



“SCOOP”

ARKANSAS FARM SERVICE AGENCY - - STATE OFFICE

October 2014

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The Scoop on SCOOP

We in FSA are very excited to advance to FSA's electronic news and newsletter service which is more efficient and time advantageous for both FSA customers and FSA than past publications such as SCOOP. SCOOP has served us well for years, and it is bitter sweet to issue our final publication. We know the services offered by our new online communications will be more effective. The new service is called **GovDelivery** where news will be sent via email right to your home, farm office, or to your Smartphone – affording you immediate notification of farm program news-pertinent to your agricultural operation. You can even manage your **GovDelivery** online account, and establish preferences by choosing to receive information on topic, by state and/or county. You can select as many subscriber options as you want. To participate please SUBSCRIBE at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>

CCC

CCC has a 6-year statute of limitations after the original date of issuance for honoring Payments:

- FSA will **no longer** honor any request for replacement of a payment, regardless of the program, if the original issue date is more than 6 years old.
- For Treasury checks expired over 6 years, payment records are purged and no longer available.
- FSA will **not** consider a waiver of the statute of limitations.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

CRP Annual payments will be deposited at the beginning of October. If you do not receive your payment, by mid-October, please contact your FSA County Office, so that a review can be made.

FSA's authority to accept or approve offers continues through the end of the 2014 Farm Bill, which will be September 30, 2018. **Contact your local County FSA Office** if you wish to offer land for any of our Continuous CRP Practices that will pay Annual Rental payments cost share on the expenses incurred to implement the practice, as well as various Incentive Payments for most practices.

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

The 2014 Emergency Conservation Program signup periods have ended in counties approved in Arkansas for spring tornadoes and flooding. If you have been approved and funded for assistance, please be mindful of the Expiration Date for implementing the practice(s) for which you applied.

Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)

BCAP Contracts that were approved for the 2011 and 2012 years will receive annual payments during the anniversary month of the contract's effective date.

If a participant has been unable to establish, or if the practice failed, the participant must contact the county office to request an extension or for guidance to be sure the contract acreage is in compliance.

Some of the contract acreage is now ready for harvest. If you have harvested your Miscanthus, you will need to provide your County Office with Delivery Evidence. Contact FSA County Office if you have harvested and stored your Miscanthus. Also,

Be sure to refer to the Job Sheet Titled **“Harvesting-Transport-Storage of Giant Miscanthus Job Sheet (511)”** that you received from either NRCS or FSA at the time your Conservation Plan was written.

October 2014 Interest Rates	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.125%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	3.625%
Farm Ownership Loans, Direct Down Payment, Beginning farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency Loans Actual Loss	3.125%
Farm Ownership – Joint Financing	2.500%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7 years	2.125%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 10 years	2.500%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 12 years	2.625%
Sugar Storage Facility Loans	2.750 %
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.125%

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