

## JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2008

**Lance H. Thompson, CED**

**Office Hours**  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Shawnee County FSA Office**  
3231 SW Van Buren, Ste 1  
Topeka, KS 66611-2291

Phone: (785) 266-9053  
FAX: (785) 266-8293

**County Committee**  
Arthur N Warner  
Gregory J Meier  
Carol A Marple

Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month  
@ 9:00 a.m.

**Office Staff**  
Linda Wohlgemuth  
Nicole Welborn  
Kellen Liebsch  
Kathy Allison

### **Crop Disaster Program Sign-Up Continues!**

The Shawnee County FSA office is now taking appointments to sign up producers for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP). We are accepting disaster applications for 2005, 2006, and 2007 crops (planted no later than February 28, 2007) suffering a loss of 35% or more. Uninsured crops are not eligible under this program. There is currently no deadline announced to sign up. Call today to set up your appointment!

### **Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)**

Applications are also being accepted for livestock producers who suffered grazing losses and/or increased feed costs because of drought conditions in 2005 or 2006. Eligible livestock must have been owned on January 1 of the calendar year of the loss, and still be on hand during the grazing season. There is currently no deadline announced to sign up for this program. Please call ahead for an appointment to sign up.

### **Farm Record and Bank Changes**

If you have bought, sold or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to our office as soon as possible so farm records can be updated. This also includes changes to farming operations and reporting of deceased individuals who were earning payment from our office. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land in which you have an interest can lead to possible program ineligibility and/or payment reductions. It is also important to keep our office up-to-date on changes you make in your direct deposits that have filed with our office.

### **Dairy Disaster Aid Program Signup began Dec. 3, 2007**

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 \$16 million in benefits to dairy producers for production losses that occurred between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007, because of qualifying natural disasters. It compensates producers for production losses that resulted from lost herds or dumped milk when dairy plants closed or the natural disaster damaged containment equipment. Additionally, power outages, fuel shortages, and infrastructure damage may have temporarily interrupted the flow of dairy products to markets.

To be eligible for DDAP-III, dairy producers must have suffered losses in primary and contiguous counties declared or designated a natural disaster. Also, producers in counties receiving an FSA Administrator's Physical Loss Notice determination are eligible. To find out more information or to apply for the program, contact our office for an appointment today.



### **Commodity Loan Rates**

Commodity	Price
Wheat	\$3.04/bu
Corn	\$2.00/bu
Soybeans	\$5.06/bu
Grain Sorghum	\$3.48/cwt
Oats	\$1.34/bu



Visit our website at:

[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

**Mark Your Calendar**

**Jan. 1– Office Closed  
New Year's Day**

**Jan. 8 – Topeka Farm Show  
Kansas ExpoCentre  
Begins**

**Jan. 10 – Topeka Farm Show  
Kansas ExpoCentre  
Ends at 4:00 pm**

**Jan. 21 – Office Closed  
Martin Luther King Jr  
Birthday – Observed**

**Feb. 6 – Shawnee County  
Crops School**

**Shawnee Co Farm Bureau  
Building at 9:00 to 3:00  
Call 232-0062 or 267-5721  
extension 3 for more  
information on this event**

**Feb. 18 – Office Closed  
Presidents Day**

**Ongoing: Continuous CRP  
Sign-UP, Farm Storage  
Facility Loans, CDP and LCP  
Disaster Sign Up, Dairy  
Disaster Aid Program  
Signup (DDAP-III)**

**Wheat Acreage Reporting Deadline – May 31, 2008**

Acreage reports for wheat, barley and oats are not due until May 31, 2008. If you need your acres reported earlier for crop insurance purposes, let us know and we will work with you. Producers must report acreages to maintain eligibility for Price Support Programs, Noninsured Crop Assistance Program (NAP), and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Please call for an appointment to certify your acres so we can have your folders pulled for you.

**Farm Loan Program News**

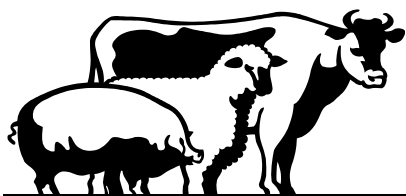
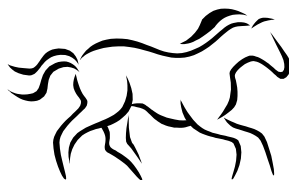
The FSA-Farm Loan Program Office located in Ottawa administers farm loan programs for Shawnee County producers. Please contact their office at (785) 242-3527 ext 38 or 41 if you have any questions about the programs below or want to make an appointment.

**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 5.375% to purchase land, construct farm buildings and/or improve structures. Direct operating loans with a fixed interest rate of 4.75% 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 advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.



The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or 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 Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.