



BROWN COUNTY FSA  
1310 OREGON  
HIAWATHA, KS 66434

Phone: (785) 742-3161  
Fax: (785)742-7604  
www.fsa.usda.gov

**HOURS:**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee:**  
Robert Bowen  
Van Koelliker  
Douglas Meyer

**Advisor:**  
Evelyn Lierz

**COC MEETINGS:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each  
month at 8:30 A.M.

**Staff:**  
Linda Kelsey, PT  
Rosemary Kopp, PT  
Lucinda Schilling, PT  
Barbara Shefferd, PT  
Robbie Roesch, TF  
Kim Kee, CED

**Loan Manager:**  
Bruce Nutsch  
(913) 833-533-5460

**Internet Web Sites:**  
USDA-[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)  
FSA-[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
NRCS-[www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)

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**Loan Rates**

**2007**

WHEAT	\$2.99
CORN	\$1.85
SOYBEANS	\$4.90
OATS	\$1.34
GR SORGHUM	\$3.36
SUNFLOWERS	\$7.96

**BROWN COUNTY FSA FARMLINE**

JULY 2007

**COUNTY COMMITTEE  
NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR  
2007 ELECTION**

Nominations are currently being accepted for the upcoming Brown FSA County Committee election through August 1, 2007. Ballots will be mailed to producers in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2 (Hamlin, Hiawatha, and Mission townships) in November 2007. Any producer who lives in this area and participates in FSA programs can be nominated to run in this election. Nominees must be 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen. Nominees must sign Form FSA-669A, which must be filed in our office by August 1, 2007, in order to be placed on the ballot. Producers may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. The nomination form may be obtained at the county office or on line at

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections>.

The election of agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to all farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections as FSA county committees are a direct link between the agricultural community and USDA. Committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs their county offers. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers. Committees provide local input on: commodity price support loans and payments; establishment of allotments and yields; conservation programs; incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for some commodities; emergency programs; employing County Executive Directors. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws and committee members apply their judgment and knowledge within these regulations to make local decisions.

**ACREAGE REPORTING  
DEADLINE**

Certification is the reporting of crop acreages and land uses, as well as crop shares, planting dates, and in some cases, cropping information. Reporting of crop acreage is required on farms that are enrolled in DCP, have acreage enrolled in CRP, NAP crops, fruits and vegetables, or produce a commodity (including wool

and unshorn pelts) for which a loan or loan deficiency payment (LDP) may later be requested.

***The deadline to report your 2007 corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, and CRP is August 1, 2007***

***Call the office to schedule an appointment.***

**FRUITS AND VEGETABLES**

Farms enrolled in DCP are subject to restrictions on planting fruits and vegetables (FAV). The basic rule is FAVs cannot be planted on "base acres" without jeopardizing DCP payments on that farm unless a producer has a farm history of planting a FAV or DCP base acres. Producers are allowed to plant a home garden of up to 2.0 acres and not be considered a FAV if the produce is for home use and not for sale.

**DCP – DIRECT AND  
COUNTER-CYCLICAL  
PROGRAM SIGNUP**

August 3, 2007 is the extended deadline to timely enroll in the 2007 DCP Program. After August 3, but prior to close of business Friday, September 28, 2007, farms may still be enrolled but a late file fee of \$100 per farm will be assessed.

**RECONSTITUTION DEADLINE**

To be effective for 2007, farm combinations and farm divisions must be requested by August 1, 2007. A request for a reconstitution after 2007 DCP payments have been issued shall be process for 2008 unless all payments received are refunded.

**ACT OF 2007**

On May 25, 2007, President Bush signed into law the "U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007" (2007 Act). The 2007 Act provides approximately \$3 billion in agricultural disaster aid for America's farmers and ranchers.

Specifically, the 2007 Act provided funds for a Crop Disaster Program (CDP), Livestock Compensation Program (LCP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Emergency Conservation Program (ECP), and Dairy Disaster Assistance Program (DDAP). The 2007 Act also extends the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program through September 2007.

CDP provides benefits to farmers

who suffered quantity and quality losses from natural disasters and related conditions that occurred in 2005, 2006, and for 2007 crops if the crop was planted before February 28, 2007, or in the case of prevented plantings that would have been planted before February 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006, or 2007 must choose only one year to receive benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple crops as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP.

**Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of the loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. USDA will announce and conduct sign-up for CDP as soon as the program becomes available.**

#### **FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS**

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for commodities. 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 cribs or bins and new and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright 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. A minimum down payment is also required.

#### **FSA's 2007 NATIONAL COMPLIANCE AND SPOT CHECK REVIEW**

FSA is committed to delivering accurate program payments to America's agricultural producers. The accuracy of payments not only benefits farmers and ranchers, but also maximizes taxpayer dollars and government efficiency. As part of the 2007 National Compliance review, FSA's national office is requiring local FSA county offices to conduct compliance reviews and spot checks of certain producers selected by the national office through a statistical sampling method. A statistical sample of FSA employees, County Committee, and State Committee members have also been selected for review using this same process. FSA may review a producer's operations in multiple states and counties, depending on the scope of the producer's operations. FSA will review both the accuracy of the representations made by the selected producers in connection with participation in FSA programs as well as the producer's compliance with applicable program requirements. The reviews may need to be conducted at various times throughout the year depending on the FSA programs in which the producer is participating. FSA appreciates the cooperation of its customers as the agency continues to enhance its operation. FSA's goal is to ensure that program dollars are delivered effectively and efficiently so America's

farmers and ranchers can provide safe and abundant food, fiber, and fuel for consumers at home and abroad.

#### **CRP ACREAGE MAINTENANCE**

Participants in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) are reminded they are responsible for maintaining the cover of all CRP acreage in accordance with their conservation plan of operations (CPO). Weeds and noxious weeds must not be allowed to produce seed. Brush and trees must also be controlled on CRP acreage. Corrective action must not be taken during primary nesting season which began on April 15 and continues through July 15.

#### **FOREIGN INVESTORS**

Foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land are required by law to report their land holdings, acquisitions, leases of 10 years or more, and land use changes within 90 days to the local FSA office. Failure to report these changes can result in a civil penalty of up to 25% of the fair market value of their interest in the agricultural land.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS NEWS**

**Bank Account Changes** – If you change banks, accounts, or your banks' routing number changes, notify your FSA office as soon as possible.

**Timely report all changes** to your farming operations as soon as they occur, including changes in other counties.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

<b>August 1</b>	<b>Acreage Reporting Deadline for corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, and CRP</b>
<b>August 1</b>	<b>Final date to request 2007 reconstitution</b>
<b>August 1</b>	<b>Final date to submit nominations for COC election</b>
<b>August 3</b>	<b>DCP signup deadline</b>
<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Continuous CRP, Farm Storage Facility Loans</b>

#### **Nondiscrimination Statement:**

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (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 USDA, Director of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."