USDA- Missouri State Office Newsletter - May 17, 2022

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USDA Reminds Producers to File Crop Acreage Reports

Agricultural producers who have not yet completed their <u>crop acreage reports</u> after spring planting should make an appointment with their Local County Farm Service Agency (FSA) before the applicable deadline.

An acreage report documents a crop grown on a farm or ranch and its intended uses. Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planted acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits.

How to File a Report

Service Center staff continue to work with agricultural producers via phone, email, and other digital tools. Because of the pandemic, some <u>USDA Service Centers</u> are open to limited visitors. Contact your Local County FSA office to set up an in-person or phone appointment.

To file a crop acreage report, you will need to provide:

- · Crop and crop type or variety.
- Intended use of the crop.
- Number of acres of the crop.
- Map with approximate boundaries for the crop.
- Planting date(s).
- · Planting pattern, when applicable.
- Producer shares
- Irrigation practice(s).
- Acreage prevented from planting, when applicable.
- Other information as required.

Acreage Reporting Details

The following exceptions apply to acreage reporting dates:

- If the crop has not been planted by the acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.
- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the acreage reporting date, then the
 acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or
 acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county
 office.

Producers should also report crop acreage they intended to plant, but due to natural disaster, were unable to plant. Prevented planting acreage must be reported on form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date as established by FSA and USDA's Risk Management Agency.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP-covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

More Information

For questions, please contact your Local County FSA office at phone.

USDA Accepting Applications to Help Cover Costs of Organic, Transitioning Producers

Agricultural producers and handlers who are certified organic, along with producers and handlers who are transitioning to organic production, can now apply for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) <u>Organic and Transitional Education Certification Program</u> (OTECP) and <u>Organic Certification Cost Share Program</u> (OCCSP), which help producers and handlers cover the cost of organic certification, along with other related expenses. Applications for OTECP and OCCSP are both due October 31, 2022.

OTECP covers:

- Certification costs for organic producers and handlers (25% up to \$250 per category).
- Eligible expenses for transitional producers, including fees for pre-certification inspections and development of an organic system plan (75% up to \$750).
- Registration fees for educational events (75% up to \$200).
- Soil testing (75% up to \$100).

Meanwhile, OCCSP covers 50% or up to \$500 per category of certification costs in 2022.

This cost share for certification is available for each of these categories: crops, wild crops, livestock, processing/handling and State organic program fees.

Producers can receive cost share through both OTECP and OCCSP. Both OTECP and OCCSP cover costs incurred from October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022. Producers have until October 31, 2022 to file applications, and FSA will make payments as applications are received.

To apply, producers and handlers should contact the Farm Service Agency (FSA) at their local USDA Service Center. As part of completing the OCCSP applications, producers and handlers will need to provide documentation of their organic certification and eligible expenses. Organic producers and handlers may also apply for OCCSP through participating State agencies.

Additional details can be found on the OTECP and OCCSP webpages.

Farm Loan Office Changes in NE Missouri

Due to re-structuring of some Farm Loan Service Centers, borrowers and applicants should be aware of the new headquarters in Northeast Missouri. Counties formerly in the Clark County (Kahoka) and Adair County (Kirksville) service center areas will now be provided farm Ioan services at the Knox County office in Edina, except Putnam County and Marion County. Knox County Farm Loan Service Center will serve the following counties: Clark, Scotland, Schuyler, Lewis, Knox, and Adair. Borrowers and applicants in Putnam County will now be serviced by the Grundy County Farm Loan Headquarters, and Marion County producers the Monroe County Farm Loan Headquarters.

Farm Loan staff at Knox County include: Sean Bonnell, Farm Loan Manager; and Lisa Orton, Farm Loan Program Technician.

The Knox County office is located 2 miles east of Edina on Hwy 6. Office hours are 8:00 am-4:30 pm Monday through Friday. Phone number: (660) 397-2222, Extension #2. For your convenience, appointments may also be made to meet at your local FSA office. Please call the Knox County office to discuss available dates and times.

