



Jewell County FSA News

May, 2007

Jewell County FSA Office

105 W. South St.
Mankato, Kansas 66956
(785)378-3731
(785)378-3568 – FAX

Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Marion Atwood, Chairman
Beverly Porter, Vice-Chairman
Roger Kintigh, Member

Mtg. 2nd Thursday of the Month

Staff Temporary Assistant

Kristi Badger Angie Ayers

Patricia Grout

Pam Rice Student Assistant

Janet Tyler Adam Badger

Internet web sites

USDA-www.usda.gov

FSA-www.fsa.usda.gov

FSA Forms-

www.sc.egov.usda.gov

NRCS-www.nrcs.usda.gov

County Committee Election

Nominations for county committee person in the LAA-2 area are being accepted from June 15 through August 1st. This is the central north/south townships plus Limestone and Washington. Beverly Porter currently holds this seat.

2007 Loan Rates

Wheat	\$2.92
Corn	\$1.98
Soybeans	\$4.82
Oats	\$1.34
Gr. Sorghum	\$3.22 cwt.
Sunflowers	\$8.39 cwt.

The April interest rate is 6.0%

E-GOV

Producers with Level 2 E-Authority account may sign-up for DCP or file LDP's through the e-Filing system. Your on-line application will be electronically sent to the FSA county office for processing & payment. For more information on e-gov go to: www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/

2007 CROP Acreage Reporting

The final date to certify small grains of wheat, barley, and oats is May 31. The final date to certify corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, CRP, fallow, and other crops is August 1, 2007. **NAP** producers be aware that feed crops are required to have the acreage reported 15 days prior to the crop being harvested (alfalfa – May).

All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from DCP, marketing assistance loans and LDPs.

FAILED CROP ACREAGE – any acreage you plan to destroy and plant a subsequent fall harvested crop, must be reported to FSA within 15 days of the date damage becomes apparent and before disposition of the crop; if you wish to maintain cropping history for this acreage.

Producers must report the failed crop on Form CCC-576 to maintain cropping history. Producers are to provide crop insurance data to support the loss claim if crop insurance was present on the acreage.

2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP)

The final date to sign into the 2007 DCP Program has been extended to August 3, 2007. Under the DCP, you must designate shares and sign a new DCP contract each year. The final direct payment will be issued in October 2007.

There is a \$40,000 payment limitation for direct payments and \$65,000 for counter-cyclical payments.

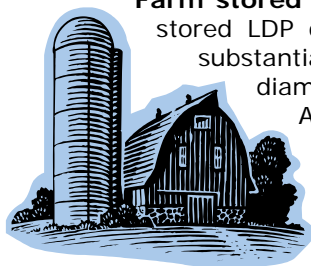
Year 2007 is to be the final year of the DCP Program. Many suggestions will be considered for a new farm program. We will inform you as soon as details for a 2008 farm program are available which will hopefully be this fall.

2007 Commodity Loans and LDP's

Nine month nonrecourse CCC loans are available for warehouse and farm stored grain. The loan can be repaid at the PCP (Posted County Price) or principal plus interest. A lien search will be conducted prior to the issuance of the loan. The loan service fee is the higher of \$45 per request on the first bin or warehouse receipt plus \$3 for each additional bin or receipt – OR – ½ of one percent times the gross amount.

LOCK-IN Rate – Once a CCC loan is issued, producer's have the option to lock-in the daily PCP as the amount for repayment. This lock-in rate is effective through the earlier of 14 calendar days before the loan maturity date, or 60 days from the date of approval of the rate. A producer may repay the loan any time at the current PCP. A producer has a one-time opportunity to "lock-in" a rate for 60 days. Only one 60 day lock-in rate is allowed.

Farm stored Grain – The producer may certify the quantity for farm stored LDP or CCC loan. The certified quantity would need to be substantiated by weight tickets, (or) measurements of the diameter, height, moisture, and test weight of the commodity.



Another option is to have FSA measure the commodity to determine these measurements.

For CCC Loan purposes, if the bin is full the grain must be leveled and no higher than the eave to provide access to the grain for spot-check purposes.

The grain may be peaked for any type of farm stored

LDP; and may be peaked if the bin is not full, for loan purposes.

Producers planning to move CCC loan commodities must contact our office prior to moving or selling the commodity.

LDP Filing Policy – The CCC-633EZ is a two part LDP request. The page 1 must be filed each crop year to be eligible for LDP benefits. Producers were provided these at the time of DCP Signup. Page 1 allows a producer to receive LDP based on the date beneficial interest is lost. Page 2 may be filed on any date to lock-in that days LDP rate if filed prior to losing beneficial interest.

