sign Up.

Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL)

FSA offers seven-year, low-interest loans to grain producers to build new or upgrade existing storage facilities and related essential, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment. Loan opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- New conventional-type cribs or bins, oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures, and flat-type storage structures designed for whole grain storage
- Perforated floors, safety equipment, electrical equipment and concrete components considered essential for a fully functional storage facility
- Remodeling existing storage facilities

Farm storage facility loans must be approved prior to site preparation, equipment purchase or construction, and must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. Special provisions apply for loans exceeding \$50,000.

The maximum loan amount will be 85 percent of the net cost of the applicant's needed storage or handling equipment, not to exceed \$100,000 per borrower. A minimum down payment to the supplier or contractor is required to bridge the gap between the net costs of the storage facility and the loan amount.

Fixed interest rates on farm storage facility loans are equivalent to the rate of interest charged on U.S. Treasury Securities of comparable maturity on the date the loan is approved. There is a \$45.00 application fee.

Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) Reminders

The last sales closing date for 2008 NAP coverage is March 17, which included double cropped soybeans, sorghum forage and numerous fruits, nuts, and vegetables, The cost is \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per county or \$900 for multi-county interest. Producers with NAP coverage are reminded that good record keeping and disaster reporting is required. Producers should discuss the requirements for acceptable production evidence with FSA personnel.

CRP Issues – New CRP Seeding

Producers with new CRP acreage are encouraged to timely establish required covers. If an acceptable cover crop has been approved, native grass seeding can begin as soon as possible and continue through May 15, 2008. CRP participants should contact NRCS personnel about seeding information.

> We do not inherit the earth from out parents. We borrow it from our children. Native American proverb

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