Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director

2001 Burley Tobacco Quota

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced the provisions of the 2001 burley tobacco program.

For each farm, the 2001 basic quota will be up approximately 34.4 percent from 2000.

The effective quota is expected to be about 352 million pounds, or 15.4 million pounds below 2000.

The burley tobacco no net cost assessment will be, in total, two cents on each pound of the 2001 crop burley tobacco that is marketed. According, as between the producer and purchaser of domestic 2001 crop burley tobacco, the no net cost assessment will be one cent for the producer and one cent for the purchaser.

Further program information is available by e-mail address: Daniel_Stevens@wdc.fsa.usda.gov

Burley Tobacco Leasing of Quotas

April 2nd is the first date producers shall execute a lease for the 2001 quotas. Leasing will end on July 1, 2001. Any producer wishing to post their name to the Tobacco Lease In or Lease Out Listing may do so now. You do not need to wait until April 2nd. If you are unable to come to the office you may notify the office staff to post the listing by calling 606-256-2525.

Burley Tobacco Referendum Results

The US Department of Agriculture announced that preliminary results from a mail referendum held February 12 through 16 show burley tobacco growers voted to contine marketing quotas on a poundage basis for the 2001, 2002 and 2003 marketing years.

Results show that 135,022 of the 138,587 producers who voted in the referendum or 97.4 percent voted to approve quotas. In Kentucky of the 170,993 eligible voters, 86,954 or 51.8 percent voted with 85,682 or 98.5 percent voted 'YES' and 1,272 or 1.5 percent voting 'No.' A vote of at least two-thirds in favor was necessary to continue poundage marekting quotas.

Burley tobacco is grown in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

Marketing Cards

Producers who have sold the current years crop of tobacco are encouraged to return their marketing card to the FSA as soon as possible. Marketings are then compared to sales recorded for accuracy. Failure to return marketing cards promptly could result in producers receiving incorrect information for the 2001 quota, scheduled to be released February 8th.

DMLA-II Sign-Up

Signup for DMLA-III began February 26 and will end on March 30. Producers elgibile for this sign-up include the following: Producers paid on less than 12 mos. base production under DMLA I or II, new dairy producers for calendar year 2000 and dairy producers who were eligible for DMLA I or II and never signed up. Producers should be advised the importance of the March 30 deadline. No late filed applications will be accepted.

Kentucky 2001 Crop Review Report

The Risk Management Agency (RMA), which administers crop insurance, and the FSA State Office will conduct a joint effort to carry out corp review inspections throughout Kentucky this year. This combined effort is directed to maintain and improve the integrity of USDA programs that comprise a part of the safety net for agricultural producers.

The RMA, Southern Regional Compliance Office and the Kentucky State FSA Office together will conduct these on-site growing season crop review inspections throughout crop year 2001. Producers who have received crop insurance indemnities and/or USDA crop disaster assistance will be selected by RMA for the review. The crop reviews will be conducted both after planting and again before the harvest.

This combined plan continues the efforts of each agency to identify and eliminate fraud, waste and abuse of USDA programs. The Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 called for joint efforts by RMS and FSA to improve efficiency and integrity of program benefits.

Redesigned Web Site

FSA has announced the introduction of a redesigned FSA web site at www.fsa.usda.gov. The redesign includes user-friendly features and easily accessible online FSA forms.

Producers now receive county loan deficiency payment rates and expanded program information directly from the web site. With new online forms feature, farmers and ranchers can download program and disaster assistance forms when it's most convenient for them.

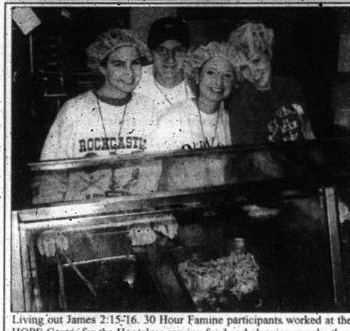
Farm Changes

Producers who have purchased or sold land need to contact the local FSA office for proper reconstitutions of farms. Farms enrolled with PFC have until the deadline of June 1st to file for reconstitutions of farms. Farms not enrolled with PFC have until the deadline of July 1st. Remember to bring your deed and/or to notify the new owner to do so. Also notify this office of any and/or all address changes. REMEMBER: our records are only as current as producers inform our office.

