



Service Center  
U.S. Department  
Of  
Agriculture

**Farm Service Agency**

150 Chuck Yeager Way, D  
Oroville, CA 95965-9215  
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FAX (530) 533-4936  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>



**Hours**

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

**County Committee**

Joshua Sheppard – Chair  
Gregory Stephens – Vice  
Chair

Roy Roney

Harmanjit S. Gosal –Advisor

**County Director**

Robert L. Maurer

**Staff**

Abby Orndorff

Shān Bertapelle

Jennifer Pooler

Teresa Blackson

Erin Quigley

**CA State Appraiser**

David Widlund

**Farm Loan Manager**

Ed DeBauche - Acting

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**TO REMEMBER**

**COC Meetings**

Second Thursday of each  
month at 1:00 PM

(Subject to change)

**2008 DCP Payments**

No Program (Waiting for  
Farm Bill)

**Holiday Closures**

January 21 - Martin Luther  
King Jr.

February 18 Washington's  
Birthday

**Farm Service Agency**  
**BUTTE COUNTY** January 2008



**WIND STORM  
PROGRAMS???**  
**WE NEED  
INFORMATION!**

If you suffered tree losses in your fruit or nut orchards because of the windstorm, **PLEASE mail in the report on page 3 of this newsletter by February 22nd.** We will be reporting a county summary of the information you provide to the California State FSA Committee.

We are requesting the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) be implemented and funded in Butte County to help pay a portion of the tree removal cost for producers with extensive losses. We need your information in order accurately assess the damage and request the correct amount of funds.

We are also will use the documentation you provide to complete a Disaster Assessment Report to be sent to our State Office when they request it. This report is necessary to allow Secretary of Agriculture to declare a National disaster declaration.

**IF** Butte County is declared a disaster by the Secretary of Agriculture, low interest loans through the Farm Service Agency (FSA) will be available.

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT, WE  
\$ ARE STILL TAKING  
APPOINTMENTS FOR  
DISASTER PROGRAMS**

*You need to call to set up an appointment with us if you feel you are eligible. We will be taking appointments through February! Call soon!*

Livestock/Crop Disasters: You will need to bring: crop insurance documents showing production, indemnity payments, deeds and tax notices, lease agreements, feed purchase agreements, plus a voided or copy of a check to set up direct deposit.

**LIVESTOCK  
PRODUCERS: RULES  
CHANGED**

IF you suffered feed or livestock losses during the 2007 year, you may be eligible for a payment. Regulations were modified to extend eligibility through the whole 2007 year not just through February 28, 2007. If feel you may be eligible, call and set up an appointment.

**2008 NEW FARM BILL?**

Many of you have asked what changes the new farm bill will bring. At this time, the County Office does not have any definite information about the new farm bill.

**WHEAT PRODUCERS:  
ACRERAGE REPORTING**

Acreage reports are required if you want to be eligible for Farm Service Agency programs. Acreage reports are to be certified by **April 15<sup>th</sup> for fall seeded crops** and **July 15<sup>th</sup> for spring seeded crops including ORCHARDS.** You can still file a Late Filed report if the crop or evidence of the crop can be verified in the field, and if a late fee minimum of \$46 is paid.

## 2007 Ag Census

The ag census is taken every 5 years, so it that time again. You probably have received yours. Please fill them out and send them in. The data collected plays a key role in development of the farm bill and farm policy. You can also complete the census online at [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov)

### **LIVESTOCK, CROP DISASTER PROGRAM 2007 ELIGIBILITY DATE EXTENDED**

*Change includes livestock losses prior to Dec. 31, 2007  
losses on crops planted for the entire 2007 crop year*

As a result of a recent extension, now all 2007 livestock and crop year losses may be eligible for the 2005 through 2007 disaster programs.

On Dec. 26, 2007, President George W. Bush signed the Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2008 (2008 Act). The 2008 Act amended the previous Feb. 28, 2007, date and now allows for crops planted prior to Dec. 31, 2007, for the 2007 crop year, to be included for loss purposes under CDP. Similarly, under LIP and LCP, the 2008 Act extends the date livestock and livestock feed losses could have occurred in a primary or contiguous county named in a Secretarial or Presidential disaster declaration to Dec. 31, 2007.

This date change does not make 2008 crops planted in 2007 eligible for CDP, however it does benefit farmers in that it extends the eligibility date for crops planted in 2007 that were intended for harvest in the same crop year, and it adds 10 months to the amount of eligible time livestock losses can be considered for the new programs.

Producers should visit their local USDA Farm Service Agency office to apply for benefits under these new disaster assistance programs.

Sign-up for the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) began Sept. 10, 2007. Sign-up for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) began Oct. 15, 2007, and applies to farmers who suffered quantity losses to their crops. Ending dates for the sign-up period have not yet been determined.

LCP now compensates livestock producers for feed losses occurring between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2007, due to a natural disaster. This can include producers who suffered losses resulting from blizzards that began in 2006 and continued into December 2007. Livestock producers may elect to receive compensation for calendar year 2007

grazing season losses caused by a wildfire natural disaster occurring during the applicable period as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture. Producers in primary counties declared secretarial disaster areas or certain counties declared presidential disaster areas between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2007, are eligible as are producers located in counties contiguous to those counties.

Also, producers in a primary (or contiguous) county that received an Administrator's Physical Loss Notice directly associated with a disaster declaration made by President Bush may also be eligible. Producers with a loss in more than one of the 2005, 2006 or 2007 calendar years must choose only one year for which they want to apply for benefits.

LIP now compensates livestock producers for livestock losses between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2007, that resulted from natural disasters. Producers in primary counties declared secretarial disaster areas or certain counties declared presidential disaster areas between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2007, are eligible as are producers located in counties contiguous to those counties.

Producers in a primary (or contiguous) county that received an Administrator's Physical Loss Notice directly associated with a disaster declaration made by President Bush may also be eligible. Producers incurring eligible livestock losses in more than one of the 2005, 2006 or 2007 calendar years must choose only one year for which they want to apply for benefits.

CDP now provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops from natural disasters if the crop was planted before Dec. 31, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before Dec. 31, 2007.

Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP.

For more information about LCP, LIP and CDP, contact the County FSA Office or online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; under "Disaster Assistance Programs."



Butte County FSA Office  
150 Chuck Yeager Way Suite D  
Oroville, CA 95965-9215



***DEADLINES – DEADLINES – DEADLINES***

**Under NAP must file a notice of loss within 15 Days after Disaster Event**

**Jan 31** Apple NAP deadline to buy coverage

**Mar 1** Spring Seeded NAP deadline for crops like pumpkins and safflower

**Apr. 30<sup>th</sup>** – Fall seeded crop report deadline

**Jul. 15<sup>th</sup>** – Spring seeded crop report deadline

**Remember to let us know if you bank account changes. We don't know when and if we will have 2008 DCP advanced payments. It depends on what happens with the farm bill.**

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