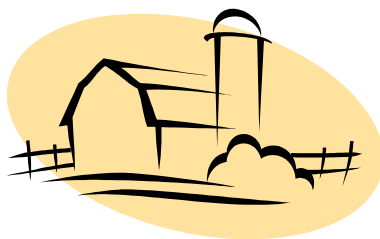




# FSA FARM NEWS

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

## County Committee Meeting Date:

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month at 9:00 a.m.

**October 2007**

## Douglas County FSA Committee:

Raymond Deay  
Jane Edmonds  
Bill Leslie  
Johnathon Alley, CED

## CROP DISASTER PROGRAM SIGNUP

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops. **CDP signup** began **October 15, 2007**. A sign up ending date has not been announced as of yet.

Producers who suffered 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. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose **only one year** to apply for benefits. 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 percent to be eligible for CDP.

## LIVESTOCK DISASTER PROGRAMS

The new Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) sign-ups began September 10. Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive LCP compensation for feed 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.

The following provides an overview of each program's provisions:

**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. In addition, 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. Eligible livestock for contract growers includes poultry and swine. Documentation must be provided with the FSA-900 application to prove kind, type, weight and number of livestock that died, and evidence that supports date, location and cause of death.

**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 physically located in the disaster county. Livestock owners must have suffered an eligible feed loss from produced or purchased forage or feedstuffs, or incurred additional feed costs 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 the feed loss or any additional feed costs occurring as a direct result of an eligible disaster event.

For more information about this program contact our office at 785-843-4260.

## COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

Ballots for the upcoming county committee election will be mailed to all eligible voters starting on November 2, 2007. The year's election will be held in Local Administrative Area (LAA) # 3, the eastern third of the county. The nominees for this year's election are: JC Brown, Raymond Deay and Kenneth Whaley. If for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify our office. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 3, 2007. Ballots will be counted at 10:00 a.m., on December 10, 2007, at the USDA Service Center.



## FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

The FSA-Farm Loan Program Office located in Ottawa administers farm loan programs for Douglas County producers. **Please contact their office at (785) 242-3527 ext 38 or 41 if you have any questions about the programs below or want to make an appointment.**

**FARM LOANS** – The Farm Service Agency makes both direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans to family-size farmers and ranchers, involved in crop production, livestock, fruits, vegetables, nuts and other farm related products produced.

FSA is currently offering direct real estate loans with fixed interest rates ranging from 4.00% to 5.5% to purchase land, construct farm buildings and/or improve structures. Direct operating loans with a fixed interest rate of 5.125% can be used to finance machinery, equipment, livestock, feed, seed, plants, supplies, or refinance carryover operating expenses. Emergency loans at 3.75% are available for specific disaster designations in the area for

producers having a qualifying loss of at least 30% in crop production or a physical loss to livestock, livestock products, real estate, or chattel property. An individual must be unable to obtain commercial credit. This can be due to lack of down payment, equity, inability to cash flow at commercial lenders rates and term, etc.

The guaranteed interest assistance program will allow FSA to pay 4:00% of an eligible customer's interest expense on guaranteed operating loans for a period of 5 years.

**YOUTH LOANS** – FSA makes loans of up to \$5,000 to rural youth to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, FFA, and similar organizations. Each project must be part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization adviser, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.

## CP33 ACRES AVAILABLE

Kansas has an allocation of acres remaining for Habitat Buffers for Northern Bobwhite Quail under the Conservation Reserve Program practice CP33. The purpose of CP33 practice is to provide food and cover for bobwhite quail in cropland acres. Cropland must be suitably located and adaptable to the establishment of bobwhite quail. Buffer species may include native warm-season grass, legumes, wildflowers, forbs, and limited shrub plantings, as specified in the participant's approved conservation plan. This practice qualifies for incentive payments.

Eligible land may be enrolled in CP33 anytime under the continuous CRP. However, signup for the practice will end December 31, 2007 or when the acres allotted for the practice have been enrolled. A fact sheet on the Northern Bobwhite Quail Habitat Initiative Program is available at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov). Please contact our office for information or if you are interested in the program.



## RECORD CHANGES

If you have bought, sold, or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the FSA office as soon as possible after they occur. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. 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 our programs.



"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program 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."