Dates to Remember

- CDP (Crop Disaster Program) began January 18th.
- Quota Referendum: ballot counting February 21st.
- FCIC Insurance: from other sources by March 15th.
- Crop Reporting: Small Grains (WHEAT) by May 31st.
- Tobacco Leasing: April 2nd through July 1st.
- Crop Reporting: required for ALL burley tobacco farms by July 1st.

Famine participants experience what it is like to be homeless.



Living out James 2:15-16. 30 Hour Famine participants worked at the HOPE Center for the Homeless serving food and cleaning supply closets.

"Audit" - Cont. from B7

CITY OF MT. VERNON, KENTUCKY
WATER AND SEWER REVENUE BONDS - SERIES 1998
JUNE 30, 1998

FUND	Year	Principal	Annual Interest	Total
Water and Sewer Fund				
Fifth Third Bank Bondholder	1999	$0	$113,483	$113,483
	2000	55,000	170,225	225,225
	2001	55,000	167,475	222,475
	2002	60,000	164,725	224,725
	2003	60,000	161,725	221,725
	2004	65,000	158,725	223,725
	2005	70,000	155,475	225,475
	2006	70,000	151,975	221,975
	2007	75,000	148,475	223,475
	2008	80,000	144,725	224,725
	2009	85,000	140,725	225,725
	2010	85,000	136,475	221,475
	2011	90,000	132,225	222,225
	2012	95,000	127,725	222,725
	2013	100,000	122,975	222,975
	2014	105,000	117,975	222,975
	2015	110,000	112,725	222,725
	2016	115,000	107,225	222,225
	2017	125,000	101,475	226,475
	2018	130,000	95,069	225,069
	2019	135,000	88,406	223,406
	2020	145,000	81,488	226,488
	2021	150,000	74,056	224,056
	2022	160,000	66,369	226,369
	2023	165,000	58,169	223,169
	2024	175,000	49,713	224,713
	2025	185,000	40,744	225,744
	2026	195,000	31,263	226,263
	2027	200,000	21,269	221,269
	2028	215,000	11,019	226,019
TOTAL		$3,355,000	$3,254,096	$6,609,096

CITY OF MT. VERNON, KENTUCKY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1998

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
City of Mt. Vernon, Kentucky

During my examination I have made various observations and suggestions which I have discussed with management and are listed below. While some of these conditions were not considered of a material nature, and therefore do not affect the reliability of the financial statements taken as a whole, I do think my suggestions will result in improved reporting and record keeping.

Personnel costs by Fund should be allocated to actual duties performed.

Programs when initiated were not recorded on the financial statements. This resulted in audit adjustments far in excess of normal adjustments. Any bank account of the city should be recorded in the proper time period. All assets and liabilities of the city should be listed on the financial statements, (i.e. CD's, bonds, etc.). If the city personnel are unaware as to how to book the entry, the auditors should be notified, as soon as the bank statement, bond schedule, etc., are received. This would help assure that all transactions are booked timely.

Personnel policies should be applied equally across the board to all employees. Two instances were discovered of vacations being taken in excess of policy and one employee forced to loose time while others were allowed to take accumulated vacation/sick time.

All employee vacation/sick records should be approved and reviewed by the city clerk and the city clerks records should be reviewed and approved by the mayor and/or city council. Errors were found in carrying over monthly amounts.

Sales tax was charged incorrectly on school tax that was collected, also in some months, sales tax paid exceeded sales tax Collected, per the collection worksheets.

Mt. Vernon, Kentucky
December 15, 2000

Joseph B. Clontz

Certified Public Accountant, PSC

"Fasting"

(Cont. from B1)

County. Stayton said the amount was over three times the amount raised last year.

"As always, when you do an event like this, there are so many people represented in that $700. Lots of local students pledged money to the Famine, and we couldn't have done it without our church and community's involvement."

World Vision is the largest privately funded non-profit Christian relief and development organization in the world, serving nearly 85 million people in 88 countries.

Email the Signal at mvsignal@sun-spot.com