

September 2014



Logan County Illinois USDA Program Updates

Logan County USDA
1650 5th Street
Lincoln, IL, 62656

Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Phone: [217-735-5508 ext. 2](tel:217-735-5508)

Fax: [855-693-7125](tel:855-693-7125)

County Committee:

Tim Southerlan - Chairman
Kenton Stoll - Vice Chairman
Dennis Ramlow - Member
Dorothy Gleason - Advisor

County Executive Director:

[John Peters](#)

Program Technicians:

[Ann Curry](#)
[Tammy Edwards](#)
[Mari Anne Komnick](#)
[Cindy Mayfield](#)
[Kristi Olson](#)

Farm Loan Manager:

[Tony Schmillen](#)

**Next COC Meeting
Scheduled:**

Sept. 24th (pending availability
due to harvest)

Have a safe 2014 harvest
season and be aware of Slow
Moving Vehicles



Acreage History and Yield Letters

Written notifications from USDA are underway to farmers that provide updates on their current base acres, yields and 2009-2012 planting history. Please verify the information in the letter from USDA with your farm records. ***If the information is correct, no further action is needed at this time***, but if our letter is incomplete or incorrect, contact your local FSA office as soon as possible. Yields will be updated at a later time so please gather your yield information now.

Verifying the accuracy of data on a farm's acreage history is a required early step for enrolling in the upcoming Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) program and the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program. Later this summer, farmers and ranchers will have an opportunity to update their crop yield information and reallocate base acres.

USDA'S Farm Service Agency offers Farm Bill Website and Online Overview of Farm Bill Programs

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) Offers Farm Bill Website and Online Overview of Farm Bill Programs

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (the Act), also known as the 2014 Farm Bill, was signed by President Obama on Feb. 7, 2014. The Act repeals certain programs, continues some programs with modifications, and authorizes several new programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Most of these programs are authorized and funded through 2018.

For the latest on 2014 Farm Bill programs administered by FSA, please visit our Farm Bill website at www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill and for an FSA program overview please read, download and/or print our recently posted FSA Farm Bill Fact Sheet titled, [What's in the 2014 Farm Bill for Farm Service Agency Customers?](#)

For more information on FSA, please contact your local USDA Service Center or visit us online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Land Contracts (LC) Guarantee Program

The Land Contract (LC) Guarantee Program is a valuable tool to transfer farm real estate to the next generation of farmers and ranchers. Guarantees will be offered to the owner of a farm who wishes to sell real estate through a land contract to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher. The guarantee reduces the financial risk to the seller.

FSA offers two types of guarantees:

- Prompt Payment Guarantee - A guarantee up to the amount of three amortized annual installments plus the cost of any related real estate taxes and insurance.
- Standard Guarantee - A guarantee of 90 percent of the outstanding principal balance under the land contract.

The guarantee period is 10 years and the contract payments must be amortized for a minimum of 20 years. The purchase price of the farm cannot exceed the lesser of \$500,000 or the market value of the property.

For additional information you can read the [Land Contract Guarantee Program Fact Sheet](#) or contact the Farm Loan Manager - Tony Schmillen in the office.

2014 Marketing Assistance Loan Requests

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) is accepting requests for marketing assistance loans (MALs) for eligible 2014 commodities.

MALs for the 2014 crop year become available to eligible producers beginning with harvest season and extending through a specific commodity's final loan availability date.

MALs provide financing and marketing assistance for corn, wheat, soybeans, and other oilseeds, pulse crops, wool, mohair and honey. MALs provide producers interim financing after harvest to help them meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are typically at harvest-time lows. A producer who is eligible to obtain a loan, but agrees to forgo the loan, may obtain an LDP if such a payment is available.

The 2014 Farm Bill also establishes payment limitations per individual or entity not to exceed \$125,000 annually on certain commodities for the following program benefits: Price Loss Coverage (PLC) payments, Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) payments, marketing loan gains (MLGs) and LDPs.

These payment limitations do not apply to MAL loan disbursements.

Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Fish Sale

The Logan County SWCD is planning a fall fish sale on October 15th at 1:00 PM. They will offer several sizes of Channel Catfish, Hybrid Sunfish, Bluegill, and Largemouth Bass. Crappie, Flathead Minnows and Grass Carp will also be available. The last day to order Grass Carp is September 29th. **All other orders are due by October 8th.** Fish pick-up will be at the SWCD office on Wednesday, October 15th at 1:00 PM. Pond delivery is available for large orders. Pick up your order forms at the SWCD office or on the website :<http://www.loganswcd.org/> . Please call for questions/detail. - [217-735-5508](tel:217-735-5508) ext. 3

Temporary Employment Opportunity

The Logan County USDA Farm Service Agency Office is accepting applications for a Program Technician position. This is a **temporary** position with responsibilities for carrying out general office activities and technical functions pertaining to FSA administered programs. Applicants should be motivated and possess excellent human relations skills as well as strong clerical and computer skills. A general knowledge of agricultural practices is also important. Salary range is \$12 -\$13:50 per hour. This position will involve a 40 hour work week with preliminary employment until April 2015 unless circumstances change due to budget or workload requirements.

If you are interested, or know of someone who is, employment applications (FSA-675) are available at:
Logan County Farm Service Agency
1650 5th St.
Lincoln, IL 62656

Applications are also available online at:

- www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fm_ct_001_02212014.pdf or
- www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa675.doc.

Applications must be received by 4:30 PM Wednesday, September 17, 2014. We recognize and appreciate the benefits of diversity in the workplace. People who share this belief and reflect a diverse background are encouraged to apply. Questions? Call [217-735-5508](tel:217-735-5508) or email john.peters@il.usda.gov

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call [\(866\) 632-9992](tel:866-632-9992) (Toll-free Customer Service), [\(800\) 877-8339](tel:800-877-8339) (Local or Federal relay), [\(866\) 377-8642](tel:866-377-8642) (Relay voice users).