

Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, County Executive Director

Slow Pace of Sign-up for Major Farm Bill Programs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is concerned about the slow pace at which farmers are signing up for major farm programs under the 2002 Farm Bill and urges farmers to being the process to quickly sign up in order to receive intended benefits in a timely and efficient manner.

The USDA team has developed extensive new software, trained personnel and prepared directives for the many new and existing programs. In addition, the department developed a new website and conducted hundreds of outreach meetings to farmers nationwide to provide information on how to comply with the new law and the required changes in program participation.

USDA is committed to working at every level to assist producers, but it is critical farmers contact their local FSA office to bring processing individual program information and updates needed to participate.

Accordingly, reports to date from the states indicate that producer sign-up for the direct and counter-cyclical programs is proceeding quite slowly. Several reasons explain the slow pace, including the late harvest in many parts of the country that kept farmers in the field longer than usual.

Additionally, the complexity of the programs require more time for producers to understand, assemble the necessary information and make their decision, often involving several different commodities and unknown future market conditions.

Producers are reminded that they can sign-up for major programs now and still make changes to their decision any time until the April 1 closing date for base acreage and yield updating.

For a complete list of farm bill programs, benefits and information needed for sign-up, please visit USDA's Farm Bill website at: <http://www.usda.gov> or contact your local FSA office.

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP)

Direct and Counter-cyclical payments for 2002 through 2007 will be based on each producer's individual production history. Signup for the program began October 1, 2002 and will end July 2, 2003. Program participation is voluntary, and producers are responsible for meeting deadlines and complying with rules and regulations.

Producers have been mailed additional information concerning this program. Those who have questions should contact their local USDA Service Center or county FSA office.

More information about the 2002 Farm Bill issues is available at <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill>.

Power of Attorney Forms

If you currently have a Power of Attorney on file with FSA, it is not valid for the new programs or transactions authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill). If you wish to remain an agent to act on your behalf for the new Direct and Counter-Cyclical programs, a new Power of Attorney is required.

The FSA Power of Attorney, form FSA-211, has been revised to cover programs in the Act (referred to as the Farm Bill). Non-FSA power of attorney forms currently on file are not valid for any new program authorized by the Act. Farmers are cautioned that the authorizing signature on the FSA-211, must be witnessed by either an FSA employee or a Notary Public.

Designation by Landowner Method

The designation by landowner method of dividing a farm is the division of contract acres, allotments, or quotas in the manner AGREED to by all parent farm owner(s) and farm purchasers or transferees. Sellers must have owned the farm for three years prior to the date of designation by landowner method. The County Committee may waive the 3-year ownership requirement if either of the following apply:

- CCC determines the sale was not primarily to keep or sell allotments, quotas or contract acres.
- Land sold will be devoted to non-agricultural, recreational, residential or industrial use.

The designation by landowner method may be used when any of the following apply:

- Part of a farm or tract is sold or ownership is transferred.
- An entire farm or tract is sold to 2 or more persons.
- Farm or tract ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons.

With the designation by landowner method, the 1,000 pound/acre also applies when there is a change in ownership. Thus, if a resulting farm has less than 1,000 pounds of tobacco quota, the owner shall either:

- Purchase additional quota to make 1,000 pounds
- Sell the quota

Combine the quota with another farm to make 1,000 pounds

An FSA-155, Request for Farm Reconstitution shall be signed by ALL sellers, buyers and, if applicable, the holder or the deed of trust, lien holder or mortgage holder, state or county.

Farm Changes

Producers who have purchased or sold land should inform the FSA office of the change. A copy of the deed or land contract sales is required to update FSA records with correct ownership. Producers are also reminded to inform the FSA office of any change of address.

Important Program Dates

April 1, 2003 - Ending date for owners to select base and yield options.
June 2, 2003 - Signup for the 2002 and 2003 DCP ends.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political belief, sexual orientation and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited basis apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Bldg., 14th and Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



LIFE PLANCE

Step by so see Bobby Cummins

When it comes to insurance, I want to make your life easier.

The Farm Bureau Insurance Companies can help you plan for the future with a wide range of products: Annuities, IRAs, Mortgage Cancellation, Disability Income, Whole or Term Life... you name it. For Life Insurance, or Home and Auto coverage, call for a no-obligation review.

HELPING YOU is what we do best.