Payments can be taken to your local FSA office, or may be mailed to the headquarter office:

Knox County FSA 56187 State Hwy 6 Edina, MO 63537 Monroe County FSA 18771 Hwy 15 Paris, MO 65275

Grundy County FSA 3415 Oklahoma Ave Trenton, MO 64683

NRCS Missouri Announces State Technical Committee Meeting May 25, 2022

Contact: Brad McCord

COLUMBIA, **MO**, **April 29**, **2022** – The United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will host a State Technical Committee meeting from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM on May 25, 2022. This meeting will be held at the MU Bradford Farm, Poehlmann Educational Center, 4968 Rangeline Road, Columbia, Missouri 65201.

At the meeting, you will hear from Scott Edwards, NRCS State Conservationist, Joe Aull, FSA Executive Director, and Kyle Wilkens, RD State Director. All subcommittees will have updates, including Urban Agriculture, Soil Health, Water Quality and Source Water Protection, Forestry and Wildlife, Grasslands and Row Crop, and Easement Programs. Other topics to be discussed include the committee structure, purpose, and format of gathering input and comments.

If you have questions or are in need of reasonable accommodations regarding this meeting, please contact Brad McCord at 573-876-0909 or brad.mccord@usda.gov.

Missouri NRCS Announces Sign Up for Program Restoring and Improving Monarch Ecosystems

Contact: Marilyn Gann

Columbia, MO April 11, 2022 – The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Missouri encourages landowners in Northwest Missouri to apply for funding through the Program Restoring and Improving Monarch Ecosystems (PRIME) by May 20, 2022.

PRIME is a partner project funded through the USDA's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), led by Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever with support from the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Saint Louis Zoo. This project aims to increase monarch and pollinator habitat in Northwest Missouri through land management

practices and short-term land rental payments. PRIME will target lands currently enrolled in and expiring from Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), enhancing monarch habitat by maintaining and restoring diverse native plant communities.

Qualifying counties are as follows:

Andrew, Atchison, Benton, Buchanan, Caldwell, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb, Gentry, Grundy, Harrison, Henry, Holt, Jackson, Johnson, Lafayette, Livingston, Mercer, Nodaway, Pettis, Platte, Ray, Saline, Worth counties.

The annual migration of the monarch butterfly is a unique and amazing phenomenon. In North America, the Rocky Mountains separate monarch butterflies into two general populations; Western and Eastern. The Western population migrates along the California coast, and the Eastern population migrates from Mexico to Canada and back. Monarchs are the only butterfly with such an advanced, two-way migration up to 3,000 miles long. Since the 1990s, there has been a significant decline in the monarch butterfly population due to many factors, with habitat loss being the leading cause. Missouri serves as critical habitat for the Eastern population from Spring through Fall. One of their primary migration routes bisects northwest Missouri and is referred to as the I-35 Monarch Migration Corridor. For this reason, PRIME is being offered in Missouri NRCS' administrative Area 1.

To learn more about the Program Restoring and Improving Monarch Ecosystems (PRIME) RCPP or to apply, contact your local NRCS service center in Area 1 using the <u>farmers.gov</u> <u>Service Center Locator</u>, or contact Marilyn Gann at Marilyn.gann@usda.gov or (573) 876-9398.

Showcase Your Season with #Plant2022

This planting season let's highlight the innovation and leadership demonstrated by conservation-minded farmers in our #Plant2022 campaign. We'll share your photos and stories on social media, blogs, and a nationwide storymap.



Learn more (https://go.usa.gov/xuTqi)

USDA Offers Water Quality-Focused Program That Builds on CRP Contracts

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is announcing the signup period for its Clean Lakes, Estuaries, And Rivers initiative (CLEAR30) — a nationwide opportunity for certain landowners and agricultural producers currently implementing water quality practices through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to enroll in 30-year contracts, extending the lifespan and strengthening the benefits of important water quality practices on their land.

Producers may apply for CLEAR30, a voluntary, incentive-based conservation program, from April 1, 2022, through Aug. 5, 2022.

Cropland and certain pastureland currently enrolled in Continuous CRP or the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and dedicated to an eligible water quality practice such as riparian buffers, contour strips, grass waterways or wetland restoration may be eligible if their contracts are expiring by September 30, 2022.

CLEAR30 contracts will be effective beginning Oct. 1, 2022. These long-term contracts ensure that conservation practices remain in place for 30 years, which improves water quality through reducing sediment and nutrient runoff and helping prevent algal blooms. Conservation in riparian areas also provides important carbon sequestration benefits. Traditional CRP contracts run from 10 to 15 years.

About CLEAR30

CLEAR30 was established in the 2018 Farm Bill to better address water quality concerns. Originally, CLEAR30 was only available in the Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay watersheds; in 2021, FSA made CLEAR30 available to agricultural producers and landowners nationwide, and participation grew nearly seven-fold from 2020 to 2021.

Annual rental payments for landowners who enroll in CLEAR30 will be equal to the current Continuous CRP annual payment rate plus a **20** percent water quality incentive payment and an annual rental rate adjustment of **27.5** percent.

How to Sign Up

To sign up for CLEAR30, landowners and producers should contact their local <u>USDA</u> <u>Service Center</u> by **Aug. 5, 2022**. Contact information can be found at <u>farmers.gov/service-locator</u>. Additionally, fact sheets and other resources are available at <u>fsa.usda.gov/crp</u>.

More Information

CLEAR30 is an option available through CRP, which is one of the largest voluntary private-lands conservation programs in the United States. CRP was originally intended to primarily control soil erosion and stabilize commodity prices by taking environmentally sensitive lands out of production. The program has evolved over the years, providing numerous conservation and economic benefits. In addition to CLEAR30, signups are also open for <u>Continuous CRP</u> and <u>Grassland CRP</u>.

2022 Avian Influenza in the United States - What you need to know!

To date, USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories has confirmed the presence of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in commercial and backyard flocks in several states including State. Avian influenza viruses are classified as either "low pathogenic (LPAI)" or "highly pathogenic (HPAI)" based on their genetic features and the severity of the disease they cause in poultry. Caused by an influenza type A virus, HPAI can infect poultry (such as chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, domestic ducks, geese, and guinea fowl) and wild birds (especially waterfowl).

The clinical signs of birds affected with all forms of Avian Influenza may show one or more of the following:

· Sudden death without clinical signs

- Decreased water consumption up to 72 hours before other clinical signs
- · Lack of energy and appetite
- · Decreased egg production
- Soft–shelled or misshapen eggs
- · Swelling of the head, eyelids, comb, wattles, and hocks
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs
- Nasal discharge
- · Coughing, sneezing
- · Lack of coordination
- Diarrhea

In addition to the disease infecting domestic birds, it is important to know that wild birds can also be infected and show no signs of illness. They can carry the disease to new areas when migrating, potentially exposing domestic poultry to the virus. The <u>APHIS' wild bird surveillance program</u> provides an early warning system for the introduction and distribution of avian influenza viruses of concern in the United States, allowing APHIS and the poultry industry to take timely and rapid action.

With the recent detections of avian influenza in wild birds and domestic poultry in the United States, bird owners should review their biosecurity practices and stay vigilant to protect poultry and pet birds from transmission of this disease. The following bio-safety guidelines are effective methods for safeguarding commercial operations and smaller flocks:

- Backyard flock owners should practice strict biosecurity, including preventing birds from exposure and/or co-mingling with wild birds and other types of poultry.
- Shower, change clothes, and clean and disinfect footwear before entering your poultry housing areas.
- Respiratory protection such as a medical facemask would also be important and remember to always wear clean clothes when encountering healthy domestic birds.
- · Carefully follow safe entry and exit procedures into your flock's clean area.
- Reduce the attractiveness for wild birds to stop at your place by cleaning up litter and spilled feed around poultry housing areas.
- If you have free range guinea fowl and waterfowl, consider bringing them into coops or flight pens under nets to prevent interaction of domesticated poultry with wild birds and their droppings.
- It is best to restrict visitors from interacting with your birds currently.
- Do not touch sick or dead wildlife and keep them away from domestic poultry
- Try not to handle sick or deceased domestic birds (if you must, use proper personal
 protective equipment to minimize direct contact and cautiously disinfect anything
 that comes into contact with the deceased and or sick bird).

