

Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director

FSA Issues Payments for CRP
Jeffery S. Hall, State Executive Director of the Farm Service Agency in Kentucky, has announced FSA will begin issuing payments totaling \$22,232,597 to eligible producers under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

Under the CRP, which was reauthorized in the 2002 Farm Bill, producers voluntarily retire environmentally sensitive cropland for 10 to 15 years. In return, USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) makes annual rental payments to producers and shares the cost of establishing approved conservation practices. Land to be enrolled must be highly erodible, contribute to a serious water quality problem, provide important wildlife habitat, or provide substantial environmental benefits to certain conservation uses. Today's announcement will pay an average of \$3,021 per acre and \$71.25 per acre on 11,449 contracts and 7,357 farms in Kentucky.

Power of Attorney Forms

If you currently have a Power of Attorney on file with FSA, it is not valid for the new programs or transactions authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill). If you wish to retain an agent to act on your behalf for the new Direct and Counter-Cyclical programs, a new Power of Attorney form is required.

The FSA Power of Attorney form FSA-211, has been revised to cover programs in the Act (referred to as the Farm Bill). Non-FSA power of attorney forms currently on file are not valid for any new programs authorized by the Act. Farmers are cautioned that the authorizing signature on the FSA-211, must be witnessed by either an FSA employee or a Notary Public.

County Committee Election Coming Soon

As of August 1st the local FSA office began accepting nominations for the upcoming election to be held December 2, 2002.

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. The COC members help run FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs counties will have and how they will run. They make FSA agricultural programs fit the needs of local producers.

Nomination forms must be received in the local FSA office by October 28, 2002.

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP)

Direct and Counter-cyclical payments for 2002 through 2007 will be based on each producer's individual production history. Sign up for the program scheduled to begin October 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>.

Designation By Landowner

The designation by landowner method of designating a farm is the division of contract acres, allotments, or quotas in the manner AGREED to by all parties (farm owner(s) and farm purchasers or transferees. Sellers must have owned the farm for three years prior to the date of designation by landowner method. The County Committee may waive the 3-year ownership requirement of either of the following apply:

- COC determines the sale was not primarily to keep or sell allotments, quotas, or contract acres.
- Land sold will be devoted to nonagricultural, recreational, residential or industrial use.

The designation by landowner method may be used when any of the following apply:

- Part of a farm or tract is sold or ownership is transferred.
- An entire farm or tract is sold to more persons.
- Farm or tract ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons.

With the designation by landowner method the 1,000 pound rule also applies when there is a change in ownership. Thus, if a resulting farm has less than 1,000 pounds of tobacco quota the owner shall either:

- Purchase additional quota to make 1,000 pounds.
- Sell the quota.
- Combine the quota with another farm to make 1,000 pounds. An FSA-155, Request for Farm Reconstitution shall be signed by ALL sellers, buyers and if applicable, the holder of the deed of trust, lien holder or mortgage holder, state or county.

Farm Changes
Producers who have purchased or sold land should inform the FSA office of the change. A copy of the deed or land contract sales is required to update FSA records with correct ownership. Producers are also recommended to inform the FSA office of any change of address.

Important Program Dates

- October 1, 2002 - Sign up for DCP crop year 2002 and 2003 begins.
- Farm Storage Facility Loan Program sign up continues.
- Conservation Reserve Program sign up continues.

- April 1, 2003 - Ending date for owners to select base and yield options.
- June 2, 2003 - Sign up for the 2002

and 2003 DCP ends.

Replacement heifer sales

By: Tom Mills
County Extension Agent for Agriculture/Natural Resources

Replacing an aging beef cow herd can be a never ending task for beef producers. New replacement heifer sales can be a reliable source to keep your herd numbers up.

Finding the money to replace old cows at one time is impossible for most farmers. However, culling 15 to 20% of cows due to age, losing calves, or non-breeders happens each year. Since the average herd is 25 to 30 cows, keeping 5 or 6 replacement heifers plus a calving ease bull can create management nightmares.

Replacement heifer sales in Madison County and Burbon County are helping farmers solve the replacement heifer problem. Madison County's Top of the Crop sale will be Friday, October 25th at 6:30 pm at the Madison County Stockyards. Burbon County's Elite Heifer Sale will be Monday, November 4th at 6:00 p.m. at the Paris Stockyards.

Replacement heifer sales set quality standards, health standards

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ELECT DELNO McCLURE CONSTABLE 2ND DISTRICT
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To the Voters of the 1st Division

I would like to ask for your vote and support in the upcoming election for Rockcastle County School Board member.

I am Donna Hasty, the wife of Dale Hasty, and the mother of three children, all of whom are currently enrolled in the Rockcastle School System.

If elected, I pledge to do my very best for our children's safety and education.

Your vote and Support will be greatly appreciated

**Elect Donna Hasty
Rockcastle County
School Board**

pd. for by Donna Hasty

Elect

Jackie R. Renner

Mayor of Mt. Vernon

To The Citizens of Mt. Vernon

Friends, I hope my campaign has spoke to the issues in a dignified and professional fashion. I'll do my best for you and promote Mt. Vernon as your Mayor, for I truly believe in our future.

My Platform.....

1. I will promote community pride and a citizenship program among our youth.
2. I support the fair and equal maintenance of our streets, sidewalks, street lights.
3. I support our police and fire departments and an emergency management plan, natural and man made.
4. I will work to keep our water and sewer rates among the lowest around.
5. I will work with your city council and you will be able to talk to me without partiality.
6. I am for fiscal conservatism - we must stop runaway tax and spend.
7. I am pro-growth and pro-jobs.
8. I am for renegotiation with Charter cable - local access programming, better service.
9. I am opposed to forced annexation without the services provided.
10. If elected I will dedicate myself to being your mayor, with my whole heart and ability.

I ask for your vote and support on November 5, 2002.

Thanks, Jackie

"Working Together for Mt. Vernon"

Paid for by Jackie Renner