

# Colusa County FSA Updates

March, 2014



## 2014 Drought Relief for Livestock Producers

### Colusa County FSA Office

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### County Committee:

Paul Dhillion, Chair  
Mary Anne Azevedo, Vice Chair  
Joseph Kalfsbeek, Regular

### Website

[www.fsa.usda.gov/ca](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ca)

### Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

Due to drought conditions, Colusa County has been approved to offer the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) for Livestock Producers. ECP provides emergency funding and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters and for implementing emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought. The application period is from February 10, 2014 through March 27, 2014. ECP is available to livestock producers with severe water shortages to assist where feasible for the following:

- Water Hauling;
- Buried pipelines;
- Construction and deepening of Livestock wells;
- Troughs and Tanks;
- Solar panels;
- Submersible pumps.
- Above-ground pipe;
- Spring developments;
- Earthen tanks where a source of underground water is available;
- Dugouts and development of seeps;
- Portable water troughs, stock tanks or tubs.

**Components NOT authorized for cost-share assistance:**

- " Livestock water facilities to make it possible to graze crop residues, field borders, temporary or supplemental pasture crops;
- " Water facilities primarily for headquarters;
- " Livestock water facilities to provide water on land on which the cover will be used for:
  - " Hay, silage, and/or field chopped and hauled to headquarters for feeding
- " Dry wells;
- " Pumps or motors.

If you are interested in applying for assistance under the program please contact the County Office and make an appointment.

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## Microloans

Microloans can be used for all approved operating expenses as authorized by the FSA Operating Loan Program, including but not limited to:

- Initial start-up expenses;
- Annual operating expenses
- Purchase of livestock, equipment, and other materials essential to farm operations;
- Minor farm improvements such as wells and coolers;
- Hoop houses to extend the growing season;
- Irrigation;

### Security Requirements

For annual operating purposes, microloans must be secured by a first lien on a farm property or on agricultural products having a security value of at least 100 percent of the microloan amount, and up to 150 percent, when available. Microloans made for purposes other than annual operating expenses must be secured by a first lien on a farm property (chattel) or agricultural products purchased with loan funds and having a security value of at least 100 percent of the microloan amount.

Eligible applicants may obtain a microloan for up to \$35,000. The repayment term may vary and will not exceed seven years. Annual operating loans are repaid within 12 months or when the agricultural commodities produced are sold.

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## Emergency Loans

These loans are available only as direct loans from FSA. Emergency Loans assist farmers who have suffered physical or production losses in areas declared by the President as disaster areas or designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as disaster or quarantine areas (for physical losses only, the FSA Administrator may authorize Emergency Loan assistance). For production loss loans, applicants must demonstrate a 30 percent loss in a single farming enterprise. Applicants may receive loans up to 100 percent of the actual production or physical losses. The maximum indebtedness under the Emergency Loan program is \$500,000.

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## Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance

USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occurs due to a natural disaster.

Eligible producers must apply for coverage of noninsurable crops and pay the applicable service fees by the application closing date for the crop. Eligible crops include grazing lands, forage crops, annual crops, fruit and nut crops not covered by commercial crop insurance, honey and strawberries.

The service fee is the lesser of \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver of the service fee. To qualify the producer must meet the qualifications. Go to [www.lrttool.sc.egov.usda.gov](http://www.lrttool.sc.egov.usda.gov) for qualifications.

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## Direct Operating (OL) \$300,000

- Rate based on Agency borrowing cost
- Term from 1 to 7 years
- Purchase livestock, poultry, equipment, feed, seed, farm chemicals and supplies
- Soil and water conservation
- Refinance debts with certain limitations

## Guaranteed Loans

**Guaranteed Loans are made and serviced by commercial lenders**

**Operating loan \$1,355,000.00 maximum**

- Rate determined by the lender
- Term from 1 to 7 years
- Loan guarantee fee is 1.5%

**Farm Ownership loan \$1,355,000.00 maximum**

- Rate determined by the lender
- Term up to 40 years
- Loan guarantee fee is 1.5%

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**REMEMBER ECP SIGN-UP**

**FEBRUARY 10—MARCH 27, 2014**

**Please call to make an appointment now.**

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