



# Nemaha County FSA News

October, 2007

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:

Marvin Winkler  
Wayne Hermesch  
Lee Ukele

#### 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

Eligible voters in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2 are reminded to watch your mailbox starting early next month for your official county committee election ballot. LAA 2 consists of the townships of Neuchatel, Red Vermillion, Reilly, Harrison, Illinois, Home and the south two thirds of Adams, Mitchell and Center. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 3, 2007. If you do not receive a ballot and think you should have, feel free to notify the county FSA Office.

### 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.

Losses from natural disasters may qualify for financial assistance if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 2007. 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 more information.

### Livestock Disaster Programs

The new Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) signup opened September 10. Eligible livestock producers can apply to receive LCP compensation for feed losses or LIP for livestock losses occurring between Jan. 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007 as a result of a natural disaster included in either a Secretarial or Presidential disaster designation.

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 cost 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 incurred additional feed costs as a direct result of the disaster event. Documentation must be provided with the application to prove livestock and feed losses and additional feed costs.

None of the disaster programs have an announced ending date.

### Marketing Assistance Loans, LDPs

To be eligible for loans or LDPs, you must comply with conservation and wetland protection requirements; beneficial interest requirements, report how you use cropland acreage on the farm and ensure that the commodity meets CCC minimum grade and quality standards.

You must have beneficial interest in the commodity on the date you request the loan and during the life of the loan.

### Market Gain Reported on IRS Form 1099-G

Beginning with the 2007 calendar year, FSA/CCC will report producer market gains associated with the repayment of a CCC loan, whether the producer repays the loan with cash or uses commodity certificates in exchange of the outstanding loan collateral. The market gain will be reported on IRS Form 1099-G.

### Record Changes

If you bought, sold, or are renting different ground than you did last year, it is important you report such changes to the county office as soon as possible after they happen.

Farm ownership changes must be accompanied by a copy of a recorded deed or contract for sale.

Making sure you maintain accurate records with FSA will ensure you do not lose eligibility for any FSA programs.

### Payments Issued

Final 2007 Direct and Countercyclical payments were issued starting on 10/9/07. 2007 CRP payments have also been issued. If you have not received yours, please check for correspondence from the county office. More than likely, you have one or more payment eligibility forms that still need to be completed and returned. Once we receive these forms, we will issue payments just as soon as we can.

### Farm Storage Facility Loans

FSA offers seven-year, low-interest loans to grain producers to build new or upgrade existing storage facilities and related essential, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment. Loan opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- New conventional-type bins or cribs, oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures, and flat-type storage structures designed for whole grain storage,
- Perforated floors, safety equipment, electrical equipment and concrete components considered essential for a fully functional storage facility,
- Remodeling existing storage facilities.

Farm storage facility loans must be approved prior to site preparation, equipment purchase or construction, and must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. Special provisions apply for loans exceeding \$50,000.

There is a \$45 application fee. The maximum loan amount will be 85 percent of the net cost of the applicant's needed storage or handling equipment, not to exceed \$100,000 per borrower. A minimum down payment to the supplier or contractor is required. Fixed interest rates on farm storage facility loans are equivalent to the monthly rate of interest charged on U.S. Treasury Securities of comparable maturity on the date the loan is approved. The rate for October, 2007 is 4.375 percent.

### FSA's Compliance and Spot Check Changes

As part of a 2007 National Compliance Review, FSA's national office is requiring local FSA county offices to conduct compliance reviews and spot checks of certain producers selected by the national office through a statistical sampling method. A statistical sample of FSA employees, County Committee and State Committee members have also been selected for review using this same process. This is a change from previous spot check operations where selections were made by a process at the county office.

FSA may review a producer's operations in multiple states and counties, depending on the scope of the producer's operations. FSA will review both the accuracy of the representations made by the selected producers in connection with participation in FSA programs as well as the producer's compliance with applicable program requirements. The reviews may need to be conducted at various times throughout the year depending on the FSA programs in which the producer is participating. FSA appreciates the cooperation of its customers as the agency continues to enhance its operations.



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