



U.S. Department
of Agriculture

Clermont County
FSA

PO Box 38
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Owensville, OH 45160
(513) 732-2181 (phone)
(513) 732-6984 (fax)

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Todd Winemiller
Mark Liming
Hal Herron
Susan Reeves, Advisor

Staff

Sandy
Katrina
Nancy
Tina

**County Executive
Director**

Steve Anderson

COC meeting:

April 21, 2009 &
May 19, 2009
8:30 a.m.

Direct
& Counter-
Program
Cyclical

Sign-up is underway for
the 2009 Direct &
Counter-cyclical
Program.

Farm Service Agency

April/May
2009

Horse's Mouth

DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR DCP AND ACRE PROGRAM

USDA has extended the sign-up deadline **from June 1, to Aug. 14, 2009**, for both the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the forthcoming Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. This action should give producers ample time to decide whether to participate in ACRE or in DCP.

Sign-up for ACRE is expected to start in late April, with an official sign-up soon. The ACRE program, authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill, provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price. ACRE payments are made when both state and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments, agrees to a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates. The decision to elect ACRE binds the farm to the program through the 2012 crop year. As the rules for ACRE are finalized we will get more information out.

DISASTER BUY-IN WAIVER EXTENSION

Producers who suffered crop losses in **2008** have another chance to buy eligibility for FSA disaster assistance. Producers have **until May 18, 2009** to pay a buy-in fee to become eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP). The buy-in is for producers who did buy crop insurance or Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2008. The buy-in fee does not provide producers with crop insurance or NAP for the 2008 crop year; it only allows eligibility for the 2008 crop disaster assistance programs.

Producers who have not already taken the necessary steps to become eligible may now do so by:

- Paying a \$100 buy-in fee per crop. The maximum fee for insurable or non-insurable crops is \$300 per county, per producer, not to exceed \$900 for multi-county producers.
- In the case of insurable crops, agreeing to obtain a policy for the next insurance year for which crop insurance is available; coverage level should be 70 % or more of the yield at 100 % of the price.
- In the case of each non-insurable crop, agreeing to purchase NAP coverage by the applicable state application closing date for the next available year.

Producers who purchased insurance coverage in 2009 at or above 70/100 coverage level for a buy-in crop will have met the linkage requirement. Producers who purchased NAP coverage for 2009 for a buy-in crop will be considered as having met the linkage requirement.

Producers who meet the definition of "Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource," or "Beginning Farmer or Rancher," have the possibility of the buy-in fee being waived after filing an application at their local FSA office. An eligible producer on a farm may also elect to waive the Risk Management Purchase Requirement on a crop that is **not** economically significant. A crop must contribute less than 5 percent of the total expected revenue to be considered not economically significant.

ACREAGE REPORTS

Once you complete planting, be sure to file an acreage report with the office. We will be sending maps out soon.

Don't forget! We need planting dates!

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Acreage reports are required of any producer who:

- Participates in DCP or ACRE
- Requests an LDP or a commodity loan
- Participates in the 10 – 15 year Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Grows an uninsurable crop that may need disaster protection (NAP crops such as vegetables).

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PAYMENT LIMITATIONS

Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program: \$40,000 for direct payments and \$65,000 for counter-cyclical and **ACRE** payments; ***Conservation Reserve Program annual rental payments***: \$50,000; ***Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and Disaster Programs***: \$100,000.

PREVENTED PLANTING

Remember, you must file a notice of prevented planting after the final planting date, but within 15 days. There is no flexibility on this provision. Failed wheat must be reported before destroyed.

RURAL YOUTH LOANS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes operating loans to individual rural youths age 10 through 20 to establish and operate income producing projects. These projects must be of modest size and be initiated, developed, carried out by rural youths participating in 4-H Clubs, FFA, or a similar organization or with a vocational teacher or county extension agent. To find out more about the FSA Rural Youth loan program, contact our Farm loan team at (937) 378-6173 to setup an appointment with a Loan Approval Official.

OSU Extension Clermont County Sponsoring Green Energy Program

The Ohio State University Extension – Clermont County will be hosting an evening of green energy options at the Melink Corp.

Agricultural producers and business owners are invited to come out and participate in this informational program to help assist them in making decisions about incorporating green energy technologies.

Participants will gain knowledge of current research from OSU's perspective, Melink's current green technologies, take a tour of Melink's near-zero energy facility, and learn about current USDA funding incentives.

This free seminar will be on May 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Melink Corporation, 5140 River Valley Road, Milford, Ohio, 45150. This program is limited to 50 people; please RSVP by Friday, May 01 at 513-732-7070 or email cler@osu.edu.

Dates to Remember

May 25	Memorial Day Holiday. FSA Offices Closed .
May 31	Deadline to apply for 2008 commodity loans and LDPs on corn, and soybeans.
June 15	County Committee Nomination period begins.
August 14	Sign-up ends for 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program and ACRE

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