



June 2008

Glenn County News

Glenn County USDA Service Center

Glenn County FSA
132 North Enright Ave
Willows, CA 95988
530-934-4669 (phone)
530-934-8667 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours

Monday - Friday
7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Eric Larrabee.-
Chairperson
Peter Knight
Peter Ceccon Jr.
Tariq Khan
-Advisor

County Executive Director

Donald Perez

Farm Loan Manager

Michele Larrick

Staff

Michele Clark
Gerri Edwards
Elaine Gallegos
Cynthia Jones
Ritta Millsaps
Mary O' Brien
Ray Philp
Judy Richter
Shaleen Swanson

Food Conservation and Energy Act of 2008

On May 22, 2008, the Food Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill) was passed. This bill included provisions regarding the 2008 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and other provisions that relate to eligibility. The 2008 program will be very similar to the previous DCP. Payment limitation provisions for the 2008 year, including AGI requirements, are also similar to the previous year. New payment limitation rules, such as attribution, will not be in effect until 2009. FSA will be announcing a signup period in the near future for the 2008 program. Producers who need to update or file new Farm Operating Plan for payment limitation purposes should contact the county office to make an appointment.

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM AND LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM SIGN-UP DEADLINE JULY 18, 2008

Livestock producers have until July 18, 2008 to enroll in the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). The LCP provides payments to eligible livestock owners or cash lessees of certain types of livestock for feed losses and increased feed costs that occurred between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007. LIP compensates livestock producers for livestock losses that resulted from natural disasters that occurred between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007. All applicants must also meet FSA eligibility requirements concerning Wetlands, Highly Erodible Land, and payment eligibility.

There are no late-filing provisions. Contact our office for additional information and to make an appointment to apply. Do not wait.

Disaster Signup Continues

Eligible farmers who suffered crop loss damage can still apply to receive disaster assistance. Only producers who obtained federal crop insurance coverage (including CAT) or Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.

For more disaster program information go online at: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>

Crop Reporting

The annual requirement of reporting to the FSA office can be referred to as crop reporting, acreage reporting, or crop certification. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments.

The certification form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. The producer certification deadline for all spring seeded crops has been extended to August 15, 2008.

CRP & NAP Certification:

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.



Prevented Planting:

Prevented planting is to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage:

Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

2008 Compliance

Compliance and spot checks will once again be utilized during the 2008 crop year. Instead of locally selecting farms, contracts, deficiency loans, etc. for spot check and review, a nationwide selection of producers is used to achieve a statistical sampling of participating producers. Spot check selections are to be conducted based on a producer's participation in Conservation Reserve Program, Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, Loan Deficiency Program, etc.

State and County Offices shall view and print their producer spot check lists as posted on the designated web site. If an entity is selected from the national database that is no longer farming or participating in the 2008 crop year, a notation shall be made on the spot check list.

For more information about the new spot check selection procedure, feel free to contact your local Farm Service Agency Office for additional clarification.

Controlled Substances

Program participants convicted under federal or state law of any planting, cultivating, growing, producing, harvesting or storing a controlled substance are ineligible for program payments and benefits.

If convicted of one of these offenses, the program participant shall be ineligible during that crop year and the four succeeding crop years for Direct and Counter-Cyclical payments, Price Support Loans, Loan Deficiency Pay-

ments, Market Loan Gains, Storage Payments, Farm Facility Loans, Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program Payments or Disaster Payments.

Program participants convicted of any federal or state offense consisting of the distribution (trafficking) of a controlled substance shall, at the discretion of the court, be ineligible for any or all program payments and benefits:

- for up to 5 years after the first conviction
- for up to 10 years after the second conviction
- permanently for a third or subsequent conviction.

Program participants convicted of federal or state offense for the possession of a controlled substance shall be ineligible, at the discretion of the court, for any or all program benefits, as follows:

- up to 1 year upon the first conviction
- up to 5 years after a second or subsequent conviction.

Continuous CRP

The Continuous Conservation Reserve Program is a private lands environmental improvement program that allows participants the opportunity to enroll environmentally sensitive acreages in conservation practices that will reduce soil erosion, improve water and soil quality and provide wildlife habitat and food sources.

The Continuous CRP program is a voluntary enrollment program. Eligible landowners enter into contracts that range from 10 to 15 years in length. In return, the landowners will receive annual rental and maintenance payments, incentive payments for certain activities, and cost share for establishment.

To be eligible for enrollment in the Continuous CRP, participants and acreage must meet certain requirements. Provided the eligibility requirements are met, FSA will automatically accept enrollments of acreage into Continuous CRP. Landowners may enroll in the program at any time during the year.

For more information on Continuous CRP enrollment availability, please contact your local FSA office.

Power of Attorney

For those who find it difficult to visit the County Office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office or any Farm Service Agency office near you for more information.



Online Services

Producers, if you have Internet access you can electronically log on, fill out and print a variety of FSA paper forms in the comfort of your home as your schedule allows. You can also register for secure electronic access that will allow you to electronically sign and transmit some forms directly to the county office staff. If you are new to the website, first you will want to obtain a Level 2 USDA Service Center Customer ID and password at: <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/> and then click on "Create an Account Page" link.

USDA eAuthentication is the system used by USDA agencies to enable customers to obtain accounts that will allow them to access USDA Web applications and services via the Internet. This includes things such as submitting forms electronically, completing surveys online, and checking the status of your USDA accounts.

If you already have a Customer ID and password, then click on the following eForms website at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainserver/vlet> and then click on the "Sign In" button. A disclaimer window will open and after you read the "Warning message" click on the "Continue" button.

Then the USDA Web services page will open to the eAuthentication login page. Enter your login User ID and password and then click on the "Login" button. To sign and transmit forms electronically, you must sign-up and get a User ID and password.

Submitting an e-Form is convenient. You can access information anytime day or night seven days a week. It is faster and forms & applica-



tions can be submitted and received in the County Office in a matter of minutes, not days or weeks.

Special Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call the FSA County Office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.

NAP NOTICES OF LOSS

Please remember the NAP regulations state that a producer must complete a CCC-576 Notice of Loss within 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence, date the damage is apparent to the producer or the final planting date for prevented planting.

If you feel you have a crop loss, please contact the County Office as soon as possible.

| Dates to Remember | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 6-15 | Candidate nominations for the FSA County Committee begin |
| 7-4 | Office Closure |
| 7-18 | LCP & LIP Signup Deadline |
| 8-15 | Extended Spring Seeded Acreage Reporting Date |
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| Continues | Continuous Conservation Reserve Program |
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Visit our Web site at
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

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