FARM BUREAU INSURANCE

Rockcastle County
Hwy. 25
Mt. Vernon
606-256-2050

Power Praise!

Youth Rally
Saturday, January 25th
Northside Baptist Church
6:00 P.M.



Special Music By:
Shawn Burdette

Interpretive Movement By:
Northside Youth Group

Drama of Captain Courage By:
Glory Vision

"What Saith the Scriptures"

Last week we discussed from Matt 21 the question of authority. Jesus points out, "I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, whence was it? From heaven, or of men?" vs 24-25a. So all the things people do in religion, have authority either from heaven or from men. If it is from heaven, we can give the book, the chapter, and the verse from the Bible that will prove it is authorized from heaven. But if we cannot, we must concede it is from men. Take for instance sprinkling and pouring for baptism, is this from heaven or from men? Answer, it is from men, for there is not authority from scriptures on this sinful practice. Baptism being an immersion, is this from heaven or from men? Answer, from heaven, Col 2:12, Rom 6:3-4. Praying to Mary, is this from heaven or from men? It is from men, nothing in the word of God to authorize this practice. Using instrumental music in worship today, is this from heaven or from men? Answer, it is from men, there are no verses in the N.T. to authorize its use in worship. Somebody says, Yes, but what about Psalm 150, doesn't it authorize instrumental music? Answer, no, this is O.T. law, we are to listen to Jesus, not to Moses and the prophets, Matt 17:1-5.

Providence church of Christ

Dan McKibben-758-9316 - E-mail: Dan.McKibben@juno.com

Web Site: www.WhatSaithTheScriptures.com

Time of Services: Sunday 10am Bible Study, Worship 10:40 & 6:00pm, Wednesday 7:00pm. Radio program, Sunday 8am, 1460 AM

2002 Ford Windstar SE

SAVE \$7,212
\$22,888 MSRP \$30,100



T-3752

2003 Ford Focus Station Wagon

SAVE \$3,240
\$14,980 MSRP \$18,220



C-1971

2003 Ford Ranger XLT S/C 4X4

SAVE \$6,685
\$19,980 MSRP \$26,665



T-3924

2003 Ford Escape XLS

SAVE \$2,035
\$17,980 MSRP \$20,015



T-3955

2003 Ford F-250 S/C 4X4 Diesel

SAVE \$6,357
\$33,358 MSRP \$39,715



T-3821

2003 Ford Explorer XLT

\$26,980 MSRP \$31,910



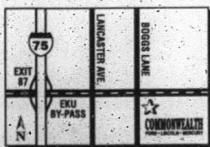
T-3965

Quality Pre-Owned Vehicles

Check Out Our Web Site (commonwealthfm.com) For Details of These Pre-Owned Vehicles!

'98 Nissan Maxima	\$11,980	'98 Toyota Avalon	\$13,980	'01 Ford Windstar SE	\$19,980
'01 Ford Escape XLT 4x4	\$19,980	'02 Ford Taurus, SES	\$15,980	'99 Mercury Grand Marquis LS	\$8,990
'00 Ford Mustang Coupe	\$14,980	'00 Pontiac Grand Prix	\$12,980	'00 Mazda B2500	\$8,980
'02 GMC 1500	\$16,980	'00 Ford Ranger XLT	\$10,980	'00 Ford Focus ZTS	\$11,980
'00 Oldsmobile Intrigue	\$12,980	'01 Lincoln Town Car Signature	\$24,980	'00 Ford Focus S/W	\$12,980
'01 Ford F-150 S/C 4x4	\$25,980	'97 Ford Crown Victoria	\$9,980	'00 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer	\$23,980
'97 Jeep Wrangler 6 Cyl/Air	\$12,980	'00 Ford Crown Victoria	\$11,980	'00 Mercury Cougar	\$12,980
'98 Pontiac Grand Prix	\$10,980	'01 Ford Ranger Edge	\$18,980	'99 Chrysler Cirrus LXI	\$8,990
'02 Mercury Sable	\$16,999	'01 Ford Windstar SEL	\$19,980	'01 Ford Explorer XLT	\$21,980
'01 Buick LeSabre	\$16,980	'00 Ford Taurus	\$11,980		

Tax & license in addition to all vehicle prices. All vehicles go to dealer.



COMMONWEALTH

FORD • LINCOLN • MERCURY

EKY By-Pass & Boggs Lane • Richmond, KY • (859) 623-3252 • 1-800-633-5574