

July 2013



Stanislaus-Tuolumne County FSA News

Office Location

3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite E
Modesto, CA 95358
Phone (209) 491-9320 ext 2
Fax (209) 491-9331

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee (COC):

Dave Wheeler, Chairperson
Larry Byrd, Vice Chair
Stuart Crook, Member
Dale Matney, Member
Miguel Garcia, Advisor

Next COC Meeting:

October 3, 2013

Farm Program Staff:

Jonna Spaletta, CED
Carmen Cardenas, PT
Maria Juárez, PT
Latisha Kahn, PT
Joni Christensen, PT

Farm Loan Staff:

Deanna Martin, FLM
Amy Cody, FLO
Alma Jaquez, PT
Lupe Mims, PT

For further details and to discuss your own operation's eligibility for any program, contact your nearest FSA office.

For a list of local offices, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/ca

FSA COC Nominations Due August 1st

County Committees (COC) play a crucial role in helping county offices implement Farm Bill programs. During their three-year terms, COC Members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support programs and more. COC Members are a critical component of FSA operations. The intent is to have the COC reflect the makeup of the producers and to represent all constituents. This means wherever possible, minorities, women or lower income producers are encouraged to be members of the committee to speak for these potentially underrepresented groups. Nationwide, more than 7,800 farmers and ranchers serve on FSA County Committees. **Producers can participate in the Stanislaus-Tuolumne FSA COC Election process by nominating an eligible candidate by August 1, 2013.**

Local Administrative Areas (LAA's) up for election this year are:

LAA #1 – Eastern Portion of Stanislaus County, North of the Tuolumne River and East of Hwy 99.

Who Can Hold Office

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria as follows:

- Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
- Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate

Causes for ineligibility include being:

- Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee
- Removed from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or another felony
- Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. The form and more information about FSA county committee elections is available [here](#).

If you would like to become a nominee or nominate someone you know, please contact Latisha Kahn at (209) 491-9320 ext 109.

MILC Payments

MILC program rates have posted for the months of October 2012 through May 2013. **However, all Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) participants will need to file eligibility documents before any payments for FY 2013 can be issued.** This information includes filing the following applicable forms:

- CCC-933, Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification and Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information Form(s)

Dates to Remember

August 1, 2013- Deadline to submit nominations for LAA #1 County Committee Candidates

August 2, 2013- Enrollment in 2013 DCP program is scheduled to close

- AD-1026, Highly Erodible/Wetland Certification Form(s)
- CCC-902, Farm Operating Plan

September 15, 2013- Deadline for 2013 NAP participants to submit 2012 production records

Any changes to the dairy operation must be reported, including relocation of operation, members & share percentages, and bank account information.

To complete 2013 eligibility requirements or to enroll a new dairy operation into the MILC program, contact Maria Juarez at (209) 491-9320 ext 118.

September 15, 2013- Final day to certify 2013 planted crops without being charged late-file fees.

October 3, 2013- Next County Committee Meeting.

2013 DCP Enrollment

The 2013 Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) enrollment period opened February 19, 2013 and is scheduled to close August 2, 2013. **If you believe your farm(s) have base acres, and wish to participate for the 2013 contract year, please contact our office as soon as possible.** Please be prepared to provide the following information to County Office Staff upon enrolling:

Crop Certification Deadline July 15, 2013

The July 15, 2013 for producers to report planting corn, dry beans, tomatoes, onions and rice crops has recently passed. As has been previously communicated, you may note that many of the deadlines to timely report other crops that shared this same deadline (such as native rangeland, fruit & nut trees) have been moved to earlier dates throughout the year; because many reporting dates have been changed, **no late-filed fees will be charged through September 15, 2013 for the 2013 crop reporting year.**

- updated partnership papers/operating agreements including members & share changes
- bank account information, if changed
- updated/new lease agreements or grant deeds for all property that is operated in Stanislaus or Tuolumne County

If you have any questions about the DCP program or enrollment process, please contact Maria Juarez or Carmen Cardenas at (209) 491-9320 ext 2.

Production Records Required for Crops with 2013 NAP Coverage

The NAP program requires previous year's production records to be submitted to the County Office by the subsequent year's acreage reporting date. However, because of the many changes to acreage reporting deadlines beginning with the 2013 crop year, **producers with 2013 NAP coverage must provide 2012 production records by September 15, 2013.** This, however, is understood to be a one-time exception only; **so County Office Staff encourage producers to provide previous year's production records at the time the next year's crop is planted** (for example, 2013 production records for oats should be reported when the 2014 fall/winter oat crop is planted and reported no later than March 15, 2014).

Please contact Joni Christensen at (209) 491-9320 ext 124 with any questions.

As a reminder, the County Office urges producers to timely certify crops planted to avoid any potential future program ineligibility. As of now, participation in any of the following programs requires annual acreage reports be on file: DCP/ACRE, SURE & NAP.

To report crops recently planted, please contact the Stanislaus-Tuolumne County FSA Office at (209) 491-9320 ext 2.

Farm Loan Program Availability

Direct, operating, guaranteed, and microloans are available. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact Farm Loan Staff at (209) 491-9320 ext 2.