

New deadlines approaching

By Teri Moss

County Executive Director

The FSA office has new dates to announce and notifications to make as the new year gets underway:

Foreign Buyers

Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

All individuals who are not U.S. citizens, and have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing.

Failure to submit the AFIDA form (FSA-153) could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

New County Committee Election Ballots

Nationally revised County Committee ballots were mailed Dec. 20, 2013. These ballots will indicate that they are the corrected ballot in several places, including on the outside of the mailing, on the ballot and on the outside of the return envelope.

The corrected ballot must be returned to the Perkins County FSA Office or postmarked by Jan. 17. All newly elected county committee members will take office Feb. 18.

All county committee members whose term expires on Dec. 31, 2013, will have their term extended to Jan. 31.

The candidate for LAA 2 in this year's election is Donald R Hajek.

More information on county committees, such as the new 2013 fact sheet and brochures, can be found on the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections or contact the local FSA Office.

2014 Acreage

Reporting Dates

Producers now have until Jan. 15 to report crops that had a Nov. 15, 2013, or Dec. 15, 2013, reporting deadline without paying a late-file fee.

Crops under this waiver include wheat and native and improved grasses intended for grazing or haying.

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) did not grant a waiver so producers need to consult their crop insurance agent for deadlines for insured crops.

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Perkins County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

