

MISSOURI DISTRICT 4



United States
Department of
Agriculture

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2008 Notice of Crop Loss

Excessive rainfall and flooding in 2008 has created an unusual cropping season. If you were unable to plant, or experienced significant damage to a planted crop, it is recommended you file a "Notice of Loss" (CCC-576) with your local FSA Office.

Why should a Notice of Loss be filed? The purpose of the CCC-576 is to establish a historical record of the initial intended use of the acreage, the reason the crop was not planted or failed, and what the final disposition of the acreage was. This historical record may be important in order to qualify for future programs.

Direct and Counter Cyclical Sign-up is Underway

The 2008 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) had a late start this year due to the delayed approval of the 2008 Farm Bill. *With the ending date of September 30, 2008, producers will only have a short window of time to enroll farms.*

Under DCP, payments are issued to producers associated with farms which have base acres and payment yields established from the historical plantings. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute, regardless of market prices. For 2008, eligible producers may request to receive an advance payment of 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. Final direct payments will be issued after Oct. 1, 2008. Your local Farm Service Agency urges operators to enroll their farms as early as possible, so there is ample time to acquire all required signatures before the **September 30th** deadline.



Late File Fees for Crop Reporting

Due to the late enactment of the 2008 Farm Bill, the deadline for reporting crop acres to FSA was extended to August 15, 2008. Acreage reports received after the deadline will be considered late and will be assessed a **minimum** fee of \$46 per farm.

Reporting crop acres is required in order to receive the benefits associated with many farm programs administered by FSA including, but not limited to, the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL).

District 4 Rainfall

County	June		July	
	Actual	Average	Actual	Average
Benton	8.50	3.85	3.71	3.78
Carroll	11.22	4.37	9.00	4.24
Chariton	6.95	4.54	9.83	4.01
Clay	6.12	4.56	8.84	3.96
Cooper	8.97	4.84	4.98	3.74
Henry	10.35	4.80	3.99	3.86
Howard	8.25	4.18	10.95	3.53
Johnson	11.33	4.96	5.09	4.13
Lafayette	7.29	4.23	7.10	4.25
Pettis	9.48	5.04	4.64	4.44
Randolph	5.52	4.20	14.89	4.10
Ray	6.05	4.47	8.23	4.37
Saline	7.02	4.11	8.30	3.78
District Average	8.23	4.47	7.66	4.01

Required Maintenance/Noxious Weeds

The State Committee has determined all base acreage shall be protected from erosion. Additionally, weeds (including noxious weeds) shall be controlled. With so much prevented planting and failed acreage this year, producers are reminded of this requirement. Approved covers and practices on idle base acreage are:

- ◆ Annual, biennial, or perennial grasses and legumes
- ◆ Food plots or wildlife habitats
- ◆ Clean tillage on flat lands if not subject to wind erosion
- ◆ Prior year crop stubble with the control of weeds to prevent seed formation (Exception: Soybean stubble must be seeded to an acceptable cover unless land is within 0-2% slope)
- ◆ Natural cover (excluding noxious weeds) will be considered if cover is adequate to control erosion and weeds are prevented from seed formation.

Weeds must be chemically or mechanically controlled by August 10, or earlier or later if necessary to prevent seed formation.

Additionally, CRP regulations require controlling noxious weeds on all CRP acreage. Noxious weed control shall be performed annually when noxious weeds are present. Failure to control the noxious weeds on your cropland may result in penalties or termination of contracts for non-compliance.

The noxious weeds in District 4 are as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| ◆ Canada Thistle | ◆ Common Teasel |
| ◆ Multiflora Rose | ◆ Field Bindweed |
| ◆ Musk Thistle | ◆ Cutleaf Teasel |
| ◆ Purple Loosestrife | ◆ Kudzu |
| ◆ Scotch Thistle | ◆ Marijuana |



**Johnsongrass – *Clay, Lafayette, Pettis, Ray, Saline counties only*

Contact your local FSA office for more information on these requirements.

