

Bates County News

April 2008

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Butler, MO 64730
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www.fsa.usda.gov/MO

Office hours 7:45-4:30 Monday- Friday
Committee meets 2ND Tuesday each month

Sign-up for DDAP III Ends May 5th

Eligible dairy producers who suffered production losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 may apply to receive benefits, for any of these years, under the Dairy Disaster Assistance Program III (DDAP-III), as of March 5, 2008. Producers can sign up at their local USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) service center **until May 5, 2008, when sign-up ends.**

Producers will need to provide to their local FSA office, the annual marketed production and average number of cows in the dairy herd for 2003 and 2004 to determine base production. To calculate the loss, FSA must also know the dairy's production and the average number of cows in the dairy herd for the applicable disaster years.

Losses will be calculated by comparing the expected base annual production (from 2003 and 2004) and the actual production during the applicable disaster claim year. FSA may adjust calculations when losses are not caused by disaster.

For additional information on the DDAP-III program, visit your local FSA service center or visit online at: www.fsa.usda.gov.

Sign-Up Continues for USDA FSA Disaster Programs

Eligible farmers and producers who suffered livestock, livestock feed and crop losses that occurred before Dec. 31, 2007, can still apply to receive disaster payments.

FSA continues to issue Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) payments for losses. FSA will conduct sign-up and begin making payments for quality losses under CDP later this spring.

More information about CDP, LCP and LIP is available online at:

<http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>

Crop reporting deadlines

Wheat, Barley, and Oats need to be reported before June 30, 2008. Spring crops, & grass reports deadline is July 31, 2008. Crop reporting is a requirement for insurance and also important for history.

CRP Participants Take Note

All CRP contracts must have a crop report each year signed by the CRP participant receiving payment.

We are required to have a current copy of the deeds to all CRP farms on file in our office. Your payments may be held up this fall if a **current deed** is not on file.

Planning to Break Out Ground

All participants in USDA programs are required to have a conservation system in place on all the highly erodible land (HEL) that they operate. Several areas where problems can arise with complying with a conservation system are; renting new cropland, purchasing new land, breaking out additional cropland, planting different crops such as soybeans, and changing or removing existing conservation practices.

It is very important that you contact the FSA office before doing any of the above. Before breaking out grass land contact the office. Also, it is very important that you contact our office before modifying - tiling, draining, dredging, filling, or leveling - any wetland or drainage ditch. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these situations can result in loss of all Federal payments and eligibility.

Report Failed Crop Acreage Prior to Destruction

With spring planting around the corner, the Bates County Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages farmers to report failed crop acreage that will not be brought to harvest to their FSA office. Failed acreage must be reported to FSA before destroying and replanting to allow time for a field check.

"It is very important that farmers report failed acreage that will not be brought to harvest to the FSA office prior to destruction "This simple act of insuring that failed acres are documented could be the determining factor in whether or not a farmer is eligible for future crop disaster program payments."

Form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. For crop losses covered by the Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP), producers must contact their local FSA office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. Producers with crop insurance should also contact their local agent when losses occur and before destroying the crop.

Although low yield acreage does not need to be reported to FSA, producers are encouraged to keep good production records on acreage with a low crop yield to document crop losses. If

Congress authorizes a crop disaster program in the future, production records may help support crop loss claims.

Additional information in regard to failed crop acreage or crop losses covered by the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) can be obtained by contacting your local FSA office. FSA program information is also available online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

Farm Storage Facility Loans

Low interest rate loans for storage facilities are still available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including wheat, soybeans and corn.



Banking Changes?

If you have changed banks and not notified FSA, your payment could be delayed. Payments are electronically transferred into your bank account, if we are not aware of changes to your account and routing numbers, there could be problems. In order to make timely payments, you need to notify the office if you close your account or if another financial institution purchases your bank. It is important that any changes in producer's account such as type account, bank mergers, routing number or account numbers, be provided to the county office promptly to avoid possible payment delay.

Rural Youth Loans

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes operating loans to individual rural youths age 10 through 20 to establish and operate income producing agricultural related projects. These projects must be of modest size and be initiated, developed, carried out by rural youths participating in 4-H Clubs, FFA, or a similar organization or with a vocational teacher or county extension agent. The project must be an organized and supervised program of work. It must be planned and operated with the assistance of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience in agriculture related skills. Contact your local FSA office for more details.

FSA Direct and Guaranteed Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) 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 available now.

FSA Signature Requirements

Proper signatures on Farm Service Agency contracts, applications and forms must be submitted before the document will be considered as filed. All entities, including revocable and irrevocable trusts, corporations, partnerships, estates, etc., must provide evidence of signature authority stipulating those individuals who are authorized to represent the entity. FSA cannot accept signatures without such documentation on file. Examples of acceptable evidence include trust agreements, corporate charters or resolutions, partnership agreements and court orders of appointment. Spouses can sign for each other on most program documents unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office staff. An FSA-211 may be filed to delegate signature authority for FSA program purposes to another individual.

DID YOU ADD or Give UP A FARM

Producers are reminded of the importance of reporting to their local FSA office any change to their farming operation that would affect the status of that farm so the change can be effective for the current fiscal year. A change such as buying, selling, share crop or cash renting ground could effect the determination of a producer ability to receive government payments.

UNAUTHORIZED DISPOSITION OF GRAIN UNDER LOAN

If grain under loan has been disposal through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office staff it is considered disposition. The financial penalties for unauthorized dispositions are severe and a producer name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. Always call the office before any grain under loan is fed, sold or moved.

**Bates County FSA Office
 625 W Nursery
 Butler, MO 64730**

Dates to Remember	
April 18	2002 Farm Bill Extension deadline for 2008 LDP's on wool, mohair and unshorn pelts.
April 18	2002 Farm Bill Extension deadline for Contract Approval for all CRP, including CREP program practices.
May 26	Memorial Day Holiday. FSA Offices Closed.
May 31	Deadline to apply for 2007 commodity loans and LDP's on feed grains, soybeans, cotton, rice and pulse crops.
June 15	County Committee Nomination period begins.
June 30	Final certification date for small grains.
July 4	Independence Day Holiday. FSA Offices Closed.
July 31	Final certification date for all crops except small grains.
Continuous	Farm Storage Facility Loan program.