

Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander FSA Director

The Deadline Is Here!!

Farmers are required to inform FSA of the warehouse number where they will market their tobacco. Please note the FSA 808 will indicate where the tobacco will be sold. Therefore, if you decide to market at a warehouse other than the one specified on the marketing card, you must return that card to the FSA office and request another marketing card. Remember: the marketing cards are warehouse specific.

Producers must be aware of the warehouse designation form prior to the approval of all leases. Warehouse designation forms list only those pounds effective for the farm as of the date of the signed form. Therefore, if you have leases not approved you will need to come back to the FSA office and file the FSA 808 for the lease pounds.

Farmers not signing the FSA 808 will be eligible to re-designate pounds and site locations during the 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.

FSA has a listing for public notice of warehouses, receiving stations and dealers posted on the bulletin board in the county office. This listing shall be available through March 31, 2002.

Beware of Undermarketings

Producers in years past have been eligible to carry forward under marketed pounds for one year. Beginning with the 2001 crop, we are now advising producers to market as much of the effective quota as possible. We also would like to advise producers not to "lay out" tobacco for one year hoping to have a larger quota the next year. Here is our reasoning: Beginning with the 2001 Burley tobacco crop, if you sell less than 100 percent of your effective quota, the amount of quota that can be carried forward to the next crop year may be subject to reduction. Reductions in the carryover of undermarketings will come in effect when the total burley undermarketings exceed 10 percent of the national basic quota.

REMEMBER: LEASE OR MARKET 100 PERCENT OF THE FARMS EFFECTIVE QUOTA TO AVOID A POSSIBLE REDUCTION OF POUNDS!

Dates to Remember

- CDP (Crop Disaster Program) began January 18th.
- Enrolling farm in PFC after re-constitution: 30 calendar days after FSA 476 notice.
- Crop Reporting for row crops, hay and pasture by July 2nd.
- Crop Reporting: required for ALL burley tobacco farms by July 16th.
- Designating payment shares on PFC and meeting signature requirements: August 1st.
- Designating Burley Tobacco Warehouse for Marketing: June 1st through August 1st.
- Sign up for the Gaze Out Program through August 31st.

Disaster Leasing

Farmers who will suffer a burley tobacco disaster loss must file an application with FSA Prior to Harvest to retain eligibility to lease quota away under the disaster lease provisions. The disaster lease provision was implemented to provide relief to producers who suffer a disaster loss and are unable to produce and market the farm's effective quota. To be eligible to disaster lease and transfer, the transferring farm must file a crop report with FSA, have planted acreage sufficient to produce the farm's current year effective quota, provide a workman like manner for the crop production, suffer more than a 20% crop loss and meet all price support eligibility requirements.

Warehouse Designation-A Must

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 for the 2001 marketing season will begin June 1, 2001 and end on August 1, 2001.

Section 314 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, requires that USDA collect these assessments. The "penalty" rate is 75 percent of the average market price for that kind of tobacco for the previous marketing year. The statute applies to every kind of tobacco subject to marketing quotas. When the average market prices for each kind of tobacco are determined and announced, the penalty rates are then calculated.

The rate of penalty for the 2001-2002 marketing year for Burley (type 31) Tobacco is \$1.47 per pound.

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Experience and research have shown that songbirds, such as northern cardinals and American goldfinches, are the only kind of wildlife that can be directly fed the appropriate seeds with little risk of negative repercussions. But even birdfeeders can be sources of disease, and should be periodically scrubbed clean with a brush and mild soapy water and disinfected with bleach water. Feeders can also be moved every few months so that a buildup of feces does not present a problem.

Those who wish to help wildlife should focus their efforts on habitat conservation and improvement, rather than feeding. "In reality, food is rarely a limiting factor for the most commonly fed wild animals," Clark explained. "Suitable cover to accommodate these animals' travel, escape, resting, and reproductive needs is far more in demand than food."

Kentuckians can be good neighbors to wildlife not only by providing the right habitat, but in other ways, too. One is by exercising care when disposing of trash. Trash should be secured in containers that keep wildlife out. This may simply mean placing a burger crumb across a trash can lid and fastening it to the container's handles. Another neighborly practice is being a responsible pet owner. Pets should be fed at regular times and inside a home or garage so that food is not left outside for wildlife to exploit. In addition, pets should not be allowed to roam

freely in urban areas. Pets such as cats, small breed dogs, and their young may be easy prey to predators such as coyotes, and may encourage the predators to frequent residential areas. Domestic house cats and stray cats also kill millions of songbirds, amphibians, and other animals each year.

A final step people can take to help wildlife is not attempting to rescue young or injured animals. "Usually, young birds or mammals that people see alone are still being cared for by their parents," Clark explained, "even if they are not in sight; only in rare instances where parent animals are unable to be dead, such as from vehicles striking them, should people intervene. People concerned about orphaned or injured animals should first contact their local Animal Control office to determine if there is a wildlife rehabilitator in their area who is permitted and capable of caring for the animal(s). Untrained people often put themselves and the animals they want to help at risk by trying to approach them."