2008 Commodity Loans

Except for cotton and peanuts, the commodity loan policies that were in effect for 2007 will be in effect for the 2008 crop year.

Loan Availability Dates

- ◆ March 31 for wheat and other small grains
- ◆ May 31 for feed grains and soybeans

An Eligible Producer is a person or entity that:

- ◆ Has filed an acreage report
- ◆ Completed all eligibility documents
- ◆ Has beneficial interest in the commodity for which a loan is requested
- ◆ Shares in the risk of producing the commodity

Eligible Storage

- ◆ Approved farm storage shall consist of a storage structure
 - * Located on or off the farm, that provides safe storage for the grain through the maturity date of the loan
 - * Designed so that the grain can be safely measured, inspected and sampled.
- ◆ Commercial elevators must operate under an approved UGRSA (Uniform Grain and Rice Storage Agreement).

For more information, contact your local FSA Office.

Chariton County Getting ECP Assistance

Chariton County FSA has been approved to hold a sign-up for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) to repair farmland damaged by the flooding that occurred earlier this year. The sign-up period will begin August 19 and end October 17, 2008.

Up to 75% cost share will be available for:

- ◆ Debris Removal
- ◆ Sand Removal & Leveling
- ◆ Structure Repair
- ◆ Fence Repair



To qualify for assistance, there has to be at least \$1000 of flood damage on farmland physically located in Chariton County.

The damage has to be such that, if left untreated,

- ◆ would impair or endanger the land;
- ◆ materially affect the land's productive capacity;
- ◆ and be so costly to repair that Federal assistance is needed to return the land to productive agricultural use.

Conservation problems existing prior to the flooding are ineligible for ECP assistance.

DO NOT START CLEAN UP OF THE DAMAGE UNTIL *AFTER* THE SITE HAS BEEN INSPECTED BY CHARITON COUNTY NRCS.

For more information, contact the Chariton County FSA office at (660) 288-3279.

USDA Announces Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs

USDA enacted into law on May 22, 2008, the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, which has amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create an agricultural disaster relief trust fund and a supplemental agricultural disaster assistance program. The trust fund provides *five* new disaster assistance programs that may be used to make payments to farmers and producers. The new disaster assistance programs are the:

- ◆ Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program,
- ◆ Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP),
- ◆ Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP),
- ◆ Tree Assistance Program (TAP), and
- ◆ Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bee and Farm-Raised Fish (EALHF) Program.

The SURE program will be available to eligible producers on farms in disaster counties, including contiguous counties that have incurred crop production losses and/or crop quality losses during the crop year. Or any farm in which, during the calendar year, the total loss of production on the farm is greater than 50 percent of the normal production of the farm due to weather conditions.

The LFP program will be available to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock because of drought on land that is either native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or planted to a crop specifically for providing grazing.

The LIP program will be available to eligible livestock producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality because of adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary during the calendar year, including losses because of hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold.

The TAP program is reauthorized to provide assistance to orchardists and eligible nursery tree growers who produce nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut or Christmas trees for commercial sale that lost trees because of a natural disaster as determined by the Secretary.

The EALHF program will provide emergency relief to producers of livestock including horses, honey bees and farm-raised fish because of losses from adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary.

Producers interested in the SURE, EALHF, LFP or TAP programs must have purchased or obtained a plan of insurance covered under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (FCIC) for each crop on the farm or if the commodity is non-insurable, be covered under the noninsured crop disaster assistance (NAP) program through FSA and have paid the applicable administrative fee set by the State Committee approved deadline date.

However for 2008, producers who do not meet the above listed requirements may be eligible if the producer pays a fee comparable to the cost of NAP or FCIC coverage by no later than **Sept 16, 2008**. For more information about these programs, contact your local FSA office.



