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As the budget decreases, FSA will be implementing “GovDelivery” which will make newsletters and other important information available to our producers by email.

FSA is in the beginning stage of implementing this system, but the more information we can send via email, the less expense we will incur.

When you visit the office, please be sure to give us your email address so we may add it to our system.

Sure Program Information

Legislative authority for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program ends on Sept. 30, 2011. Producers must meet specific eligibility requirements to receive SURE assistance for disasters that occur on or before Sept. 30, 2011, and affect fall 2011 and 2012 crops.

The SURE program compensates producers for production and/or quality losses during times of disaster.

Producers can apply for a 2011 or 2012 SURE payment if a crop of economic significance located in a primary or contiguous disaster county under a Secretarial Disaster Designation suffered at least a 10 percent loss because of disaster occurring on or before Sept. 30, 2011.

Crops are not required to be harvested on or before Sept. 30, 2011, to maintain SURE eligibility. A loss claim will only trigger after FSA determines that the loss was because of disaster occurring on or before Sept. 30, 2011.

Losses that result from disasters that occur after Sept. 30, 2011, will not be eligible for SURE benefits.

Producers with 2011 and 2012 crops that suffer losses caused by disasters that occur on or before Sept. 30, 2011, must also meet the following criteria:

- For insured crops, the insurance policy defines the coverage period as beginning on or before Sept. 30, 2011
- For Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) crops, the coverage period begins on or before Sept. 30, 2011
- The final planting date according to RMA and FSA (NAP crops only) occur on or before Sept. 30, 2011.

If the crop is planted prior to Sept. 30, 2011, but the final planting date is after Sept. 30, 2011, the crop will not be eligible for SURE benefits.

The sign-up period for 2011 and 2012 SURE will not begin until after the national average market prices are determined for each respective crop year, which is normally one year after the applicable crop year. Perkins County has not yet been declared a disaster county for 2011, though reports have been sent in.

Electronic Services Available

If a producer has Internet access, program participants can access many ser vices from home 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours.

To participate in these services, you must meet all program eligibility re quirements. Online services have strin gent security measures to protect your private information.

To utilize electronic services a producer needs an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires an e-mail address and filling out an online registration form at http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/ followed by a visit to the county office for identity verification.

If you have more questions, or would like assistance establishing your account, please contact our office.