



NEWSLETTER



COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

May 2011

Yolo County FSA Office

County Committee:

Tom Slater, Chairperson
Marlene Schuler, Vice
Chairperson
Bob Paschoal, Member
Rudy Lucero, Jr., Advisor
Angelo Stanton, Advisor

County Executive Director:

Marianne A. Morton

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Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Office Staff

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Beth Collier
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The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees affects all farmers and ranchers, because FSA county committees (COC) are a link between local agricultural communities and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Its members provide input towards regulations designed to carry out federal rules, regulations and laws regarding commodity price support, incentive, indemnity, conservation and disaster programs. It is important that COC's reflect local population diversity; therefore, members of historically underrepresented groups; and small, beginning and limited resource producers are encouraged to run.

Members serve three-year terms. Elections are held on a rotating basis among the three Local Administrative Areas (LAA's). This year's election will be held for LAA-3 (the area of Yolo County south of I-5 and east of County Road 102 [Elkhorn, West Sacramento, Clarksburg and Davis]).

Election Timeline:

June 1, 2011 – COC nomination period opens

August 1, 2011 – deadline to submit COC nomination forms

November 4, 2011 – COC ballots mailed to eligible voters

December 5, 2011 – Deadline to return completed COC ballots

January 2, 2012 – Newly-elected COC member takes office

Who Can Hold Office:

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must:

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

In addition, candidates must not have been:

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

Nominations:

Nominees must complete and sign FSA-669A, available inside this newsletter, at USDA Service Centers and online at: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa0669a_commiteelectform.pdf

Who Can Vote:

Agricultural producers must be of legal voting age and participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote.

For more information about county committee elections, contact the county office staff.

FSA-669A
(03-31-11)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency**NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION**

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)

2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE

3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:

I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.

- ☐ I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.
- ☐ I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.

3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE

3B. DATE

☐ Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.**TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE**

4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED

5. COUNTY

6. LAA

7. STATE

8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:

If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.

8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR

8B. DATE

*(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).***9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE****VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:** The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.ETHNICITY

- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ White
- ☐ Black or African-American
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

GENDER

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

ITEM 1 Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:

- A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
- B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
- C. Willing to serve if elected.

ITEM 2 Enter the nominee's current address.**ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.**ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.**ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. *(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)***ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2011.****NOTE:***The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.**According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.*

HISPANIC AND WOMEN FARMERS

A process is being established to resolve claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans.

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you during certain time periods between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

For additional information on this claims process and other settlement issues contact:

Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process:

www.farmerclaims.gov or 1(888) 508-4429

Pigford – Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation:

www.blackfarmercase.com or 1(866) 950-5547

Keepseagle – Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement:

www.IndianFarmClass.com or 1(888) 233-5506

FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

FSA is committed to providing family farmers with credit to meet their business needs. Farmers having trouble obtaining financing have both direct and guaranteed loan options. Those who have had a setback and whose lenders are reluctant to extend or renew credit can ask their lender if they qualify for an FSA loan guarantee.

Farm ownership or operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for up to \$300,000; the indebtedness maximum for guaranteed loans is \$1,119,000. Producers are encour-

aged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded prior to production credit needs. FSA employees will help you understand what information to collect or who to contact to get it and assist you in completing necessary forms. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Selected Interest Rates May 2011

90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Direct Farm Operating Loans	2.625%
Direct Farm Ownership and Conservation Loans	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency Loans	3.750%

NAP RECORDS

Production records for individual crops need to be filed at the FSA office to establish an approved NAP (Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) yield. If this is your first year in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up-to-date. Records submitted must be reliable or verifiable and need to show crop disposition. All production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date.

NAP LOSS FILING

The CCC-576 (Notice of Loss) is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing the Notice of Loss is required for all crops – including grasses. For losses on crops covered by NAP and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576 in the FSA County Office within 15 days of 1) the occurrence of the disaster or 2) when losses become apparent. If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.



DATES TO REMEMBER

May 31	Final availability date for 2010 corn, rice, grain sorghum, safflower, sunflower, soybean, cotton and mustard seed marketing assistance loans (MAL's) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's)
June 1	Deadline for farm record changes
	2011 DCP/ACRE sign-up deadline
	LAA-3 nomination period opens
July 4	Office closed – Independence Day
July 15	2011 spring-seeded acreage reporting deadline
	Deadline to report 2010 NAP production
July 29	2009 SURE application deadline
August 1	2012 NAP Application Closing Date (ACD) – 2012 fall-planted seed and multi-planting crops
	Deadline to submit LAA-3 nomination forms
September 1	2012 NAP ACD – garbanzo bean, forage seed, value loss and controlled environment crops
	Deadline to report 2010 ACRE production
September 5	Labor Day – office closed
September 30	Deadline to report successions-in-interest to enrolled 2011 DCP/ACRE contracts
October 1	2012 DCP/ACRE sign-up begins
	2012 NAP ACD – fall-planted garlic
	Beginning date of authorized grazing on CRP acreage (1 st 60-day)
October 10	Office closed – Columbus Day
November 29	End date of authorized grazing on CRP acreage (1 st 60-day)
December 1	2012 NAP ACD – onions, forage crops (grazing and hay intended uses) honey
	Beginning date of authorized grazing on CRP acreage (120-day)
December 5	Deadline to submit LAA-3 election ballots
December 15	2012 NAP ACD – asparagus, artichokes and mature nut/fruit tree crops
January 1	2013 NAP ACD – avocados and citrus
	Newly-elected LAA-3 COC member takes office
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve program