

New CSP

Conservation Stewardship Program Replaces Old CSP

BETTY VALLE GEGG-NAEGER
MidAmerica Farmer Grower

PORTAGEVILLE, MO.

The new Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) through USDA was explained recently by Scott Crumpecker of the USDA. “This is not to be confused with the old CSP Program,” he said. “The old CSP program was the Conservation Security Program, which was in force only in specific watersheds in Missouri. There were only a few eligible watersheds, specifically about two thirds to three quarters of the Bootheel was eligible, but the new CSP is not only applicable statewide, it’s also applicable nationwide.”

“Benefits to farmers are predominately monetary,” Crumpecker added. “With the old program in Missouri, producers could expect to gain as much as \$40 per acre. This program will be much more reduced and the preliminary figures are somewhere in the neighborhood of \$12-\$18 an acre nationally.”

The new CSP is both a replacement program and a new one. The contracts still in force under the old program will continue until they expire. However, for those not enrolled in the old Conservation Security Program can sign up for the new CSP. The new CSP is in place for operators only.

“The good news is that those who are already

Scott Crumpecker of the USDA explained that the new CSP program is both a replacement program for the old CSP program and a new one.

Photo by John LaRose, Jr.



The new CSP is an incentive based program and it’s designed to provide incentives for farmers to perform practices on their land that are environmentally friendly, while also rewarding them for what they are doing, one project of which is nutrient management. There are water quality concerns to be addressed; while some other states may have other issues, such as pasture and rangeland concerns. There are a host of different concerns that can be addressed through the new CSP program.

using practical environmentally sound conservation practices on the ground should be rewarded for the good that they do; and those that are not they have an opportunity to address that,” he summed.

For further information check out the CSP website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/CSP/>. Δ

BETTY VALLE GEGG-NAEGER: Senior Staff Writer, MidAmerica Farmer Grower

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