



Farm Service Agency

**DISTRICT 4 - Atchison - Brown - Doniphan - Jackson - Jefferson/Leavenworth/Wyandotte - Marshall
- Nemaha - Pottawatomie - Riley/Geary - Wabaunsee**

FSA Annual Notification – January 2008

2005/2006/2007 DISASTER PROGRAMS

Disaster programs have been authorized due to the loss of production from January 2005 to December 2007. Many US counties have been severely impacted by widespread and significant destruction caused by various natural disasters such as hurricanes, wildfires, ice storms, heavy rainfalls, floods, severe blizzard conditions and extreme heat.

Four different Disaster Programs are available to producers in this area. They are the Crop Disaster Program (CDP), the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and the Dairy Disaster Payment Program (DDAP-III).

The following provisions are common to the Crop Disaster Program, the Livestock Indemnity Program and the Livestock Compensation Program:

- Signup is underway and expected to last for several months (no deadlines have been announced).
- The Payment Limitation per "Person" is \$80,000 for each program.
- A "Person" determination, based upon the most restrictive determination in 2005/2006/2007 will apply.
- Applicants must:
 - ✓ Choose one of the years (2005, 2006 or 2007) for which to receive benefits. This selection can differ for each of the three programs.
 - ✓ Be in compliance with the Sod/Swamp, Person and Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) provisions.

The provisions for the Dairy Disaster Program are different from the other three programs, please contact your local FSA office for more details.



FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including wheat, rice, soybeans and corn. The interest rate changes each month. The January interest rate is 3.625 percent.

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. For details, contact your local county office staff.

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.

NONINSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DEADLINES

- CCC-471, Application for Coverage, varies between commodities, please contact your local FSA office
- CCC-576, Part B, Notice of Loss, must be filed within 15 calendar days after the date the disaster or damage becomes apparent.
- CCC-576, Part G, Payment Application, must be filed by the earlier of the date the CCC-471 is filed for the subsequent crop year or application closing date for the subsequent crop year.
- CCC-578, Report of Acreage Report, must be filed by the earlier of May 31 or 15 days prior to harvest of the crop.

FOREIGN INVESTORS REPORTING RULE

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 percent of the fair market value of their interest in the agricultural land.

DESIGNATION BY LANDOWNER

Producers are reminded of the importance of reporting to their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) Office any change to their farming operation that would affect the status of that farm so the change can be effective for the current fiscal year. A farm, as defined by FSA, is generally made up of tracts that have the same owner and the same operator. A sale of land in the farm or a tract of land within the farm would be an instance that requires notifying the local FSA office so a farm reconstitution can be initiated using the FSA-155, Request for Farm Reconstitution. These requests must be made by June 1.

A special provision exists that would allow contract acres to be divided in a manner agreed to by all sellers and buyers. The method of division, known as the "Designation by Landowner" provision, must be requested and requires all sellers and buyers agree to the method by signing the FSA-155, or providing a memorandum of understanding that includes signatures of all sellers and buyers.

The designation by landowner method of division may be used more specifically when:

- Part of the farm is sold or ownership is transferred.
- An entire farm is sold to 2 or more persons.
- Farm ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons.
- Part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred.
- A tract is sold to 2 or more persons.
- Tract ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons.

When notifying the county office of ownership changes, the designation by landowner method of division should be discussed to see if this method would result in a more satisfactory division of contract acres compared to the default method most commonly used for farm and tract divisions. The designation by landowner method can only be used when requested and if all buyers and sellers agree in writing.

OFFICE LOCATOR

With the consolidation of some county FSA offices, an updated list of office locations and contact numbers is provided:

County Name	Location	Telephone
Atchison	605 6th St Effingham, KS 66023	913-833-5460
Brown	1310 Oregon St Hiawatha, KS 66434	785-742-3161
Doniphan	510 Locust St Troy, KS 66087	785-985-2221
Jackson	307 Montana Ave Holton, KS 66436	785-364-3329
Jefferson/ Leavenworth/ Wyandotte	700 Jefferson Oskaloosa, KS 66066	785-863-2221
Marshall	1133 Pony Express HWY Marysville, KS 66508	785-562-5343
Nemaha	409 North St Seneca, KS 66538	785-336-2164
Pottawatomie	501 State St Westmoreland, KS 66549	785-457-3661
Riley/Geary	3705 Miller Parkway Manhattan, KS 66503	785-776-7582
Wabaunsee	103 E 6th St Alma, KS 66401	785-765-3329

CENSUS GIVES FARMERS A VOICE IN THEIR FUTURE



America's farmers and ranchers will soon have the opportunity to make their voices heard and help shape the future of agriculture for years to come. This opportunity will come to their mailboxes in the form of the 2007 Census of Agriculture.

Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Census is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation.

NASS mailed out the Census forms on December 28, 2007 to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the convenient option of filling out the Census online via a secure web site at <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.



FSA GUARANTEED LOANS

FSA guaranteed loans provide lenders (e.g., banks, Farm Credit System institutions, credit unions) with a guarantee of up to 95 percent of the loss of principal and interest on a loan. Farmers and ranchers apply to an agricultural lender which then arranges for the guarantee. The FSA guarantee permits lenders to make agricultural credit available to farmers who do not meet the lender's normal underwriting criteria.

FSA guaranteed loans are for both Farm Ownership and Operating purposes. More information regarding FSA guaranteed loans can be obtained from your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov.



FSA FARM LOANS AVAILABLE FOR BEGINNING FARMERS OR RANCHERS

Beginning farmers or ranchers can get a "regular" farm ownership loan by using funds set aside especially for them by the Farm Service Agency. These loans finance up to the \$200,000 loan limit, and the term of the loan can be up to 40 years. The interest rate is set the first of each month, and the January rate is 5.125 percent. The rate for "limited resource producers" is 5.00 percent.

The regular farm ownership loan funds may also be used in joint financing where FSA lends up to 50 percent of the amount financed and another lender provides 50 percent or more. FSA may charge an interest rate of not less than 4 percent with terms up to 40 years.



CONDUCT YOUR USDA BUSINESS ON-LINE

If you have access to the Internet and have an e-mail account you can obtain an e-Authentication Level 2 Account and conduct some of your USDA business on-line. Access www.fsa.usda.gov, then click on "Online Services" at the top of the page. Instructions are provided on how to obtain a Level 2 eAuth account. Once the account is set up, you can access eLDP, eDCP, Customer Statement, Financial Inquiry, eForms, and eRepresentative. Obtain more information and a brochure at your local FSA office.