



NEWSLETTER



Livingston County FSA Office

1100 Morton Parkway
Chillicothe, MO 64601

660-646-6220 phone
660-646-4894 fax

Hours

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
The office will be closed on all Federal holidays.

County Committee

Ben Beetsma
Jonathon Cooper

County Committee meets the third Thursday each month at 8:30 a.m.

January 2012

County Office Staff

Program Technicians
Dianna Sewell
Anissa Johnson
Jeannette Straker

County Executive Director
David Meneely

Farm Loan Manager
John McKinny

County Committee Election Results

Congratulations to Jonathon Cooper, who was elected to represent farmers from Cream Ridge, Medicine, Wheeling, Fairview and Grand River townships on the county committee! The election results for Local Administrative Area 3 are:

Jonathon Cooper — Elected to the county committee (COC),
David Beck — 1st alternate to COC

FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation. The committee members will hold their organizational meeting in January to determine the committee officers for 2012.

FSA ADOPTING GOVDELIVERY

Due to budget constraints, the number of Farm Service Agency (FSA) newsletters mailed to producers has been decreased. However, we will continue to create an on-line newsletter regularly.

Farmers and ranchers in Missouri now have a more efficient, timely option for receiving important FSA program eligibility requirements, deadlines and related information by email.

FSA is now offering free online communications through the FSA GovDelivery electronic news service. News will now be sent via e-mail right to the producer's home or farm office or to their Smartphone – allowing them to receive immediate notification of farm program news that is pertinent to their agricultural operation.

Through FSA's GovDelivery electronic news service, producers can establish subscriber preferences by choosing to receive federal

farm program and farm loan information by topic, by state and/or by county. Producers can select as many subscriber options as they want, which allows producers who farm in multiple counties or across state lines to receive updates from each county in which they operate or have an interest. GovDelivery is a one-stop shop for the most up-to-date USDA program information.

GovDelivery will enable FSA to keep producers better informed and conserve resources and reduce taxpayer expenses associated with the preparation, printing and distribution of hardcopy newsletters. County Committee ballots and Payment Transaction forms will continue to be mailed.

In the next month FSA will download all producer emails that we currently have on file into the GovDelivery system and set each producer to obtain information from their county(ies). When this is complete, producers will receive an email from the GovDelivery system providing the

subscriber link which will allow producers to access their account to choose additional preferences. Producers will receive a second email from the Missouri FSA State office to welcome them to GovDelivery and provide additional information about preferences. In addition to local information, producers can request to receive national program information through GovDelivery by topic.

Those producers who have not provided their email are encouraged to complete form AD-2047 so that FSA can setup a GovDelivery account. GovDelivery does not sell or distribute email lists to other clients or organizations. Email addresses are protected by the Privacy Act. Producers can now subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>.

2012 DCP/ACRE SIGN-UP

2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) enrollment will begin Jan. 23, 2012 and will end June 1, 2012. Here are some IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- All producers planting on **DCP base** acres must be identified on the DCP/ACRE contract and receive a proportionate share of DCP/ACRE payment for the farm.
- Changes on the farm after enrolling June 1st in DCP/ACRE must be reported to your local FSA office such as:
 - Ownership changes
 - Producer changes (Individuals and Entities)
 - Change in crop shares arrangements

Note: Changes cannot be made after Sept. 30, 2012.

SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SURE)

The sign-up for 2010 losses started on **Nov. 14,**

2011 and runs through **June 1, 2012.** The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that incurred in the crop year 2010. SURE is available to eligible producers on:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred crop production or quality losses, or both, and includes all crops grown by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops.
- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.

FSA SIGNATURE POLICY

Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits. The following are FSA signature guidelines:

- Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office
- Spouses shall not sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities
- Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents.

FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your

farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available. Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan. Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000. This makes the maximum combination of direct and guaranteed loan indebtedness \$1,514,000. The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

LOANS FOR THE SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED

FSA has loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches. While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided targeted funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged groups. A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of a group. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

Farm Records Changes

If you have sold or bought land, changed tenants, or rented additional land, please notify your local FSA County Office so your records can be updated.

LDPs FOR UNSHORN LAMB PELTS

Eligible producers have until Jan. 31, 2012, to apply for Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) for unshorn pelts produced during the 2011

crop year. Eligible producers must have beneficial interest in the pelts, owned the lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter and sell the unshorn lamb for immediate slaughter. Producers must also comply with wetland conservation and highly erodible land conservation provisions on all lands they operate or in which they have an interest. To qualify for payment, pelts must have been produced by an eligible producer from live unshorn lambs of domestic origin in the United States.



County Executive Director, David Meneely congratulates **FSA Committee Chairperson, David Williams** for twenty-four years of dedicated Farm Service Agency county and community committee service to the agricultural producers of Livingston County, Missouri. Mr. Williams reached his consecutive term limit in 2011 and could not run for reelection to the committee.

NAP Coverage Available

NAP coverage is available for crops such as forage and hay. Coverage is also available for grazing acres which is required to be eligible for the Livestock Forage Program. The application and service fee must be filed by March 15, 2012 for coverage in 2012. The service fee is \$250 per crop per county. More information is available in a program fact sheet which can be viewed online or picked up at any FSA county office.

USDA Rural Development

USDA Rural Development (RD) has been proudly serving rural America for over 70 years. Although the name has changed over the years, the mission remains the same: To enhance economic opportunity and improve the quality of life in rural America.

The USDA Rural Development mission area includes housing programs, community programs, business programs, utility programs and cooperative programs.

The programs consist of a variety of loan, loan guarantee and grant programs, plus technical assistance in the areas of business and industry, cooperative development, rural housing, community facilities, water and waste disposal, electrification and telecommunications, including distance learning, broadband and telemedicine.

We have dedicated employees fulfilling the Rural Development mission area for Missouri. We provide general information and are available to meet with applicants at any of the other collocated USDA Service Centers across the state where we either maintain a part-time presence or are available by appointment. Appointments may also be made at virtually any location in Missouri.

Further information on these rural programs is available at USDA Rural Development located in the USDA Service Center in Chillicothe.

Dates to Remember	
January 16	Office closed for Martin Luther King Holiday Observance
January 23	2012 DCP Enrollment begins
January 31	Deadline to apply for Unshorn Lamb Pelts Loan Deficiency Payment
February 20	Office closed for Presidents Day Holiday Observance
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loan Program.
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program.

Visit our website at: www.fsa.usda.gov/mo



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).