As part of the existing USDA Avian Influenza response plans, Federal and State partners as well as industry are responding quickly and decisively to these outbreaks by following

these five basic steps:

- **Quarantine** restricting movement of poultry and poultry-moving equipment into and out of the control area;
- Eradicate depopulate the affected flock(s);
- Monitor region testing wild and domestic birds in a broad area around the quarantine area;
- Disinfect kills the virus in the affected flock locations; and
- **Test** confirming that the poultry farm is Al virus-free.

Sick or deceased domestic birds should be reported to your local veterinarian. Positive domestic cases are handled by APHIS and its partners. States that have confirmed cases of Avian Influenza should work closely with USDA-APHIS on surveillance, reporting and control efforts. Disposal methods will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the flock, space requirements, associated costs, local conditions, and applicable laws/regulations.

The United States has the strongest Avian Influenza surveillance program in the world, where we actively look for the disease and provide fair market value compensation to affected producers to encourage reporting.

If you do not raise domestic birds or have a poultry operation but you encounter sick or dead wild birds, please use bio-safety measures, and report your findings through USDA's toll-free number at 1-866-536-7593.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, this strain of Avian Influenza is a low risk to the public. While the transmission rate from animals to humans is low, it is a zoonotic disease, meaning it can be shared between species. To learn more about Avian Influenza and to remain up to date on the latest related news and information, you can visit the <u>USDAAPHIS webpage</u>.

USDA Renews People's Garden Initiative

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack planted a tree to announce the reopening of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) People's Garden Initiative. People's Gardens across the country will grow fresh, healthy food



and support resilient, local food systems; teach people how to garden using conservation practices; nurture habitat for pollinators and wildlife and create greenspace for neighbors. The garden at USDA headquarters in Washington, D.C. will be joined by 17 flagship gardens located in urban communities nationwide.

USDA Accepts 2 Million Acres in Conservation Reserve Program General Signup

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting more than 2 million acres in offers from agricultural producers and

landowners through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General signup, which included more than 82,000 acres in Missouri. This is the first of the program's multiple signups occurring in 2022. With about 3.4 million acres expiring this year, Vilsack encourages producers and landowners to consider the Grassland and Continuous signups, both of which are currently open.

Producers submitted re-enrollment offers for just over half of expiring acres, similar to the rate in 2021. Offers for new land under General CRP were considerably lower compared to last year's numbers, with fewer than 400,000 acres being offered this year versus over 700,000 acres offered last year.

It is important to note that submitting and accepting a CRP offer is the start of the process, and producers still need to develop a conservation plan before enrolling their land on October 1, 2022. Each year, during the window between offer acceptance and land enrollment, some producers change their mind and ultimately decide not to enroll some accepted acres without penalty.

The three other types of CRP — Grassland, Continuous, and CREP — are still available for either working-lands or targeted, often smaller sub-field, offers. Producers have submitted offers on nearly 260,000 acres through the Continuous and CREP signup so far this year. The Grassland signup – which last year had its highest participation ever – closes May 13, 2022.

General CRP Signup

The General CRP Signup 58 ran from Jan. 31 to March 11, 2022.

Through CRP, producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve soil health and water quality, and enhance wildlife habitat on agricultural land. In addition to the other well-documented benefits, lands enrolled in CRP are playing a key role in climate change mitigation efforts across the country.

In 2021, FSA introduced improvements to the program, which included a new Climate-Smart Practice Incentive to increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This incentive provides a 3%, 5% or 10% incentive payment based on the predominant vegetation type for the practices enrolled – from grasses to trees to wetland restoration.

More Information

While the General Signup is closed, producers and landowners can still apply for the Continuous and Grassland signups by contacting their local <u>USDA Service Center</u>.

Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest voluntary private-lands conservation programs in the United States. It was originally intended to primarily control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking marginal lands out of production. The program has evolved over the years, providing many conservation and economic benefits. Learn more at fsa.usda.gov/crp.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater

focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

Farmers.gov Feature Helps Producers Find Farm Loans that Fit Their Operation

Farmers and ranchers can use the *Farm Loan Discovery Tool* on farmers.gov to find information on USDA farm loans that may best fit their operations.

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers a variety of loan options to help farmers finance their operations. From buying land to financing the purchase of equipment, FSA loans can help.

USDA conducted field research in eight states, gathering input from farmers and FSA farm loan staff to better understand their needs and challenges.

How the Tool Works

Farmers who are looking for financing options to operate a farm or buy land can answer a few simple questions about what they are looking to fund and how much money they need to borrow. After submitting their answers, farmers will receive information on farm loans that best fit their specific needs. The loan application and additional resources also will be provided.

Farmers can download application quick guides that outline what to expect from preparing an application to receiving a loan decision. There are four guides that cover loans to individuals, entities, and youth, as well as information on microloans. The guides include general eligibility requirements and a list of required forms and documentation for each type of loan. These guides can help farmers prepare before their first USDA service center visit with a loan officer.

Farmers can access the Farm Loan Discovery Tool by visiting farmers.gov/fund and clicking the "Start" button. Follow the prompts and answer five simple questions to receive loan information that is applicable to your agricultural operation. The tool is built to run on any modern browser like Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or the Safari browser, and is fully functional on mobile devices. It does not work in Internet Explorer.

About Farmers.gov

In 2018, USDA unveiled farmers.gov, a dynamic, mobile-friendly public website combined with an authenticated portal where farmers will be able to apply for programs, process transactions, and manage accounts.

The Farm Loan Discovery Tool is one of many resources on farmers.gov to help connect farmers to information that can help their operations. Earlier this year, USDA launched

the *My Financial Information* feature, which enables farmers to view their loan information, history, payments, and alerts by logging into the website.

USDA is building farmers.gov for farmers, by farmers. In addition to the interactive farm loan features, the site also offers a Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool. Farmers can visit farmers.gov/recover/disaster-assistance-tool#step-1 to find disaster assistance programs that can help their operation recover from natural disasters.

For more information, contact your Local County USDA Service Center or visit <u>farmers.gov</u>.

Reminders for FSA Direct and Guaranteed Borrowers with Real Estate Security

Farm loan borrowers who have pledged real estate as security for their Farm Service Agency (FSA) direct or guaranteed loans are responsible for maintaining loan collateral. Borrowers must obtain prior consent or approval from FSA or the guaranteed lender for any transaction that affects real estate security. These transactions include, but are not limited to:

- · Leases of any kind
- · Easements of any kind
- Subordinations
- Partial releases
- Sales

Failure to meet or follow the requirements in the loan agreement, promissory note, and other security instruments could lead to nonmonetary default which could jeopardize your current and future loans.

It is critical that borrowers keep an open line of communication with their FSA loan staff or guaranteed lender when it comes to changes in their operation. For more information on borrower responsibilities, read <u>Your FSA Farm Loan Compass</u>.

FSA is Accepting CRP Continuous Enrollment Offers

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is accepting offers for specific conservation practices under the <u>Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Continuous Signup</u>.

In exchange for a yearly rental payment, farmers enrolled in the program agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and to plant species that will improve environmental health and quality. The program's long-term goal is to re-establish valuable land cover to improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and reduce loss of wildlife habitat. Contracts for land enrolled in CRP are 10-15 years in length.

Under continuous CRP signup, environmentally sensitive land devoted to certain conservation practices can be enrolled in CRP at any time. Offers for continuous enrollment are not subject to competitive bidding during specific periods. Instead they are automatically accepted provided the land and producer meet certain eligibility requirements and the enrollment levels do not exceed the statutory cap.

For more information, including a list of acceptable practices, contact your Local County USDA Service Center or visit fsa.usda.gov/crp.

