



November 2007

Dickinson County News

Dickinson County USDA Service Center

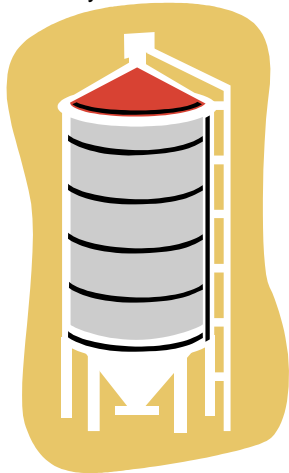
Dickinson County FSA
328 NE 14th Street
Abilene KS 67410
(785) 263-1351
(785) 263-1174 FAX
www.fsa.usda.gov

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

County Committee
Mark Bethe
Jared Hoover
Donneta Felbush

County Committee meets
2nd Wednesday of the
month at 9:00 am.

Office Staff:
Ellen Alvarez, PT
Barbara Barrett, PT
Angela Haney, PT
Sandy Johnson, PT
Jamie Millard, PT
Michele Snowball, PT
Becky Walker, PT
Sara Morey, CED
Field Staff:
Les Gray
Bob Meyer



Market Gains Reported:

Beginning with the 2007 calendar year, FSA/CCC will report producer market gains associated with the repayment of a CCC loan, whether the producer repays the loan with cash or uses commodity certificates in exchange of the outstanding loan collateral. The market gain will be reported on IRS Form 1099-G. IRS Bulletin 2007-33, Notice 2007-63, dated August 13, 2007, provides answers to frequently asked questions about the tax treatment of market gain associated with the repayment of CCC loans.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS:

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce two new faces you will be seeing in the Dickinson County FSA Office, Jamie Millard and Barbara Barrett.

Jamie Millard was hired on staff in June in a temporary Program Technician position. She has been a vital part of our operation assisting with feed grain certification, mailings, reviewing trust data and many other items. Most recently Jamie has accepted a permanent position with the FSA office.

Barbara Barrett joined our staff in July in a temporary Program Technician position. She has played a vital role in our office assisting with CRP revisions and updates, reviewing Power of Attorneys, signature authority and other various tasks. Barbara will be working part time on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays starting in November.

We welcome the new members to our FSA Family.

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM:

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006 or 2007 crops. **CDP signup has begun**; please call the office for appointment details.

Losses from natural disasters may qualify for financial assistance if the crop was planted before February 28, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before February 28, 2007. Producer who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006, or 2007 will only receive benefits for one of the years. Participants may apply for loss benefits on multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35% to be eligible for CDP.

LIVESTOCK DISASTER PROGRAMS:

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) signup has begun. Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive LCP compensation for feed/grazing losses or LIP for livestock losses occurring between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007, due to a natural

disaster. Both programs have a separate \$80,000 per person payment limitation.

LCP – The 2005-2007 LCP provides benefits to livestock producers who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs directly resulting from natural disasters occurring between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007. Eligible livestock must have been owned on the start date of the disaster designation and have been physically located in an eligible county. Livestock owners must have suffered an eligible feed lost or additional feed cost as a result of the disaster event. 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. **Documentation** must be provided with the FSA 901 application to prove eligible livestock, feed/grazing loss or any additional feed costs occurring as a direct result of an eligible disaster event.

LIP – The 2005-2007 LIP provides monetary assistance to eligible livestock owners and livestock contract growers, for livestock deaths that occurred between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007, in eligible disaster designated counties as a result of an eligible disaster event. **Drought is not an eligible** disaster event under LIP. 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 February 28, 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. **Documentation** must be provided with FSA-900 application to prove kind, type, weight and number of livestock that died, and evidence that supports date, location and cause of death.

Please contact the office for an appointment for the Livestock Disaster Programs.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION:

Just a reminder: Be watching your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting in early November. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters in the following townships: Wheatland, Jefferson, Ridge, Union, Holland, Banner, Hope, and Lyon. Ballots are due to the office by the close of business on December 3, 2007.

FSA Farm Loans Available:

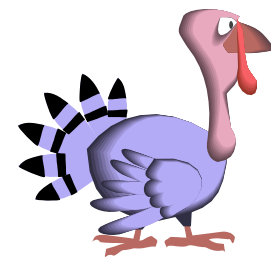
FSA offers low interest loans. Fixed interest rates of 4% to 5.375% are available for real estate (farm ownership loans). A fixed interest rate of 4.75% is available for farm operating loans that may be used to finance livestock, machinery, and equipment, make modest real estate improvements or pay production expenses. Emergency loans are available at a fixed rate of 3.75% to qualified producers that suffered a loss due to the 2007 late freeze. Loans are also available to finance income producing projects for youth participating in 4-H, FFA or similar programs. Youth loan programs are designed with educational and profit motives. **FSA is prohibited from competing with commercial lenders.** FSA programs are designed to assist beginning farmers, farmers with limited resources, women and minorities and established farmers in need of temporary assistance.

2007 National Compliance and Spot Check Review:

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.

FSA will review both the accuracy of the representations made by the selected producers in connection with participation in FSA program as well as the producer's compliance with applicable program requirements. FSA appreciates the cooperation of its customers as the agency continues to enhance its operations.

FSA's goal is to ensure that the 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.



Dates to Remember	
Dec 1 st	Application Closing Date for NAP coverage on Alfalfa and Grasses
Dec 3 rd	Last day to return county committee election ballots
May 31 st	Acreage Report Deadline for Small Grains for Grain
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Continues	Direct and Guaranteed Farm Ownership and Operating Loans
Continues	Farm Loans for Beginning Farmers and Socially Disadvantaged Applicants

Websites:
 FSA – www.fsa.usda.gov
 Kansas FSA – www.fsa.usds.gov/ks
 USDA – www.usda.gov
 Level 2 eAuth Account – www.eauth.egov.usda.gov

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office 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.