



March 2008

Seward County News

Reporting Failed Wheat Acres

Seward County USDA Service Center

Seward County FSA
2310 N. Kansas
Liberal, KS 67901
620-624-2421-Phone
620-624-8031-Fax
www.fsa.usda.gov

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

County Committee
Roger Cline
Jimmie Rice
Roger Eakes

County Committee meets
2nd Wednesday of the month

Unfortunately, the much needed moisture once again skipped on by the Southwest corner of Kansas and a failed wheat crop is going to be a realistic possibility. Therefore, it will be even more important that producers know that in order to keep their cropping history for their wheat, they will need to contact their administrative or local FSA Office and file a Notice of Loss (CCC-576), prior to destroying their failed wheat acres.

By notifying the Farm Service Agency of these failed acres, it will give us the ability to certify the affected acres as failed, which in turn will keep the acres on the FSA-578, or crop certification. This will also eliminate any potential discrepancies between the Farm Service Agency and insurance company's records.

Once you have notified the Farm Service Agency and filed your Notice of Loss, you will have the opportunity to destroy the acreage and plant a subsequent crop. This will provide you with the opportunity to keep the cropping history for the crop that was destroyed, as well as the crop that was planted as a result of the failed wheat.

In accordance to Farm Service Agency regulations, if a producer destroys a crop prior to notifying their FSA Office, then those acres will be deleted from the certification, and the following crop will be the only crop certified for that acreage, for that crop year. Keep in mind that this could have an adverse reaction, for example in the case of the Crop Disaster Program, which looks to previous cropping histories to determine eligibility on losses suffered. Also, this could present problems when insurance companies ask for acreage certifications for compliance purposes, as that crop will not be listed on the producer print crop certification.

With the current dry and windy conditions, taking the appropriate steps to control blowing or eroding ground does not define destroying the crop, as long as the intent is to still take the acreage to harvest. At the point that the a determination to not take the acreage to harvest is made, that is when the Farm Service Agency needs to be notified and a Notice of Loss filed.

Please notify your Farm Service Agency prior to destroying any failed crop and avoid losing the cropping history that you have established.



Certifying Wheat Acres

Even with the unknown outcome of the future Farm Bill, one thing is still certain; you will have to certify the acres on your farm for the current crop year.

Right now, county offices have been provided the software to take your wheat certifications and ask that you call to set up an appointment to do so.

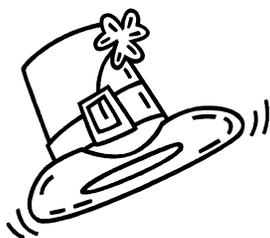
May 31st is the deadline to report or certify your small grain acres to the Farm Service Agency so please contact your local FSA Office today and set up a time to get those acres reported.

Crop Disaster Program

The Farm Service Agency has been accepting applications since the beginning of the year for the 2005, 2006, and 2007 Crop Disaster Program.

At this point in time a final application date has not been established, however, one is expected to be announced sometime in the near future. This is an opportunity that producers and/or landowners do not want to miss out on, so please visit your local Farm Service Agency to ensure that you have applied timely for this program.

For the 2005, 2006, and 2007 Crop Disaster Program, regulations require that insurance, or FSA NAP coverage had been purchased for the crop that suffered a loss. This insurance information has been downloaded to the Farm Service Agency and therefore does not require further insurance documentation. All that is required is a phone call or visit to the Farm Service Agency and we will be able to let you know if you have any eligible losses that qualify for the Crop Disaster Program.



*There once was an old
man of Esser,
Whose knowledge grew
lesser and lesser,
It at last grew so small
He knew nothing at all,
And now he's a college
professor.*

