



“SCOOP Special Edition”

ARKANSAS FARM SERVICE AGENCY - - STATE OFFICE

December 2010

CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)

The deadline to enroll in the Crop Assistance Program (CAP) is December 9, 2010. Producers who suffered at least a 5 percent loss in production or quality on their 2009 crop of rice, upland cotton, soybeans, or sweet potatoes because of excess moisture or related conditions should contact their local office for more details. As of November 30, 2010, Arkansas producers have received approximately **\$50 million dollars in benefits**. Don't miss your opportunity. There is no authority for County Committees to approve late-filed applications.

PREVENTED PLANTED PROVISIONS

Producers should report prevented planted acreage to their local FSA Office when the crop acreage is not planted due to disaster-related conditions. To be considered timely filed, prevented planted acres should be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date established by Federal Crop Insurance. Final planting date for wheat and oats is **November 30, 2010**, so the final date to report prevented planted wheat and oats is **December 15, 2010**. County Committee review and action are required to receive credit in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

2011 ADVANCE DIRECT PAYMENTS OFFERED BEGINNING DECEMBER 1, 2010

FSA county offices will begin issuing 2011 Advance Direct Payments in December 2010 to those producers enrolled in the 2011 DCP Program and who have completed all required documents and have been determined eligible for payment. Producers must request the month they wish the advance payments disbursed. Advance payments may be requested for any month from December 2010 through September 30, 2011. The deadline to enroll in the 2011 DCP Program is June 1, 2011.

2011 ADVANCE PAYMENT NOT OFFERED FOR COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS

FSA would like to remind producers that Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 enacted authorized May 22, 2008 authorized:

- the issuance of counter-cyclical payments for crop years 2008 through 2012 for each covered commodity if the effective price for the covered commodity is less than the target price for the covered commodity
- Release of payment after October 1 or as soon as practical after the end of the marketing year for the covered commodity.
- Authorized a 40 percent advance of the projected payment for years 2008 through 2010
- Did not allow for an advance payment for years 2011 or 2012.

2008 SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS (SURE) PROGRAM

FSA county offices have issued over \$4,500,000.00 to Arkansas producers to date for the 2008 SURE Program. Over 60 percent of the total was issued from funds authorized by the American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA/Stimulus). Signup for 2008 SURE ended September 30, 2010.

2011 RECONSTITUTIONS

Farm reconstitutions may now be processed for 2011 program year provided proper signatures and supporting data are obtained. The method and priority order for farm division with bases acres is as follows:

- **Estate:** Used when a will or written agreement by heirs state the distribution of base acres
- **Landowner Designation:** Used when land is sold/transferred with a written agreement by the buyer/transferee or seller agreeing to the distribution of bases acres. The seller/transferor must have owned the land at least three years unless the County Committee waives the requirement.
- **Default:** Used when the estate and landowner designation method does not apply. This method distributes bases to the new farms at the tract level as they exist on the parent farm before reconstitution.

2009 STATE TRIGGER MET FOR ACRE

USDA has just announced that for the 2009 ACRE Program, Arkansas has met the “State” trigger for Irrigated soybeans and has not met the “State” trigger for non-irrigated soybeans, irrigated grain sorghum, and non-irrigated grain sorghum. Farms enrolled in the 2009 ACRE Program with irrigated soybeans planted in 2009 could earn an ACRE/ACRE payment if the “FARM” trigger is met provided all other eligible criteria are met. Below is a summary of State Triggers for 2009 for year to date.

Crop	Crop Status	State Trigger Met
Corn	IR	Yes
Corn	NI	Yes
Grain Sorghum	IR	No
Grain Sorghum	NI	No
Soybeans	IR	Yes
Soybeans	NI	No

PARTICIPATION IN BOTH FARM PROGRAMS AND FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

Producers and lenders are being reminded that FSA must ensure that producers consistently participate in Farm Loan Programs and Farm Programs, such as but not limited to DCP, LDP's, and CRP. For example: If FSA Farm Loan Program approves a loan for an individual to produce crops on FSN 100, then the applicable DCP payments must reflect that he is receiving payments as an individual and not as a corporation, partnership, or other. Producers are also reminded, although FSA is monitoring both Farm Loans and Farm Programs for consistency, farm producers are the ones that must comply with all FSA programs.

SIGNATURE POLICY FOR FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

As we publicized in our December 2010 SCOOP using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits. This is also important for documents initiated with our Farm Loan Division. Farm Loan Programs and Farm Programs have different signature requirements. The information published in our December 2010 SCOOP is applicable for Farm Programs. Producer's requesting benefits with our FSA Loan Division should work with their local representative to ensure correct signatures are obtained.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PROVISIONS

Any person convicted under Federal or State law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting, or growing a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium poppies, and other drug producing plants.

PROGRAM DEADLINES

Final Date to file a 2009 Crop Disaster Assistance Application	December 9, 2010
Last date to file prevented planting credit for wheat and oats	December 15, 2010
2011 NAP Application Closing Date (last date to purchase 2011 crop year coverage) for: Broccoli Cabbage (Spring and Fall Plantings) Carrots Greens (Spring and Fall Plantings) Onions Pecans (Native and Improved Varieties) Potatoes (Spring and Fall Plantings)	January 1, 2011
Final date to inform FSA of crop losses	Before Crop Disposition
Final Date to report wheat and oats planted acreage	May 15, 2011
Final date to file a 2011 ACRE Election Final date to have all signatures on an ACRE Election Final date to file a 2011 DCP and/or ACRE (yearly) enrollment Final date to have returned signatures for producers who have a share in a DCP and/or ACRE contract Final date to file a successor-in-interest DCP or ACRE contract if the change occurred by June 1, 2011	June 1, 2011
The date FSA uses to look at the structure of farming operations to calculate direct attributions	June 1, 2011
Final Date to Report 2011 Spring Seeded Crops	July 15, 2011
Last date to request a 2011 reconstitution on a DCP or ACRE farm	August 1, 2011
Final date to prioritize crop to receive ACRE Payments Final date to file a 2011 successor-in-interest DCP or ACRE contract if the change occurred after June 1, 2011 Final date to have returned signatures for producers who have a share in a DCP and/or ACRE contract that had a 2011 successor-in-interest contract filed after June 1, 2011	Sept. 30, 2011

FSA/FCIC FINAL PLANTING DATES FOR RICE HAVE CHANGED

Beginning in crop year 2011, the FCIC final planting date for rice will be May 20, 2011. This date will also be used by FSA for FSA Program determinations.

“The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, and 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

Linda Newkirk, State Executive Director
Dianna Shook, Administrative Officer
Tony Franco, Chief, Price Support/Conservation

Sharon Baker, Chief, Prod Adj/Compliance
James Culpepper, Chief, Farm Loans
Phone (501) 301-3000
Website: www.fsa.usda.gov/ar