



# Nemaha County FSA News

January 2008

Nemaha County USDA  
Service Center

Nemaha County FSA  
409 North Street  
Seneca, KS 66538  
(785) 336-2164  
(785) 336-6010 FAX  
[www/fsa.usda.gov](http://www/fsa.usda.gov)

Hours:  
Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee:  
Wayne Hermesch, Chairperson  
Lee Ukele, Vice Chairperson  
Marvin Winkler, Member

Committee Advisor:  
Rita Buessing

The county committee meets on  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month  
at 8:30 A.M., USDA Service  
Center conference room.

Farm Program Staff:  
Marjorie Feldkamp, CED  
Christine Christensen, PT  
Vicky Olenhouse, PT  
Karen VanWinkle, PT  
Peggy Woolsoncroft, PT

Farm Loan Staff:  
Kay McCoy, FLM  
Raymond Mueting, FLO  
Charlene Boden, PT  
Donna Griswold, PT

Field Staff:  
Joe Robke  
Regis Schmitz

Commodity Loan Rates:

	<u>2007</u>
Wheat	\$2.97
Barley	\$1.75
Oats	\$1.34
Corn	\$1.84
Soybeans	\$4.87
Gr. Sorghum	\$3.43
Sunflowers	\$8.03

Internet Web Sites:  
USDA-[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)  
FSA-[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
NRCS-[www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)



## County Committee Election Results

Marvin Winkler was re-elected to the Nemaha FSA County Committee as a result of the ballot count held in December, 2007.

At their recent organizational meeting, Wayne Hermesch was elected chairperson and Lee Ukele was elected vice chairperson for 2008. Marvin Winkler will serve as the member. Thank you to all the voters in Local Administrative Area #2 who took the time to cast their ballots.

## Crop Disaster Program Signup Continues

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006 or 2007 crops. The program has undergone one change. Losses on the 2007 feed grain crops have been added. Previously, only 2007 crops planted before February 28, 2007 were eligible.

Producers who incurred qualifying losses in more than one of the qualifying years must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Producers may apply for 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. Losses must be in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. Contact the county office for an appointment.

## Livestock Disaster Programs Ongoing

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) signups continue. Eligible livestock producers can apply to receive LCP compensation for feed losses or LIP for livestock losses occurring between Jan. 1, 2005 and Dec. 31, 2007 as a result of a natural disaster included in either a Secretarial or Presidential disaster designation. These programs have now been extended to include all of 2007 also.

LIP provides monetary assistance to eligible livestock owners for livestock deaths that occurred between the above listed dates in eligible disaster designated counties. 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. Documentation must be provided with the application to prove kind, type, weight and number of livestock that died.

LCP provides benefits to livestock producers who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs directly resulting from natural disasters occurring between the same above listed dates. 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 a grazing loss or eligible feed loss from produced or purchased forage or feedstuffs, or incurred additional feed costs as a direct result of the disaster event. Documentation must be provided with the application to prove feed losses or any additional feed costs.

## Dairy Disaster Assistance Program Signup

Eligible dairy producers can sign up for the recently announced Dairy Disaster Assistance Program (DDAP-III) at local FSA service centers. DDAP-III will help dairy producers recover production losses resulting from a variety of adverse weather conditions in the last few years. The program provides benefits to dairy producers for production losses that occurred between Jan. 1, 2005 and Dec. 31, 2007 because of qualifying disasters.

Contact the FSA Office for more information or to apply for the program.

## Unauthorized Disposition of Loaned Grain

If loan grain has been disposed of through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office, it is considered unauthorized disposition. The financial penalties for unauthorized disposition are severe and a producer's name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. *Always call the office before any grain under loan is fed, sold or moved.*

## Maintaining the Quality of Loaned Grain

This year's large grain crop has its obvious up side, but there is a downside too. Many producers were hard pressed to find adequate storage for all the grain. Overfilled grain bins can lead to grain quality problems.

Bins are ideally designed to hold a level volume of grain. When bins are overfilled and grain is peaked, airflow is hindered and the chance of spoilage increases. Producers who take out marketing assistance loans and use the farm-stored grain as collateral should remember that they are responsible for maintaining the quality of the grain for the term of the loan.

## Did You Know?

For fiscal year 2007, Nemaha County issued FSA benefits to producers that totaled \$6,381,500.24 earned through farm programs and \$3,387.390.98 through farm loan programs.



## Important CRP Maintenance Issues

All Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants are required to maintain the CRP practices they have. This means on all practices that did not have trees or shrubs planted in them according to a CRP Plan of Operations; trees and shrubs must be controlled by whatever means will accomplish the control. Cutting, spraying and burning are all allowed. However, please check with FSA personnel before burning to make sure it will not impact other CRP issues. *Always refer to your Plan of Operations to determine what operations are required and when.*

Over the past several years intense reviews have been completed and it was apparent some CRP fields were not being properly maintained. Not completing the required maintenance measures will cause non-compliance and monetary penalties to be assessed.

Trees and shrubs on CRP are not the only examples of violations. Non-control of noxious weeds such as musk thistle, Sericea lespedeza, and bindweed among others, is also a violation. Some other examples of violations are:

- Permanent roads or trails
- Trash and brush disposal areas
- Parking or storage of junked machinery and autos
- Livestock hay or feed storage
- Buildings or houses
- Mowing strips for hunting
- Cosmetic mowing to make it look nice

## Small Grain Acreage Certification

Acreage reports for all small grains; wheat, barley, oats, rye and triticale, can now be taken. Producers with acreage planted to these crops should be thinking about getting it certified. Acreage certification is preferably done by appointment. Please call the office for an appointment. *Remember, if you certify wheat now and plant oats (for instance) later. You will need to make a second appointment for that.*

## Changing Banks

Almost all FSA payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's important to keep the county office up-to-date on changes you might make in your financial institution.

If you have changed accounts or banks that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure uninterrupted service.

"The US 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, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Bldg., 14<sup>th</sup> and Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9140 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provide and employer."