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DISTRICT 4 SERVICE CENTERS

Jasper Grant, District Director
(573)876-0925

(All offices are open Monday thru Friday)

Benton County

Annette Steelman, CED
535 North Hwy 65
Lincoln, MO 65338
(660)547-2351
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Carroll County

Chuck Riley, CED
Annette Brandt, FLM
1405 Hwy 65 North, Suite A
Carrollton, MO 64633
(660)542-8732
Office Hours: 7:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Chariton County

Julie Stoecklein, CED
Robert K. Hardwick, FLM
104 South J.F.K. Avenue
Keytesville, MO 65261
(660)288-3279
Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Cooper County

Connie Gibson, CED
Jct. 87 & I-70 17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233
(660)882-5647
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Henry County

Bill Spry, CED
1306 North 2nd Street
Clinton, MO 64735
(660)885-5567
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Howard County

Brian McDonald, CED
743 State Route DD
Fayette, MO 65248
(660)248-3384
Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Johnson County

Barbara Locke, Acting CED
727 PCA Road Suite A
Warrensburg, MO 64093
(660)747-8400
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Lafayette County

Stanton Thompson, CED
Brian Bagnell, FLM
120 W. 19th Street
Higginsville, MO 64037
(660)584-8732
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Pettis County

Jay O'Bannon, CED
Steven Lair, FLM
1407 W. 32nd Street
Sedalia, MO 65301
(660)826-3339
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Randolph County

Eddie Mckeown, CED
2995 County Rd 1325
Moberly, MO 65270
(660)263-1169
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Ray/Clay County

Jarrell Foreman, CED
500 Wollard Blvd.
Richmond, MO 64085
(816)776-5861
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Saline County

Jared Singer, CED
704 N. Miami
Marshall, MO 65340
(660)886-7447
Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Missouri District 4
 Jct. 87 & I-70
 17066 Highway 87
 Boonville, MO 65233-9640

Official Business

County Committee Elections

Nominations are in and now it's time to vote!

County committee elections give farmers and producers an important opportunity to ensure that their FSA county committees represent them. Farmers and producers who serve on county committees help make decisions necessary to administer federal farm programs offered in their communities.

County committees make decisions on agricultural issues such as; commodity price support loans and payments, conservation programs, disaster payments and employing County Executive Directors.

Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote. No one can be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

If you participate or cooperate in programs administered by FSA and live in the local administrative area conducting an election, you may vote in this important election.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 3. The last day to return voted ballots to the county office is December 1. Newly elected county committee members take office January 1, 2009. See the table above for a listing of nominees and participating townships in this year's election.

District 4 County Committee Nominees			
County	LAA	Townships	Nominee(s)
Benton	1	Alexander, Fristoe, Union, Tom	Brenda Joyce Arnett
Carroll	3	Ridge, Rockford, Carrollton, Combs, DeWitt, Eugene, Miami	Robert Christman, Gary Sanders
Chariton	3	Clark, Musclefork, Keyetsville, Bowling Grenn, Chariton	George Schupback
Clay	5	T54N R32 split between 34 & 35, T53W R31W split between 3 & 2, T52N R31W Split between 3 & 2, T51N R31W split between 3 & 2, T50N R31W split between 3 & 2	Ronald H. Bogue
Cooper	1	Boonville Rural 4, Clarks Fork, North Moniteau, Prairie Home, South Moniteau	Warren Graff
Henry	2	Walker, Davis, Clinton, Deepwater, Bearcreek, Fairview	Stanley Nold
Howard	1	Prairie, Burton, Bonne Femme	Robert G. Kirby
Johnson	1	Jackson, Columbus, Hazelhill, Simpson, Grover	Wallace Collett
Lafayette	2	Sni-A-Bar, Washington, Freedom	Linda Meineka, Sharon Oetting, Robert Ramey
Pettis	3	Cedar, Bowling Green, Sedalia, Smithton, Lake Creek	Thomas Oelrichs
Randolph	1	Clifton, Jackson, Salt River, Salt Springs	Joel Land, Jim Reynolds
Ray	2	Knoxville, Grape Grove, Crooked River	Michael Taylor
Saline	1	Arrow Rock, Cambridge, Clay, Salt Fork	Edna Durham, Loyd French, Isaac Christy