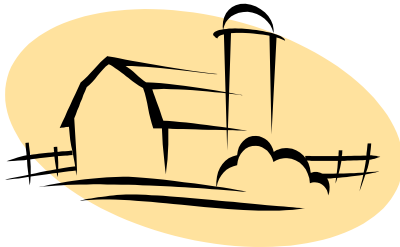

FSA FARM NEWS

SERVING DOUGLAS COUNTY

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

Douglas County FSA Office

1217 Biltmore Dr.
Lawrence, Ks 66049
Phone: 785-843-4260
Fax: 785-841-1087



Douglas County FSA Committee:

Raymond Deay
Jane Edmonds
Bill Leslie
Johnathon Alley, CED

January 2007

County Committee Meeting Date:
2nd Wednesday of the Month at 9:00 a.m.

NEW COMMITTEEMEN ELECTED

Our office would like to welcome Bill Leslie to the Douglas County FSA Committee. Bill, a Lecompton farmer, was elected to serve as the county committeemen for Local Administrative Area #1. Bill began his three year term on January 1, 2007. We look forward to working with him in the future! Congratulations, Bill!

In addition, we would also like to thank Kent Nunemaker for serving on the county committee for the past 13 years. His efforts along with his dedication and commitment have contributed to the success of the county committee system. Thanks again, Kent!

CRP MAINTENANCE MEETING

Participants in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) are invited to attend an informational meeting concerning the maintenance and care of their CRP cover. Representatives from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), fire department and the Douglas County Noxious Weed Department will provide short presentations and be on hand to answer questions. The meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, Building 1 in Lawrence. A meal will be provided following the meeting. Please RSVP to the Douglas County Service Center at 785-843-4260 by February 15, 2007. Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Johnathon Alley at 785-843-4260 or by the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 or you may e-mail johnathon.alley@ks.usda.gov by February 15, 2007.

SIGNATURE AUTHORITY FOR SPOUSES

Husbands and wives can sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office. This authority is given in all cases except for CRP easements, claim settlements and promissory notes. A husband and wife can not sign a power of attorney form (FSA-211 or FSA-211-1) on behalf of the other.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

Seven-year Farm Storage Facility Loans are available to purchase and install eligible storage facilities, to permanently affix drying or handling equipment, safety equipment or to remodel existing facilities. Real estate liens are required for loans that exceed \$50,000. Loans are secured with a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85% of the net cost, up to \$100,000 for each borrower. A 15% down payment is also required.

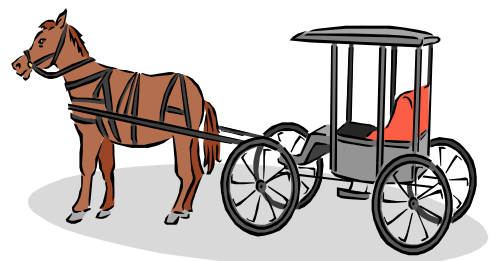
FARM RECORD CHANGES

If you have bought, sold or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the staff at your local Farm Service Agency county office as soon as possible so farm records can be updated.

For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. All landowners must furnish their tax ID numbers. Remember, failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and fines if you are participating in farm program.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Special Accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call our office and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are needed.



FOREIGN LAND OWNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

FSA is required by the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act to keep record of land purchased by persons who are not citizens of the United States. Foreign owners of agricultural land are required to visit an FSA office and report their land on a FSA-153 form. Any foreign person who holds, acquires or transfers an interest in agricultural land and does not submit a FSA-153 is subject to a civil penalty of 25 percent of the fair market value of the land on the date the penalty is assessed. Contact your local office for additional information.

DCP CONTRACT REMINDER

Producers, are you planning to participate in the 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program? If so, you must remember to visit the county office to designate shares and sign your 2007 DCP contract (CCC-509) before June 1. (You can sign your contract after June 1, and before Sept. 30, but you will be assessed a late-signing fee of \$100 per farm). Please contact the county office for an appointment.

When you sign the CCC-509, you are agreeing to:

- comply with highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation provisions on all your land;
- devote acreage equal to the base acreage to an agricultural or conserving use;
- effectively control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain base acres according to sound agricultural practices;
- not plant perennial fruits and vegetables or harvest annual FAVs (other than lentils, mung beans, and dry peas) or wild rice on base acres (Exceptions: Double-cropping covered commodities or peanuts with wild rice, fruits, or vegetables shall be permitted in any region in which there is a history of this type of double-cropping.);
- file acreage report with respect to all cropland on the farm; and
- notify the county office staff when there is a transfer of or change of interest of a producer.

Remember, under DCP, you must designate shares and sign a new DCP contract each year.

Sign-up Online: Producers may sign-up online for DCP at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/egov/edcp_default.htm. To access the service, producers must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov>, followed by a visit to the county office for identity verification.

IMPORTANT DATES

Immediately- If you have sold, purchased or are renting new land for 2007, report these changes to our office.

January 29 – Douglas County Conservation District Annual Meeting. The meeting starts at 6:30 pm at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, Building 21. Make reservations to the Conservation District by January 22.

February 19 – USDA Service Center is closed in observance of President's Day.

March 31, 2007 – Last Day to Request a 2006 Loan or LDP for Wheat, Oats, and Barley

May 31, 2007 - Last Day to Request Loan or LDP for Corn, Milo, and Soybeans

Non-Discrimination Statement

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (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 to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.