

February 2014



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Sutter/Yuba/Nevada County FSA Updates

**Sutter/Yuba/Nevada County
FSA Office**

1521 Butte House Road, Ste A
Yuba City, CA 95993

Phone: 530-671-0850
Fax: 530-673-5360

County Executive Director:
D. Lance Carter

Farm Loan Manager:
Ehab El Liessy

Program Technicians:
Kathy Bowman, CPT
Angela Walker, PT
Margarita Guterrez, PT
Karl Warmuth, PT
Cheryl Giyer, FLO
Prabh Kahlon, FLOT
Jan Silva, PT

**Next County Committee
Meeting: TBA**

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

County committee elections are over, the ballots are counted and the results are in...

Mike Chesini of Meridian was elected to represent LAA # 2 and **Amandeep Sandhu** of Yuba City will serve as the first alternate.

Elected county committee members serve a three-year term and are responsible for making decisions on FSA disaster, conservation, commodity, and price support programs, as well as other important federal farm program issues.

County committee members are a valuable asset because they are comprised of local producers who participate in FSA programs themselves and have a direct connection to farmers and ranchers in the community. All recently elected county committee members and alternates will take office on February 17, 2014, and join the existing committee.

For more information about county committees and the election process, please contact your local FSA Office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

SUTTER/YUBA/NEVADA COUNTY IS ELIGIBLE FOR

EMERGENCY LOANS

Sutter/Yuba/Nevada County was declared a primary/contiguous disaster due to drought and heat using the streamlined Secretarial Disaster Designation process. Under this designation, producers with operations in any primary or contiguous county are eligible to apply for low interest emergency loans.

The streamlined disaster designation process issues a drought disaster declaration when a county has experienced a drought intensity value of at least a D2 (severe drought) level for eight consecutive weeks based on the U.S. Drought Monitor during the crop year.

Emergency loans help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding and other natural disasters or quarantine.

Producers have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. Producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production or physical losses, to a maximum amount of \$500,000.

For more information about emergency loans, please contact your local FSA office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

MICROLOAN PROGRAM

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the Microloan (ML) program to better serve the unique financial operating needs of beginning, niche and small family farm operations.

FSA offers applicants a Microloan designed to help farmers with credit needs of \$35,000 or less. The loan features a streamlined application process built to fit the needs of new and smaller producers. This loan program will also be useful to specialty crop producers and operators of community supported agriculture (CSA).

Eligible applicants can apply for a maximum amount of \$35,000 to pay for initial start-up expenses such as hoop houses to extend the growing season, essential tools, irrigation and annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing, and distribution expenses. As financing needs increase, applicants can apply for a regular operating loan up to the maximum amount of \$300,000 or obtain financing from a commercial lender under FSA's Guaranteed Loan Program.

Individuals who are interested in applying for a microloan or would like to discuss other farm loan programs available should contact our office at 530-671-0850 to set up an appointment with a loan official.

Dates to Remember

Feb. 17

Washington's Birthday, Federal Offices Closed

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).