The CCC-633 page 1 and 2 cover field direct LDP's, basic LDP's, and are revised to cover basic field direct LDP's for wool, mohair, and unshorn pelts.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program – The Farm Storage Facility Loan Program provides 7-year loans for up to \$100,000 at 85 percent of the cost of eligible grain storage and handling equipment. The April interest rate is 4.5 percent.

Foreign Investors 90 – Day 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.

Reminders

May 28 – Office Closed Holiday
May 31 – Final Report Small Grain Acreage
Final Date Feedgrain Loan or LDP
July 4 - Office Closed Holiday
Aug. 1 - Final Report All remaining Crops
Aug. 3 - Final sign-up for DCP Program
Sept. 3 - Office Closed Holiday

Dual Purpose Sorghum – forage sorghum varieties classified as Dual Purpose will maintain sorghum planting crop history and may be eligible for LDP. To determine varieties contact FSA or most seed dealers will have a list of qualifying varieties.

Producers need to bring in the tickets from the seed bags or invoice when certifying acreage to verify the dual purpose crop.

Record Changes – If you bought, sold, or are renting different land, you need to report the changes to FSA as soon as possible. For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest may lead to potential program ineligibility and damages.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (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 USDA, Director of 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.

CRP – Managed Haying and Grazing

Due to a settlement with the National Wildlife Federation provisions for managed haying and grazing of CRP acreage have been revised. The revision affects new or reenrolled CRP Contracts approved after September 25, 2006, and existing CRP Contracts; provided managed haying or grazing was not previously approved on the contract before September 25, 2006. The following guidelines provide the settlement revisions with an exception noted at the end.

- * The practice must be approved in writing prior to haying or grazing.
- * A payment assessment shall be assessed based on the number of acres actually hayed or grazed times the CRP annual rental payment times 25%.
- * A burn with cost share, and haying or grazing may not be in the same year.
- * The acreage may be rented or leased for haying or grazing privileges.
- * Excluded CRP acreages are: Wildlife Food Plots, Wildflower areas, Filter Strips, useful life easements, and land within 100 feet of a stream or water body.

Managed Grazing – The acreage may be approved for managed provisions 1 out of every 5 years, including years of emergency grazing release. Grazing is conducted from July 16 through November 13 not to exceed 120 consecutive days or as otherwise limited by a management plan or conditions.

Managed Haying – The acreage may be approved for managed provisions 1 out of every 10 years, including those years of emergency release. Haying is permitted on no more than 50 percent of each field or contiguous field once in five years. Haying is permitted from July 16 thru August 15. The hay must be removed from the field within 30 days from the final date to hay. The hay may not be stored on CRP acreage and the hay may be sold.

Exception – applies to **existing** CRP contracts providing that managed haying and/or grazing was approved on a CRP Contract's Conservation Plan **prior to** September 26, 2006. If haying and/or grazing was previously approved by this date the guidelines we have used in the past are grandfathered in. Below are guidelines for those in the exception status:

Managed haying or grazing is authorized 1 of every 3 years.

No haying or grazing during the nesting or brood season (April 15 – July 15)

**** Please contact our office if you have further questions.**

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Items

The CRP Continuous Signup Remains in Place – a producer may signup for filter strip, windbreak or other eligible practice at any time.

CP33 Habitat Buffers – Kansas received an additional allocation of 35,000 acres for Habitat Buffers for Northern Bobwhite Quail under the CRP.

Annual Spot-checks of CRP – FSA will be conducting spot-checks of CRP to determine proper maintenance of the acreage. CRP may not be hayed, grazed, harvested, or used for other benefit. Noxious weeds, and other weeds must be controlled, with acceptable cover established and maintained. Wildlife Food Plots must have a crop established the same as if it were a grain or seed crop under normal cropping conditions. CRP acreage may not be used for storage and lanes or paths are not acceptable. Contracts with violations determined may have penalties assessed.

NAP Information

NAP production evidence –

** Producers with losses are to notify FSA within 15 days of the loss.

** Producers who do not have a loss are required to provide production evidence to report and verify 2007 production. The producer must pay the cost of a field reporter to verify the production in the field. The production must not be fed before reporting to FSA. If production is fed and therefore not verifiable the production is not acceptable as eligible production evidence and will not count towards the APH (actual production history).

Producers are to provide bale counts and weight tickets when reporting production of baled crops. We must have verifiable weights of the bales. **The time to verify production is at the completion of harvest.**