

## CRP Emergency Grazing Extended to November 30 in Kansas

Ian J. Polansky, State Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Kansas announced today that emergency grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage has been authorized to **extend to November 30, 2012** from the original September 30th final date.

On August 29th, USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that "[in order] to assist producers, FSA is permitting farmers and ranchers in drought stricken states that have been approved for emergency grazing to extend grazing on CRP land through November 30, 2012, without incurring additional CRP rental payment reduction."

Because of the severe and ongoing drought conditions, **emergency grazing** in approved Kansas counties is allowed through November 30, 2012" stated Polansky. The emergency grazing provision applies to eligible practices except for continuous practices. Polansky added, "The Kansas FSA State Committee completed the emergency grazing authorizations in all Kansas counties on July 20th as a result of the D2 Severe Drought designations." As of August 28, 2012, a large portion of Kansas has elevated to D3 and D4 on the U.S. Drought Monitor. Drought monitor conditions can be found at [www.droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://www.droughtmonitor.unl.edu).

Participants shall leave at least 25 percent of each field or contiguous CRP fields ungrazed for a year, or graze not more than 75 percent of the stocking rate as set by the Natural Resource Conservation Service. All livestock must be removed by the end of this grazing period. Producers without livestock may rent or lease the grazing privileges.

USDA Secretary of Agriculture announced on July 11, 2012, the payment reduction cost for emergency haying and grazing was reduced from 25 percent of the rental payment per acre to 10 percent for the 2012 year.