

## Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director

### Required Crop Reports

Legislation requires all farms with an effective quota greater than zero to report acreage planted to burley, including zero acres no later than July 16th. Reports filed after July 16th will be subject to a late file fee.

Marketing cards will NOT be issued without a crop report on file.

Farms with an effective burley quotas that do not from the MUST report a zero acreage for burley tobacco, or the farm will be subject to quota forfeiture for the applicable burley marketing quota next established for the farm, unless the State Committee and the County Committee determine that the reduction is not applicable.

### Burley Tobacco Designation

Beginning with the 2001 marketing year burley tobacco farmer operators will be required to file an initial designation of pounds to a specific warehouse, receiving station or dealer with which they intend to market their tobacco. The initial designation period will begin June 1, 2001 and end on August 1, 2001.

Farmers will be eligible to re-designate pounds and sales location during the re-designation periods of: October 1-5, 2001, October 29-November 2, 2001, December 3-7, December 28, 2001-January 4, 2002 and January 28-February 1, 2002.

Farmers selling at traditional auction warehouses will receive a marketing card similar to cards they have used in recent years. These cards will indicate the producer's designated warehouse. Marketing cards for producers selling at non-auction sites will be issued by thermal bar coded card. These cards will indicate the designated buyer.

### Burley Tobacco Lease Date

Burley Tobacco Lease will end on July 2, 2001. Any producer wishing to post their name to the Tobacco Lease In or Lease Out may contact the office in person or by calling 606-256-2525.

### Tobacco News On The Way

Tobacco farmers all over will soon be receiving information concerning the tobacco changes taking place with the current crop year. The Tobacco FACT sheet will be mailed from Kansas City and should arrive shortly to any and all producers who received a 2000 Tobacco Acreage Report, Disaster Lease and Transfer, Marketing Designation, Carryover

Tobacco Marketing and Owner Designation of Quota. The sheet will also include an important date section. Watch your mail for forthcoming news!!

### Burley Tobacco Acreage Reports

New legislation requires all farms with an effective quota greater than zero to report acreage planted to burley, including zero acres.

Farms with an effective burley quota that will not plant burley or lease quotas from the farm MUST report a zero acreage for burley tobacco, or the farm will be subject to quota forfeiture for the applicable burley marketing quota next established for the farm, unless the State Committee and the County Committee determine that the reduction is not applicable.

### FY 2001 AMTA Reminders

The deadline to designate payment shares and meet PFC signature requirements for FY 2001 is August 1, 2001. FY 2001 PFC payments may not be issued on a farm, unless all producers and owners meet the PFC signature requirements by August 1, 2001.

In addition, for an individual producer to receive a payment for the fiscal year, all supporting documents such as CCC 502, AD 1026 and FSA 507 must also be met by August 1, 2001, to be eligible for FY 2001 PFC payments. After payment shares are designated, any changes to the farming operation, including, but not limited to payment shares and change of operators, must be reported to FSA on or before August 1, 2001.

Failure to report changes by August 1, 2001, may result in all producers on the farm being ineligible for FY 2001 PFC payments.

### Spousal Power of Attorney

Spouses may sign on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written denial is on file in the FSA Office.

### Dates to Remember

- CDP (Crop Disaster Program) began January 18th.
- Sign up for the Grain Out Program May 14th through August 31st.
- Crop Reporting: Small Grains (WHEAT) by May 31st.
- Requesting farm constitution for PFC payment shares: through June 1st.
- Enrolling farm in PFC after reconstitution: 30 calendar days after FSA 476 notice.

## Our Readers Write

Dear Editor,

In April, we observed Child Abuse Awareness Month. But this observance went widely unnoticed. As pediatric critical care nurses, we wish to call attention to some issues. When we take care of any child who has been abused, we hurt for them. As we look into their eyes and see a blank stare, we think of all of the things they will never see. As we give them nutrition through a tube, we think of what they will never be able to eat. As we change their diapers, we realize they will always be dependent on

someone else to take care of their basic needs.

Child Abuse is here - every day! When people hear the words "Child Abuse," most turn the other way in denial because "that doesn't happen here." But, we must not deny this problem in our community. Last year 430 children were seen in the Kosair Children's Hospital-Emergency Department with suspected abuse. Through April this year, there have been 19 child abuse cases severe enough to warrant admission to our Critical Care Center. That's more

than one child critically injured from abuse each week! Child abuse affects all segments of society and knows no socioeconomic, cultural, ethnic or religious boundaries. We say it all physical, emotional and sexual abuse as well as neglect.

It is devastating to see these children with broken bones, fractured skulls, burned and swollen bodies and emotional scars to live a lifetime. How could anyone violently shake a baby to a sleeping, vegetative state? Who could pinch a child in the stomach so hard that it causes internal bleeding? Unfortunately the reports are not always clear.

Abuse occurs for a number of reasons. A lack of understanding of child development can result in the creation of physically abusive situations for

The Mt. Vernon Signal Thursday, May 17, 2001 Pg. A7 child's behavior. At times, parents often have low self-esteem and may expect their child to satisfy their unmet emotional needs. Alcohol and substance abuse, financial pressures, poor housing conditions, loss of a job and the inability to provide for the family's needs also commonly precipitate abuse. These kinds of pressures may cause a parent to feel overwhelmed and unable to cope.

Remember it is never okay to shake, throw or hit your child. If you feel you could lose control:

- Take a deep breath and count to 10.
- There's nothing wrong with taking time out and dealing with the situation later.
- Call someone close to you for emotional support.

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