If you want to help provide for the needs of wildlife in your area, improve the habitat instead of directly feeding animals. Landowners who own 5 acres or more of property and are interested in habitat improvement are eligible for a site visit from a KDFWR wildlife biologist free of charge or obligation. Those with less acreage or those interested primarily in landscaping their home lots may obtain a Backyard Wildlife Kit.

Farm deaths down

The number of farming-related deaths in Kentucky fell 19 percent in 2000 compared with the previous year, according to a report from the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center.

The annual report from the center's Kentucky FACE (Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation) Project says 17 people died in farming accidents last year, down from 21 in 1999 and 65 percent lower than the recent high of 48 deaths in 1995.

"We applaud the farmers throughout Kentucky who go the extra mile to stay out of harm's way," Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Billy Ray Smith said. "At the same time, our hearts go out to the families of those 17 people who lost their lives on the farm last year. Farm safety is a priority of this administration, and we won't rest until the number of farm fatalities in Kentucky is down to zero."

"People are changing their habits. Safety is a choice, and more farmers

are making that choice," said Dale Dobson, a 15-acre County farmer whom Commissioner Smith named the Agriculture Department's farm and home safety field officer nearly three years ago.

Of the 17 people who died last year, 13 were 50 and over, and four were 80 and over. None was younger than 20. Once again, farm machinery was listed as the cause of more deaths (nine) than all other farming-related causes combined.

Dobson travels all over the Commonwealth giving farm safety demonstrations and staging mock rescues. To schedule an appearance, contact the Division of Public Relations and Communications at (502) 564-4696.

The Department offers a farm and home safety plan at no charge. The plan contains useful safety tips and space for adding emergency contact information. To obtain a copy, call (502) 564-4696 or download the plan from the Department's Web site at www.kyagr.com.

Email the Signal at mvsignal@sun-spot.com

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Luke Gooch



2000 Dodge Intrepid

Loaded, 22K

\$13,500/\$262 Mo.



2000 Buick Regal

4 Dr., Loaded

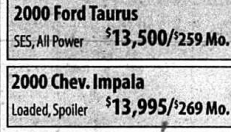
\$12,995/\$262 Mo.



2001 Pontiac Grand Prix

GT, 4 Dr., 12K

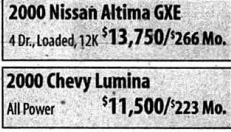
\$15,500/\$285 Mo.



2000 Ford Taurus

SES, All Power

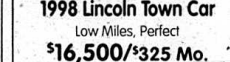
\$13,500/\$259 Mo.



2000 Nissan Altima GXE

4 Dr., Loaded, 12K

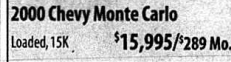
\$13,750/\$266 Mo.



1998 Lincoln Town Car

Low Miles, Perfect

\$16,500/\$325 Mo.



2000 Chevy Monte Carlo

Loaded, 15K

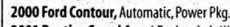
\$15,995/\$289 Mo.



2000 Pontiac Grand Prix GT

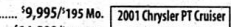
2 Dr., Leather, Sunroof

\$15,450/\$285 Mo.



2000 Ford Contour, Automatic, Power Pkg.

\$9,995/\$195 Mo.



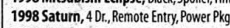
2001 Pontiac Grand Am, 4 Dr., Loaded, 4K

\$14,500/\$269 Mo.



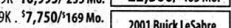
1998 Chevy Cavalier, 4 Dr., Auto, Air

\$6,995/\$149 Mo.



1998 Mitsubishi Eclipse, Black, Spoiler, Tint, 29K

\$10,995/\$235 Mo.



1998 Saturn, 4 Dr., Remote Entry, Power Pkg. 29K

\$7,750/\$169 Mo.



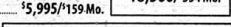
1998 Saturn, 2 Dr., Auto, Sunroof, Leather, Loaded, 31K

\$10,500/\$225 Mo.



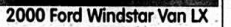
1998 Toyota Camry, 4 Dr., LE, Gold Pkg, Spoiler, 31K

\$12,500/\$265 Mo.



1996 Pontiac Grand Am, 4 Dr., V6, Local

\$5,995/\$159 Mo.



2001 Chrysler PT Cruiser

Limited, Leather, Sunroof, 300 miles

\$22,500/\$405 Mo.



1999 Suzuki Grand Vitara

4x4, 23K

\$12,995



1996 Jeep Grand Cherokee

Laredo, 4x4

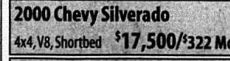
\$11,995/\$312 Mo.



2000 Ford Windstar Van LX

4 Dr., Rear Air

\$15,500/\$285 Mo.



2000 Chevy Silverado

4x4, V8, Shortbed

\$17,500/\$322 Mo.



1989 Dodge Caravan

V6

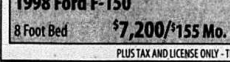
\$10,500/\$207 Mo.



2000 Chevy S-10 LS

4x4, V6, Auto, 3K

\$15,995



1998 Ford F-150

8 Foot Bed

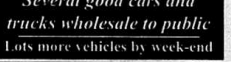
\$7,200/\$155 Mo.



1996 Ford Explorer

XL, 4x4, Local

\$10,995/\$286 Mo.



2000 Ford Windstar Van LX

4 Dr., Rear Air

\$15,500/\$285 Mo.

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