

Farm Service Agency News

USDA Reminds Producers to File Crop Acreage Reports

After spring planting is complete, agricultural producers should make an appointment with the Ohio County Farm Service Agency (FSA) to complete crop acreage reports before the applicable deadline.

“Producers must file an accurate crop acreage report by the applicable deadline in order to receive many USDA program benefits,” said CED Crystal Grigsby, FSA’s County Executive Director in Ohio County. “After planting is complete, call your local FSA office to make an appointment to report your acreage and take care of any other FSA-related business.”

How to File a Report

A crop acreage report documents a crop grown on a farm or ranch, its intended use and location. Producers should file an accurate crop acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planted acreage before the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable in Ohio County: July 15, 2025 - Perennial Forage, all other crops, and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) December 15, 2025 – Fall Seeded Small Grains

To file a crop acreage report, producers need to provide:

Crop and crop type or variety; Intended crop use; Number of crop acres; Map with approximate crop boundaries; Planting date(s); Planting pattern, when applicable; Producer share(s); Irrigation practice(s);

Acreage prevented from planting, when applicable; Other required information; Acreage Reporting Details.

The following exceptions apply to acreage reporting dates:

If the crop has not been planted by the acreage reporting deadline, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.

If a producer acquires additional acreage after the acreage reporting deadline, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP-covered crops is the acreage reporting date or 15 calendar days before grazing or crop harvesting begins, whichever is earlier.

Producers with perennial forage crops should check with their local FSA office to see if their crops are eligible for continuous certification, which rolls the certified acreage forward each year until a change is made.

Prevented Planted Acreage

Producers should also report the crop acreage they intended to plant but were unable to because of a natural disaster, including drought. Prevented planted acreage must be reported on form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date as established by

FSA and USDA’s Risk Management Agency (RMA).

Farmers.gov Portal

Producers can access their FSA farm records, maps, and common land units through the farmers.gov customer portal. The portal allows producers to export field boundaries as shapefiles and import and view other shapefiles, such as precision agriculture boundaries within farm records mapping. Producers can view, print and label their maps for acreage reporting purposes. A login.gov account that is linked to a USDA customer record is required to use the portal.

Producers can visit farmers.gov/account to learn more about creating an account. Producers who have the authority to act on behalf of another customer as a grantee via an FSA-211 Power of Attorney form, Business Partner Signature Authority or as a member of a business can now access information for the business in the farmers.gov portal.

More Information

For more information, producers can contact the Ohio County FSA office at 270-298-3643, ext. 2.

Dates to Remember

May 15-Aug. 1: Primary Nesting Season for CRP. DO NOT MOW MAY 31-final plant date for corn.

June 15: Final plant date for initial plant soybeans.

June 19: Office closed.
June 25: Final plant date for double crop soybeans.

July 4: Office closed.
July 15: Final date to report spring seeded crops and hay/pasture and CRP.

Mikayla Fields elected state FFA officer

Mikayla Fields was elected to serve as the 2025-2026 Kentucky FFA Green River state vice president. Mikayla is the daughter of Mike and Melinda Fields, of Morgantown. Mikayla is a member of the Ohio County FFA chapter, where her advisors are Greg Hillard and Kenzie Sonner.

Mikayla was one of 24 candidates who ran for state officer from across the Commonwealth. She completed an application and interview process on June 8-9. She was selected by a nominating committee made up of graduating senior FFA members and elected unanimously by the delegate body.

State FFA officers

commit to a year of service to the organization. State officers complete extensive training following their election. They travel several thousand miles representing the state association at local and regional FFA events, agricultural meetings and various other functions across the state. Their year of service will conclude during the 97th State FFA Convention, which will be held June 9-11, 2026, in Lexington.

Kentucky FFA is an organization of over 24,000 middle and high school students enrolled in Agricultural Education courses. The organization currently has 186 chapters in 115 counties.



Nationally, FFA has over 1 million members in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

For more information, contact Matt Chaliff at 502-564-3472, or by email matt.chaliff@education.ky.gov.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife expands CWD Surveillance Zone to include Henderson, Union and Webster counties

New Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) surveillance measures are now in effect for Henderson, Union, and Webster counties, following the detection of CWD in a deer harvested just across the Ohio River in Posey County, Ind.

In response, the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission approved a CWD Surveillance Zone for the three counties, expanding the state’s existing surveillance area, which includes Ballard, Breckinridge, Calloway, Carlisle, Fulton, Graves, Hardin, Hickman, Marshall, Meade and McCracken counties. The zone brings specific regulations to help limit the spread of the disease among deer.

Key Regulations Now in Effect:

Mandatory Testing: Hunters in Henderson, Union and Webster counties must bring deer harvested during the first three days of modern gun season (Nov. 8–10, 2025) to a staffed check station or CWD Sample Drop-Off site for testing.

Carcass Transport Limits: Whole carcasses or high-risk parts from deer harvested in the zone cannot leave the zone. Permitted items for transport include de-boned meat, clean skulls and teeth, antlers (with or without a clean skull cap), hides and finished taxidermy mounts. Carcasses of deer harvested outside the zone may be brought in.

Rehabilitation Ban: The rehabilitation of deer is prohibited within the surveillance zone.

For the 2025–2026 deer season, under the authority of the

commissioner, two key changes take effect in all counties that are designated within the CWD Surveillance Zone.

First, baiting is now allowed in all counties within the CWD Surveillance Zone, provided it is not distributed through contact feeders (e.g., troughs, funnels, and gravity feeders without spreading capabilities). This change overrides the previous baiting ban, aiming to give hunters more opportunities to harvest deer while reducing deer densities. A statewide prohibition of feeding is still effective from March 1 through July 31. Also, feeding and baiting is illegal on all Wildlife Management Areas.

While permitted with limitations, baiting promotes unnatural congregation of deer, increasing the risk of CWD transmission through saliva, urine and feces from infected animals. Hunters should weigh this risk before choosing to bait.

Second, to manage deer populations and improve disease monitoring, a special two-day antlerless-only gun season will be held Sept. 27–28, 2025, in all CWD Surveillance Zone counties. During this special season, hunters are required to drop off the head of harvested deer to a CWD Sample Drop-off site. Hunters may harvest any deer without visible antlers, including button bucks. However, no deer hunters — whether using firearms, bows or crossbows — may take an antlered buck in a CWD Surveillance Zone county during this weekend. Hunter orange

requirements are in effect during this season.

Chronic Wasting Disease is caused by abnormal proteins called prions and affects white-tailed deer, elk and other animals in the deer family. There is no known cure or vaccine, and the disease is always fatal in infected animals. The disease is not known to be transmissible to people, but as a precaution the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends not consuming meat from deer that test positive for the disease. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife always recommends not consuming meat taken from animals that appear to be sick or in poor condition.

Since 2002, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife has CWD-tested more than 60,000 deer and elk from across the state. Hunters all across the state are encouraged to submit samples through CWD Sample Drop-Off sites or CWD Sample Mail-in Kits at any time during the hunting season. The test comes at no monetary cost to the hunter, and results are typically returned within 4-6 weeks.

More information about CWD, the surveillance zone and the agency’s response plan can be found at fw.ky.gov/cwd. For questions, or to report sick or dead deer, the public may contact the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Information Center at 800-858-1549 or at info.center@ky.gov, weekdays 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.(Eastern), excluding holidays, or use the Report Wildlife Disease webpage on the department’s website.

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