

# LINN COUNTY FSA NEWS

July 2009

## Linn County FSA Office

431 Spruce St. PO Box G  
Mound City, KS 66056-0606  
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## County Committee Members

Pamela Wilson, Chairperson  
Edward Self, Vice Chairperson  
Clayton Carothers, Member

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

*The Committee meets the 2nd Thursday of each month  
8:30 a.m.*

### Office Staff

Brian Lueker      Diana Otto      Jacque Nation      Sue Stainbrook

**Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm**

## 2009 DCP Signup

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) continues until **AUGUST 14, 2009**. This deadline is an extension from the original deadline of June 1, 2009. There are no late filed provisions for DCP.

FSA computes DCP program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2009, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payments for each commodity associated with the farm. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price.

The electronic DCP (or eDCP) service will save you time, reduce paperwork and speed up contract processing at FSA offices. It is available to anyone eligible to participate in the DCP program. To access this on-line service, you must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

Producers eligible for the DCP Program are also eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. See below for additional information regarding the ACRE program.

## ACRE program information

The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) is a new program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill that begins in crop year 2009. Through ACRE, FSA offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price.

ACRE payments are made when both state-level and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates. A decision to elect ACRE binds the farm to the program through the 2012 crop year, the last crop year covered by the 2008 Farm Bill. ACRE election sign up started April 27, 2009 and continues through **August 14, 2009**.

## Acreage certification

Producers must report acreages by applicable deadlines to maintain eligibility for most FSA programs. All cropland on the farm must be certified on FSA-578 to remain eligible. All farmland, including hay and grazing land must be certified to remain eligible for disaster programs. Final certification deadline is **August 1, 2009**. If you fail to timely certify your land uses, including CRP, you may late-file your certification for a fee of at least \$46 per farm. **IMPORTANT:** As you finish up planting for the year, please contact your Linn

## *Acreage certification continued...*

County FSA office to make an appointment to certify. By making an appointment you can minimize the time spent in the office as we will have all of your farms ready when you arrive.

## Special Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, contact the FSA office - Phone: 913-795-2940, ext. 2.

## Timely Filing of Loss

Form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for ALL CROPS. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed with 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

## 2009 County Committee Election Period

June 15, 2009 marked the beginning of the nomination period for the upcoming Linn County FSA Committee position currently held by Clayton Carothers. The 2009 election will cover Local Administrative Area 3 (LAA#3) which includes the townships of Liberty, Scott, and Lincoln. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else to serve on the County Committee for a three year term, stop by the office and pick form FSA-669A to nominate the person of your choice.

## Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) Program

Currently, the FSFL program offers seven-year low-interest (current rate is 2.625 percent) loans to help build or upgrade/increase grain storage facilities. For qualified applicants, loan principal is 85 percent of the net cost of the new storage facility and/or associated equipment, not to exceed \$100,000 for each borrower. The interest rate is fixed for the term of the loan, based on the month of loan approval.

Facilities must be needed to store wheat, oats, barley, grain sorghum, corn, soybeans and sunflowers, or other approved commodities. The structures must be permanently affixed, and may include (but are not limited to) conventional bins, oxygen-limiting or other upright silo-type structures, and flat-type storage structures designed for whole grain storage. Related equipment may include perforated floors, safety equipment, electrical equipment, and concrete components essential for a fully functional storage facility.

### Livestock Indemnity Program

The 2008 Farm Bill includes the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) which provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have incurred livestock death losses due to a natural disaster, on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011. Losses because of adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary during the calendar year, including blizzards, disease, extreme cold, extreme heat, floods, hurricanes, and wildfires, are eligible for LIP.

FSA advises farmers and ranchers who lose livestock due to adverse weather to compile and document their livestock death losses. Producers are advised that **verifiable** death loss documentation will not be accepted by County Offices until their LIP applications are filed.

Adequate documentation must prove the death of eligible livestock occurred as a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. If adequate verifiable proof of death records documentation is **not** available, a livestock producer may provide reliable records, along with verifiable beginning and ending inventory, as proof of death. Certifications of livestock deaths by third parties may be accepted FSA **only** if verifiable proof of death records or reliable proof of death records along with verifiable beginning and ending inventory records are **not** available.

Additional information about LIP is available at FSA County Offices or by going on line at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/notices?area=home&subject=lare&topic=not&getData=FSA>

### CRP haying and grazing

Certain Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts are required to conduct a management practice in 2009. Some contract holders who are required to conduct a management practice this year may elect to either hay or graze the acres. There are forms that are required to be signed before haying or grazing can take place. The forms are available in our office after July 1. Haying activity can take place between July 16 and August 15 only. Grazing activity can take place during July 16 and November 13, not to exceed 120 consecutive days or otherwise limited by forage conditions. Payment reductions will be applied to acres harvested. If you think you may have a required management practice to perform on your CRP acres, or you want to know if your CRP acres are eligible for haying and grazing in 2009, contact our office.

### Commodity Loans

Nine-month commodity loans may be obtained by placing the eligible commodity in approved farm storage, and either requesting a measurement service or certifying the loan quantity on CCC-666. If grain is stored in an approved warehouse you may obtain a loan on 100 percent of the net quantity on the warehouse receipt.

The county loan rate will be:

- If farm stored, the rate applicable in the county where the commodity is stored.
- If warehouse stored, the rate applicable in the county where the commodity is stored. For warehouse receipts under merged warehouse code agreements the receipt must show location and county where the commodity was originally delivered, and the loan rate in the county where the commodity was delivered will apply.

2009 Linn County Loan Rates are:

| HRW  | SRW  | Oats | Barley | Corn | SB   | Milo |
|------|------|------|--------|------|------|------|
| 2.63 | 1.89 | 1.37 | 1.70   | 1.97 | 4.93 | 3.35 |

A nonrecourse loan is a loan for which the commodity offered as collateral for the loan meets the quality eligibility requirements, and may, therefore, be delivered or forfeited to CCC, at loan maturity, in satisfaction of the loan indebtedness. A recourse loan is a loan, for which the commodity offered as collateral does not meet the quality eligibility requirements, and:

- May not be delivered or forfeited to CCC in satisfaction of the loan indebtedness, and
- Must be repaid in full on or before the loan maturity date.

In addition to these requirements, Kansas has additional Farm Stored policies dealing with stored grain for loans. Some of the policies include: the storage structure must have permanently installed ladders and allow for safe measurement and proper treatment, and grain must be in a measurable position. Check with FSA before harvest if you are considering a Farm Stored commodity loan. Ensure you know all the policies before harvest.

**Wishing everyone a safe and successful season!**

