

**March 2013**



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## **Pershing County FSA Updates**

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

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### **Pershing County Service Center COC Election Results**

110 American Blvd.  
Lovelock, NV 89419

Phone: 775-273-2922  
Fax: 775-273-3508  
Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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

The COC Elections Ballots were tallied at the December 18, 2012 COC Meeting held at the USDA Service Center in Lovelock, NV. The results of the ballot counting are as follows:

LAA 2: William Renfro

The COC Makeup Election Ballots were tallied at the February 8, 2013 COC Organizational Meeting held at the USDA Service Center in Lovelock, NV. The results of the ballot counting are as follows:

LAA 1: Ronnie Burrows

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#### **FSA Staff**

**County Executive Director:**  
Terry Goldsworthy Ext:103

**Program Technician:**  
Ali Phillips Ext: 100

LAA 1 Alternate: Leighton Knisley

Thank you to all who participated in the voting process and congratulations to the newest members of the Pershing FSA County Committee.

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### **DCP/ACRE Sign-up Continues**

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#### **NRCS Staff**

Phone: 775-273-2134  
Fax: 775-273-3508

**Soil Conservationist**  
Christie Scilacci Ext 101

DCP and ACRE signups for the 2013 crops are on-going. The DCP sign-up period will end on Aug. 2, 2013; and the ACRE sign-up period will end on June 3, 2013.

The 2013 DCP and ACRE program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that all eligible participants in 2013 may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. This means that eligible producers who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013 or may re-enroll in ACRE in 2013. Likewise producers who were enrolled in

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#### **County Committee:**

**Chairman:** Vance Vesco  
**Vice-Chair:** William Renfroe  
**Member:** Ronnie Burrows

DCP may opt for ACRE enrollment.

[Read more about DCP and ACRE](#) or contact the FSA county office for more information, or an appointment to enroll.

**Meetings held 2nd  
Wednesday of the month at  
1p.m. on an as needed basis.**

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## Microloan Program

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### Selected Interest Rates for March 2013

Farm Operating Direct - 1.25%

Farm Ownership Direct - 3.25%

Limited Resources - 5.0%

Farm Ownership Direct Down  
Payment, Beginning Farmer or  
Rancher - 1.5%

Emergency - 2.25%

Farm Storage Facility – 7 year  
1.375%

Farm Storage Facility – 10  
year 2.000%

Farm Storage Facility – 12  
year 2.250%

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 interested in applying for a microloan or who would like to discuss other farm loan programs available, should contact the local FSA office to setup an appointment with a loan approval official

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### Dates to Remember.

#### June 7, 2013:

SURE Applications Due

#### June 15, 2013:

Acreage Reporting Deadline-  
Spring Barley, Spring Forage  
Seeding, Spring Wheat

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## Farm Storage Facility Loans

The Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFLP) 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 Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) loaning 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.

The initial 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. For more information about FSFL please visit your FSA county office or [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

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## Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operational needs or help purchase or improve farm or ranch property. While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for socially disadvantaged applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is a member of a group that has been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

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## Beginning and Limited Resource Farmers

FSA assists beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's median size.

Additional program information, loan applications and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. Visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

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## Hay Net

Producers are encouraged to use Hay Net on the FSA website ([www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet)). This online service allows producers with hay and those who need hay to post ads so they can make connections. Hay Net is a popular site for farmers and ranchers who have an emergency need. Individual ads can be posted free of charge by producers who complete a simple online registration form the first time they use the site.

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## HWFRCP Claims Deadline March 25

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack reminds Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who allege discrimination

by the USDA in past decades that the filing period will close March 25, 2013. USDA urges potential claimants to contact the Claims Administrator for information and mail their claim packages on or before the deadline.

The process offers a voluntary alternative to litigation for each Hispanic or female farmer and rancher who can prove that USDA denied his or her application 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.

Claimants may register for a claims package by calling the telephone number below Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time or by downloading the forms from the website.

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

Phone: 1-888-508-4429

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

An independent adjudicator 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. Legal resources ready to assist nationwide can be found at [www.nationalaglawcenter.org](http://www.nationalaglawcenter.org)

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## GovDelivery

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices are now communicating electronically to save time and taxpayer dollars. Producers can now enroll in the new GovDelivery email system that provides notices, newsletters and electronic reminders instead of a hard copy through the postal mail.

FSA, like many organizations is working smarter and more efficiently. County Committee ballots and all program or loan-related documents will continue to be mailed to all eligible producers.

Producers can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>.

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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).