

## Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director

Updated Information on  
Planted Acres Requested

Producers are receiving the Summary Acreage History Report for their farms. Producers should verify these printouts and update records on planted and prevented planted acres filled with USDA's Farm Service Agency. This information, required by the 2002 Farm Bill, must be correct in order to receive accurate direct and counter-cyclical payments in the near future.

The 2002 Farm Bill gives farmers several options for establishing or updating bases. FSA is now asking producers to review and update their information now so payments can be issued promptly this fall.

The 2002 Farm Bill provides for direct and counter-cyclical payments to be made to eligible producers of covered commodities include wheat, corn, sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, rice, soybeans, sunflower seeds, canola, flaxseed, mustard, safflower, and rapeseed. Letters from

FSA are being mailed to producers across the country asking for their updates. The letter will include a Summary Acreage History Report showing the acreage of covered commodities reported to FSA. Included will be planted acres and/or acres prevented from being planted for crop years 1998 through 2001. If the Report is correct, producers do not need to take any action. If the information is wrong, producers will need to provide verifiable documentation of acreage and yields to their local FSA office by August 31, 2002.

Direct and Counter-cyclical payments for 2002 through 2007 will be based on each producer's individual production history. Sign up for the 1, 2002 and end July 2, 2003.

Program participation is voluntary, and producers are responsible for meeting deadlines and complying with rules and regulations.

Producers who have questions

should contact their local USDA Service Center or county FSA office. More information about the 2002 Farm Bill Issues is available at <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill>.

## Dairy Program Signup Began

August 13th  
Jeffrey S. Hall, Kentucky State Executive Director of the Farm Service Agency, reminds farmers that sign up for the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program began August 13th. This program, authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill, financially compensates dairy producers when domestic milk prices fall below a specified level.

Eligible dairy producers are those who produced milk in any state and marketed the milk commercially beginning December 2001. To be approved for the program, producers must be in compliance with highly erodible conservation provisions and must enter into a contract with USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation to provide monthly marketing data.

MILC payments will occur in months when the price of Class 1 milk in Boston under the Northeast Milk Marketing Order falls below \$16.94 per cwt. Payment rates will be 45 percent of the difference between \$16.94 and the Boston Class 1 price for that month.

Program payments scheduled to begin in October 2002 will be retroactive from December 1, 2001 with producers selecting the month to start receiving payments.

For more information and requirements, dairy producers can visit the web site on the Internet at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> or visit their local USDA FSA office.

## Fall Cropland Acreage Reports Required For Payments

Effective with the 2002 crop year ALL cropland on the farm must be reported to FSA on the farm's crop acreage report to be eligible for:

- Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's)
- Marketing Assistance Loans
- Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments (DCP)

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) requires farmers to file acreage reports with FSA for all cropland on a farm as a condition of the receipt of certain farm payments.

Additional information on any program administered by FSA is available at the local FSA Service Center or online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

Disaster Leasing

Farmers who suffer a barley to

bacco disaster loss must file a report 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 that suffer a disaster loss and are unable to produce and market the farm's effective quota. To be eligible to disaster lease and transfer must file a crop report with FSA, file the FSA 574, Disaster Credit Request, have planted sufficient acreage to produce the farm's effective quota, provide a measurement fee and meet all price support eligibility requirements. If determined eligible for disaster leasing the measurement fee will be refunded.

Remember: If you are a farmer whose tobacco is suffering from poor weather conditions, black shank, blue mold, root disease, etc. Come to the FSA office and file under the disaster provisions PRIOR TO HARVEST!

## Phase II Payments

Beginning the week of August 5, applications will be mailed to tobacco farm operations and letters will be mailed to tobacco quota owners about the 2002 fund. These applications, which are exactly like last year's, must be completed and returned promptly postmarked no later than September 16, 2002.

To be considered complete, the application MUST BE SIGNED, by all parties involved with each farm. If the same person fits all the roles designated, that person must sign in all sections that pertain to him/her. If there is a significant line, it must be filled in. The application must be signed in ALL places indicated on the form. ANY APPLICATION THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE THE SIGNATURE AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OF THE ELIGIBLE PARTY WILL BE INCOMPLETE AND PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE MADE.

Step-by-step instruction are included with each application. Help is also available at the local FSA office, by contacting the toll-free help line at 1-877-549-2537 or on the web site at [www.kyagpolicy.com](http://www.kyagpolicy.com).

Funds are expected to be distributed by the national trustee by December 31, 2002.

## Office Closed

The Rockcastle County FSA Office will be closed Monday, September 2nd, for Labor Day. The office will reopen Tuesday, September 3rd at 7:30 a.m.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of

race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited basis 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, Room 326-W, 14th and Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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ROCKCASTLE  
HOSPITAL AND RESPIRATORY CARE CENTER, INC.

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations will conduct an accreditation survey of Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center on August 26 - 30, 2002.

The purpose of this survey will be to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards. The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which accreditation should be awarded the organization.

Joint Commission standards deal with organizational quality and safety of care issues and the safety of the environment in which care is provided. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent and valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission's field representatives at the time of the survey. Information presented at the interview will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for a public information interview must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be addressed to:

Division of Accreditation Operations  
Office of Quality Monitoring  
Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations  
One Renaissance Boulevard  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

or  
Faxed to 630-792-5636 or  
emailed to [complaint@jcaho.org](mailto:complaint@jcaho.org)

The Joint Commission's Office of Quality Monitoring will acknowledge in writing or by telephone requests received 10 days before the survey begins. An Account Representative will contact the individual requesting the publication information interview prior to survey, indicating the location, date and time of the interview and the name of the surveyor who will conduct the interview.

This notice is posted in accordance with the Joint Commission's requirements and may not be removed before the survey is completed.

Date Posted: 7-26-02

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