



**SEDGWICK COUNTY
FSA**

11832 West Central Ste 100
Wichita, KS 67212-5129
Phone: (316) 721-6127
Fax: (316) 721-8513
www.fsa.usda.gov

HOURS:

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Staff meetings-Tuesdays at 8:30 A.M

County Committee:

Brian Pauly, Chairperson
Duane Carmichael, Vice
Chairperson
Geri Farber, Regular Member

Meetings- 2nd Monday of every Month

Staff:

Jane Becker, Temp PT
Anita Breth, PT
Angie Dealy, PT
Shevell Myers, PT
Mary Rajewski, PT
Lori Schmeissner, PT

Loan Manager:

Gary Nuss

Executive Director:

Sean Rafferty

IN THIS ISSUE

2007 DCP
Sign-Up-Deadline Change

Appointments Please

CRP Maintenance

Special Accommodations

Signing for Entities

Farm Reconstitutions and
Combinations

Farm Loans

New Arrival

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.

**SEDGWICK COUNTY FSA
FARMLINE**

April 2007

**2007 DCP SIGN-UP IS
UNDERWAY!!**

Sign-up for the 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program is currently available. Farms must be annually enrolled into a DCP contract if benefits are desired. To timely enroll, a CCC-509 contract must be submitted with signatures from both owners and operators sharing in payments by August 3, 2007. Contracts with signatures obtained by the county office after August 3, 2007, but before Sept 30, 2007, are considered timely filed, but will be assessed a late-file sign-up charge of \$100/farm.

Available to participating producers are two types of DCP payments for all covered commodities including soybeans and other oilseeds; *however, only those producers sharing in the risk of producing a crop are eligible for DCP benefits*

Direct Payment rates are fixed for the years 2002-2007. This benefit is computed by multiplying 85% of the farm base by the farm yield, times the applicable rate listed in the table below:

Crop in bushels	Total DCP rate	Advance DCP rate
Barley	\$0.24	\$0.0528
Corn	\$0.28	\$0.0616
Cotton	\$.0667	\$0.014674
Milo	\$0.35	\$0.077
Oats	\$0.024	\$0.00528
Soybeans	\$0.44	\$0.0968
Wheat	\$0.52	\$0.1144

Counter-Cyclical Payments are similar to the old deficiency payment system that used a Target Price. These benefits will be calculated by subtracting the direct payment rate, AND the higher of the loan rate, OR twelve month average market price, from the Target Price. These final payment rates are not determined until 12 months following normal crop harvest date.

Producers who elect to receive 22% of their direct payment in advance may choose any month beginning with December 2006, and then receive their final balance DCP payment in October of 2007. If advance payments are *not* desired, then the entire DCP payment shall be issued in October of 2007. With either payment option, participants can be assured that the entire DCP payment will be timely dispersed, but only after the

CCC-509 contract(s) is/are returned to the office complete with the original signatures.



**APPOINTMENTS for
DCP Sign-up and Crop
Certifications Please**

Your time is valuable. Appointments should increase staff efficiency and save you time. Most of the staff resources will be devoted to serving producers with scheduled appointments. As a result, the number of staff devoted to walk-in customers will be limited and you may be asked to schedule an appointment to avoid lengthy waits.

Please call 316-721-6127 to schedule an appointment.

CRP Maintenance



This spring, the FSA office will be conducting its annual CRP spot checks. Please check your CRP fields. If you find nondescript trees growing on your CRP acres, please have them removed.

Producers listed on a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract are responsible for maintenance, partially defined as controlling trees and noxious weeds, and are paid an annual maintenance benefit to perform such duties. Nondescript growing trees, either discovered or reported, may result in a noncompliance issue, or even worse, make the contract subject to possible termination. Please feel free to contact the office if/when you have any maintenance questions or concerns, as they pertain to both CRP and DCP acres.

RECORD CHANGES

If you have bought, sold, or are renting different land, please be sure to report those changes the FSA office ASAP. Failure to maintain accurate records with the FSA office, on all land you have an interest, can lead to possible program ineligibility and/or fines if you are participating.



Special accommodations will be made for the physically handicapped, vision or hearing impaired person(s) upon request. If accommodations are required, please call Sean M Rafferty, CED at (316) 721-6127

Signing for Entities

In a simpler time, when a producer visited the county office to sign a form, there was no question about how to sign. The producer simply signed his or her name — John Q. Public or Jane Q. Public — on the dotted line.

In today's world of "entities" — trusts, limited liability companies, cooperatives, partnerships and corporations — signing Farm Service Agency and Commodity Credit Corporation forms isn't so simple any more.

First, you have to have a document on file with the county office that says you are authorized to sign for the entity. It could be a copy of the articles of partnership or articles of corporation or a valid power of attorney.

Second, you have to know how you are supposed to sign. In almost all instances, when you are signing for an entity, your signature has to include "by" or "for" indicating you are signing in a representative capacity.

For example, say you have a partnership, the John R. Smith & Sons Partnership, and you are authorized to sign for the partnership. Acceptable signatures include: "by George C. Smith"; "by George C. Smith, Partner"; and "John R. Smith & Sons Partnership, by George C. Smith, Partner."

Remember, if you've established an entity for your operation, you can no longer sign forms and contracts as yourself. When you have signing authority for an entity, you have to sign forms on behalf of the entity, not yourself.

FARM LOANS

Low interest FSA farm loans are available, while funds last, at interest rates between 3.75% and 5.25%. Use the funds to refinance debt, purchase land, equipment and livestock, or for help with annual operating expenses with no money down. Special opportunities are also available for beginning farmers. If interested please contact Gary Nuss or Nick Bergkamp at 620-221-2060

FARM LOANS

Selected Interest Rates for January 2007

Farm Operating - Direct	5.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.375%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.000%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	4.625%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	5.750%

RECONSTITUTIONS and COMBINATIONS

All farm reconstitutions and combinations must be accepted by the FSA office no later than June 1, in order to be effective for the 2007 DCP fiscal year

NEW ARRIVAL



New arrival Sean Rafferty joined the Sedgwick County FSA team on March 7, as the new County Executive Director. Sean, a native of Texas, replaced long time County Executive Director Rick Case after completing a training program that started in October of 2002 and after being a County Executive Director in both Jackson and Cowley counties.