Transitioning Expiring CRP Land to Beginning, Veteran or Underserved Farmers and Ranchers

CRP contract holders are encouraged to transition their Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres to beginning, veteran or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers through the Transition Incentives Program (TIP). TIP provides annual rental payments to the landowner or operator for up to two additional years after the CRP contract expires.

CRP contract holders no longer need to be a retired or retiring owner or operator to transition their land. TIP participants must agree to sell, have a contract to sell, or agree to lease long term (at least five years) land enrolled in an expiring CRP contract to a beginning, veteran, or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher who is not a family member.

Beginning, veteran or social disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and CRP participants may enroll in TIP beginning two years before the expiration date of the CRP contract. The TIP application must be submitted prior to completing the lease or sale of the affected lands. New landowners or renters that return the land to production must use sustainable grazing or farming methods.

For more information, contact your Local County USDA Service Center or visit <u>fsa.usda.gov</u>.

Applying for Farm Storage Facility Loans

The Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program provides low-interest financing to help you build or upgrade storage facilities and to purchase portable (new or used) structures, handling equipment and storage and handling trucks. Some eligible equipment may include augers, dryers, grain carts, grain trailers, hay bale wrappers and hay bale accumulators. For a complete list of eligible equipment please see the link below.

Eligible commodities include corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley, minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain, pulse crops (lentils, chickpeas and dry peas), hay, honey, renewable biomass, fruits, nuts and vegetables for cold storage facilities, floriculture, hops, maple sap, rye, milk, cheese, butter, yogurt, meat and poultry (unprocessed), eggs, and aquaculture (excluding systems that maintain live animals through uptake and discharge of water). Qualified facilities include grain bins, hay barns and cold storage facilities for eligible commodities.

Loans up to \$50,000 can be secured by a promissory note/security agreement, loans between \$50,000 and \$100,000 may require additional security, and loans exceeding \$100,000 require additional security.

You do not need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply. The loans are designed to assist a diverse range of farming operations, including small and mid-sized businesses, new farmers, operations supplying local food and farmers markets, non-traditional farm products, and underserved producers.

For all Farm Service Agency (FSA) programs, an environmental review must be completed before actions are approved, such as site preparation or ground disturbance. These programs include, **but are not limited to**, the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP), Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program and farm loans. If project implementation begins before FSA has completed an environmental review, the request will be denied. Although there are exceptions regarding the Stafford Act and emergencies, it's important to wait until you receive written approval of your project proposal before starting any actions.

Applications cannot be approved until FSA has copies of all permits and plans. Contact your local FSA office early in your planning process to determine what level of environmental review is required for your program application so that it can be completed timely.

For more information, contact your Local County USDA Service Center or visit https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/price-support/facility-loans/farm-storage/index

Wool, Mohair and Pelts May be eligible for Loan Deficiency Payment

If you have wool, mohair or pelts, you may be eligible for loan deficiency payments (LDPs) from the USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA).

LDPs and marketing assistance loans (MALs) are marketing tools that are available after shearing each year. For the crop year 2022, producers should sign the CCC-633 EZ, page 1 before shearing or slaughter and before losing beneficial interest in the wool, mohair or pelts. Producers can then apply for the LDP payment from January 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023. MALs help producers meet cash flow needs without selling commodities when market prices are at harvest-time lows. Producers who are eligible for marketing loans, but choose to forgo the loan, are eligible for LDPs if the posted county price falls below the county loan rate. Producers can purchase a commodity certificate that may be exchanged for the outstanding loan collateral. Daily LDP rates are available online in the link below. Rules related to payment limitations, actively engaged in farming and cash-rent tenant no longer apply to LDPs. However, Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) provisions state that if your total applicable three-year average AGI exceeds \$900,000, then you're not eligible to receive a Market Loan Gain (MLG) or LDP. You must have a valid CCC-941 on file to earn a market gain of LDP. The AGI provision does not apply to MALs redeemed with commodity certificate exchange.

USDA- MISSOURI

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State Conservationist Scott Edwards