

OCTOBER 2012



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## Humboldt/Lander Counties FSA Updates

DEAR PRODUCERS: Welcome to the new GovDelivery bulletins and updates service from your County FSA office. Note that you are welcome to request to receive bulletins from more than one county and can add or remove individual subscriptions at any time.

### Winnemucca FSA Office

#### Address:

1200 E. Winnemucca Blvd.  
Winnemucca, NV 89445  
Phone: 775-623-5025  
Fax: 775-623-1386  
Hours: 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

#### State/County Staff

**Katie Nuffer ext. 104**  
CED

State Program Specialist

**Daniel Ferraro ext. 107**

Farm Loan Officer

**Denise Cerri ext. 121**

**Marilyn Jones ext. 100**

Program Technicians

#### NRCS Staff

Leah Mori ext. 102

Bryan Shupe ext. 105

Nicole Pennington ext. 109

#### County Committee (COC):

##### Chairman:

Fred Wilkinson

##### Vice-Chair:

Debbie Hummel

##### Members:

Susan Kern

Theresa Marvel

Tom Reichert

Meetings are held the  
second Tuesday of the  
month at 10:00 a.m.

(subject to change)

## Fencing Damage Sign Up for Fire Recovery

Livestock Producers Contact Farm Service Agency by Oct. 26 for Assistance

Farms and ranches in Humboldt and Lander Counties with damage to fences due to the recent fires may be eligible for cost-share assistance under the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). Administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the program applies to restoring or repairing fences damaged by natural disaster.

Fences must be used for agricultural purposes to permit grazing of range, pasture or forage by livestock. Fencing of public land is eligible only if it will directly benefit privately owned land, costs will be borne by the eligible participant and participant has written evidence of right to use the land and maintain the fencing. A producer qualifying for ECP assistance may receive from 60% to 100% of the cost for fencing replacement, depending on factors including the age of the fencing damaged.

Producers affected by the recent fires who need assistance have until close of business Oct. 26, 2012 to contact the Winnemucca FSA Office to request assistance. Call the Winnemucca Office for an appointment at (775) 623-5025. You can also visit the office at 1200 E. Winnemucca Blvd. in Winnemucca.

## County Committee Elections

Watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on Nov. 5, 2012. If for some reason you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office.

Completed and signed ballots must be returned to the county office by close of business on Dec. 3, 2012.

## DCP Final Payments

DCP payments for 2012 will be issued after Oct. 1, 2012. These payments will be deposited directly into participating producers' bank accounts.

If there are any unearned payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the October Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program payments.



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## Dates to Remember

### October 8th, 2012:

Office Closed for Holiday

### October 16th-18th, 2012:

Office closed for all FSA staff to attend training in our state office

### October 31st, 2012:

2013 NAP Signup Ends-All Other Hay Crops

### November 12th, 2012:

Office closed for Holiday

### November 22nd, 2012:

Office closed for Holiday

### Dec. 1st, 2012:

2013 NAP Signup Ends-Grazing

### December 15th, 2012:

## ACREAGE REPORTS DUE

**For Fall Forage Seeding: Fall Barley, Fall Forage Seeding, Fall Wheat, and all other Fall-seeded Small Grains, Perennial Forage, Alfalfa, and ALL GRAZING!**

**NOTICE OF LOSS: Must be reported 15 days from date EACH covered loss becomes apparent.**

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## Increased Guaranteed Loan Limit

The Farm Service Agency has announced that the loan limit for the Guaranteed Loan Program will increase to \$1,302,000 on Oct. 1, 2012. The limit is adjusted annually based on data compiled by the National Agricultural Statistics Service. The lending limit increases every year according to an inflation index. The maximum combined guaranteed and direct farm loan indebtedness will also increase to \$1,602,000. As a reminder, the

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## Electronic Services Available

If a producer has Internet access, program participants can access many services from home 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours.

To participate in these services, you must meet all program eligibility requirements. Online services have stringent security measures to protect your private information.

To utilize electronic services a producer needs an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires an e-mail address and filling out an online registration form at [www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/](http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/) followed by a visit to the county office for identity verification.

If you would like assistance establishing your account, just contact your local USDA Service Center.

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## IRS 1099 Changes

Calendar year 2012 has brought changes to the way FSA reports farm program payments to the producer and to the IRS.

In past years, IRS Forms 1099-G would be issued to show all program payments received from the Farm Service Agency, regardless of the amount.

Starting with calendar year 2012, producers whose total reportable payments from FSA are less than \$600 will not receive IRS Form 1099-G. Also, producers who receive payments from more than one county will only receive one Form 1099-G if the total of all payments from all counties is \$600 or more.

The same changes will apply to producers and vendors who normally receive IRS Form 1099-MISC from FSA.

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## Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000.

Participants are now required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the U.S. Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables - cold storage facilities.

For more information about FSFL visit the FSA county office or

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

one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed Farm Ownership and Operating loans is 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan. Producers should contact their local FSA County Offices with questions about farm loans.

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### **Selected Interest Rates for October**

Farm Operating - Direct 1.125%  
Farm Ownership - Direct 3.000%  
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher 1.500%  
Emergency 2.125%  
Farm Storage Facility – 7 year 1.125%  
Farm Storage Facility – 10 year 1.750%  
Farm Storage Facility – 12 year 2.000%



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## **Rural Youth Loans**

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.

### **Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:**

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
  - Be 10 years to 20 years of age
  - Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
  - Reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
  - Be unable to get a loan from other sources
  - Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
  - Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor.
- The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

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## **USDA Announces Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claims Period Now**

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who allege discrimination by the USDA in past decades can file claims between September 24, 2012 and March 25, 2013.

The process offers a voluntary alternative to litigation for each Hispanic or female farmer and rancher who can prove that USDA denied their applications for loan or loan servicing assistance for discriminatory reasons for certain time periods between 1981 and 2000.

As announced in February 2011, the voluntary claims process will make available at least \$1.33 billion for cash awards and tax relief payments, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers. There are no filing fees to participate in the program.

The Department will continue reaching out to potential Hispanic and female claimants, around the country to get the word out to individuals who may be eligible for this program so they have the opportunity to participate. Call center representatives can be reached at 1-888-508-4429. Claimants must register for a claims package (by calling the number or visiting the website) and the claims package will be mailed to claimants. All those interested in learning more or receiving information about the claims process and claims packages are encouraged to attend meetings in your communities about the claims process and contact the website or claims telephone number.

Website: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

Phone: 1-888-508-4429

Claims Period: September 24, 2012 - March 25, 2013.

Independent legal services companies will administer the claims process and adjudicate the claims. Although there are no filing fees to participate and a lawyer is not required to participate in the claims process, persons seeking legal advice may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider.

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9450, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).