



District 2 – Barton, Ellis, Graham, Osborne, Phillips, Rooks, Rush,
Russell, Smith, Trego July 2007

Certify Your Acres



The final date to report CRP, corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, fallow, alfalfa, and other feed crops is August 1. All cropland must be reported for most programs. Late filed reports will be accepted but will result in a fee of at least \$46 per farm. FSA will conduct a field visit and must be able to verify crop existence before any tillage is performed.

DCP

DCP sign up has been extended to August 3, 2007. All signatures must be received or post marked by that day to be considered timely filed. The late-filed fee of \$100 will only be assessed for farms that are enrolled after August 3, 2007 and before September 30, 2007

Emergency Loans Available

FSA is making emergency loans available to help qualified producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flood, freeze, tornado, and other natural disasters.

Eligible loan funds may be used to restore or replace essential property, pay production costs, reorganize the operation, and refinance certain debts. Applicants can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production or physical losses not to exceed \$500,000. The current rate for these low interest loans is 3.75 percent.

Producers must meet eligibility requirements and not be able to obtain credit from a commercial lender. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

Producers in eligible counties should contact their local FSA office for more information and to find out what the application deadline is.

NOMINATE YOUR NEIGHBOR



August 1st is the deadline for nominations for the 2007 County Committee election.

Nomination forms can be obtained from any FSA office or at www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/. Voting takes place between November 2 and December 3, 2007.



New Spot Check Process

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.

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 customers at home and abroad.

Commodity Loan Reminder



As a reminder, if you have grain under Commodity Credit Corporation loan it can not be removed or disposed of without prior county office staff authorization or repayment. The county office staff may issue release authorizations based on a telephone or in person request when you are ready to move the grain. A loan violation is subject to monetary and administrative penalties, such as repaying the loan at principal plus interest, liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans and loan deficiency payments.

FSA also reminds you to check the condition of your farm stored grain on a regular basis.

CRP and DCP Maintenance Reminders

Failure to maintain CRP acres can result in penalties and/or possible contract termination. Noxious weeds and trees must be controlled on contract acres.

Producers enrolled in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) are reminded that acreages under contract must also be maintained for the 2007 crop year. Noxious weeds and wind and water erosion must be controlled.

Spot checks will be conducted to ensure compliance.



CRP Early Land Preparation

CRP participants with contracts expiring September 30, 2007 may begin early land preparation to return the land to cropland beginning July without penalty. These are contracts that did not elect to extend the contract period last summer. The participant must complete form CRP-1G prior to beginning any activity and also must obtain an approved conservation plan from NRCS prior to beginning tillage activities. If the soil is tilled prior to October 1, 2007, wheat or another fall seeded crop must be planted this fall. The acreage can not be hayed or grazed to begin the land preparations.

Direct Loans & Payment Eligibility

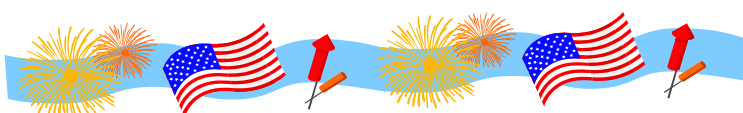
Payment eligibility, payment limitation and direct borrower account information must remain consistent. Customers that receive FSA loans as an individual (John Doe or John and Mary Doe) must also own/operate the farm and receive farm program benefits as an individual. An individual borrower who owns/operates the farm and received program benefits as an entity (John Doe Trust) is violating FSA loan program provisions and will be required to take corrective action. Direct loan borrowers are encouraged to discuss proposed changes with FSA loan personnel prior to changing the way they own or operate their farm

Failed Acres

Failed crops need to be reported to FSA before the crop is destroyed to create acreage history credit. If the crop is insured, a copy of proof of loss can be filed to verify existence. If the crop is not insured, FSA will conduct a field visit to verify the crop was planted and document the cause of loss. Separate provisions apply for crops covered by NAP.

COUNTY LOAN RATES FOR 2007

County	Wheat Bu.	Corn Bu.	Milo Cwt.	Oats Bu.	Soybeans Bu	Sunflowers Cwt.
Barton	2.90	2.05	3.30	1.37	4.82	8.46
Ellis	2.92	2.02	3.25	1.37	4.76	8.53
Graham	2.83	2.00	3.20	1.34	4.71	8.67
Osborne	2.90	2.01	3.20	1.34	4.83	8.46
Phillips	2.81	1.94	3.10	1.34	4.71	8.53
Rooks	2.89	2.00	3.18	1.34	4.71	8.53
Rush	2.89	2.02	3.25	1.37	4.82	8.53
Russell	2.94	2.03	3.18	1.37	4.79	8.46
Smith	2.90	1.94	3.18	1.34	4.75	8.46
Trego	2.87	2.02	3.21	1.37	4.76	8.60



RURAL DEVELOPMENT

USDA's Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Program, known as the 9006 Program, helps create renewable energy systems and reduce energy needs of agricultural producers and small businesses in rural areas. Grants are awarded to qualifying projects through a nationally competitive scoring system. Loan guarantees can be obtained for up to 50% of the eligible costs of the project.

Eligible renewable energy projects include projects that produce energy from biomass, wind, solar, geothermal, and hydrogen based sources. These include projects such as retrofitting lighting or insulation, or purchasing or replacing equipment with more efficient units. Energy efficiency improvements in new building construction are typically not eligible. Eligible projects must be located in a rural area, must be technically feasible, and must be owned by the applicant.

Grants can fund up to 25% of a project's total eligible costs. Grants are limited to \$500,000 for renewable energy projects or \$250,000 for energy efficiency improvements. Grants as low as \$2,500 will be considered for renewable energy systems and \$1,500 for energy efficiency improvements. For more information contact the USDA Rural Development website www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks or Brandon Prough at 785-628-3081.

Dates to Remember

August 1	Final date to submit nominations for COC election.
August 1	Final date to report spring crops.
August 1	Final date to request reconstitution for 2007.
August 3	Final date to sign up for DCP without paying a late fee.
September 30	Final date for 2007 contract revisions.
On-going	Continuous CRP, Farm Storage Facility Loans, Direct and Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans, Rural Youth Loans.

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