The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides federal program benefits to Ohio’s farmers and producers.

- Through loans for operating and land purchase
- Commodity price supports
- Disaster relief
- Emergency assistance
- Conservation.
Ohio Farm Service Agency

- FSA supports and helps ensure a healthful, safe, stable, accessible and affordable food supply.
- FSA also fosters good land stewardship, which will help preserve our agricultural land for generations to come.
- Unique structure that no other federal Agency has. CO and COC’s.

County Committee System

Each FSA County office is overseen by an elected committee of local farmers. LOCAL CONTROL.

County Committee provide assistance on:

- Commodity price support loans and payments
- Conservation programs
- Incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities
- Emergency programs
- Payment eligibility
USDA’s Record Keeper

FSA maintains records for USDA.

- Annual Crop Acreage Reports (95% of all cropland)
- Farm Owners and Farm operators
- Farm and Field boundaries
- Foreign Farm ownership
- Producer Eligibility
- Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation Compliance records

Price Support Programs

Marketing Assistance Loans:
Low interest Marketing Assistance Loans on harvested, stored grains and honey.

Facility Loan Program:
Low interest “Facility” loans to build, fruit and vegetable, grain and hay storage structures. New micro-loans.

Margin Protection Program for Dairy (MPP-Dairy):
Protects dairy producers when the difference between the milk price and the average feed cost (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer.
Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP)

- Inexpensive Insurance policy available for any crop that Federal Crop Insurance will not insure.
- Eligible crops must be commercially produced agricultural commodity crops for which the catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance is not available and be any of the following:
  - Crops grown for food;
  - Crops planted and grown for livestock consumption, including, but not limited to grain and forage crops, including native forage;
  - Crops grown in a controlled environment, such as mushrooms and floriculture;
  - Specialty crops, such as honey and maple sap;
  - Value loss crops, such as aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng, ornamental nursery and turfgrass sod
Production Adjustment Programs

- The Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program was repealed with the passing of the 2014 Farm Bill Act.

- Two new programs were established to replace DCP and the ACRE Programs:
  - Price Loss Coverage (PLC)
  - Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC).

Price Loss Coverage (PLC)

- Payments are issued when the effective price of a covered commodity is less than the respective reference price for that commodity established in the statute.

Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC)

- Has two options available for ARC.
  - County ARC
  - Individual ARC
Disaster Programs

- **Tree Assistance Program (TAP)**
  - provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes and vines damaged by natural disasters.

- **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)**
  - provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather.

- **Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)**
  - provides compensation to eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses for covered livestock on land that is native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or is planted specifically for grazing. The grazing losses must be due to a qualifying drought condition during the normal grazing period for the county.

- **The Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)**
  - provides payments to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish to help compensate for losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards.
  
  - ELAP provides assistance for losses not covered by the LFP and the LIP programs.
Conservation Programs

- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
- Emergency Forestry Restoration Program (EFRP)
- Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)

Conservation Reserve Program

- Voluntary program for agricultural producers.
- **Largest conservation partnership on private lands in America** continues through 2018 with an annually decreasing enrolled acreage cap.
  - 32 million acre goal set in 2008 Farm Bill.
  - The acreage cap is gradually lowered to 24 million acres for 2017 and 2018.
- Approximately 25.5 million acres enrolled nationally.
Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

- Provides emergency funding and technical assistance for farmers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters.
- Natural disasters include droughts, floods, ice storms, tornados, etc.
- **Funding is appropriated by Congress**
- Administered by FSA State and County Committees.

Crop Acreage Reporting

- Required for eligibility for USDA/FSA programs
- Reporting dates are as follows:
  - All forages - November 15th
  - All fall seeded crops – December 15th
  - Most spring seeded crops – July 15th
Questions?