



Farm Service Agency

Cache County News July/August 2006

Cache County FSA
1860 North 100 East
North Logan, UT 84341
435 753-5480 Phone
435 755-2117 Fax

Hours
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Larry B. Roundy
B. Jon White
D. Kent Buttars
Mellree P. Andersen

Staff
Dixie Beesley
Marcene Bennett
Jackie Clark
Kristi Cravalho

Farm Loan Manager
Scott Bown

County Executive Director
Bruce K. Lundquist

Field Assistant
Gary Halverson



Election Nomination Period Open

The county office staff is accepting nominations for candidates to serve on the Cache County Farm Service Agency committee. The nomination period closes **Tuesday, August 1, 2006**.

“Farmers and ranchers have an important opportunity to ensure that their FSA county committees represent them by participating in the county committee election process,” said Ag Secretary, Mike Johanns. “I encourage agricultural producers across the country to nominate eligible candidates, especially minorities and women, to serve on their local county committees and to vote this fall.”

If you participate or cooperate in programs administered by FSA and live in the local administrative area conducting an election, you may be nominated for candidacy for a committee.

You can obtain a complete list of eligibility requirements by visiting the county office or online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/facts/html/cocelig06htm>.

You can nominate yourself or others as candidates. Community based organizations representing minorities and women can nominate candidates. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected.

Keep the following dates in mind during the 2006 county committee election process:

- The nomination period ends August 1, 2006
- Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 3, 2006. The last day to return voted ballots to the county office is December 4, 2006.
- Newly elected county committee members take office on January 1, 2007.



For more information about FSA county committees or to obtain a nomination form, please visit the county office or go online at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/Default.asp>.

Be Counted on the 2007 Census of Agriculture

The 2002 Census of Agriculture counted 2.2 million farms and ranches in the United States. That was down 15% from the 2.6 million farms and ranches counted in 1974. What changes are in store for the future of agriculture in our country? It is important that all operators are again counted in the 2007 Census of Agriculture to show their contribution to the entire U.S. agricultural industry.

Every farm and ranch in the nation can expect to receive a mailed Census questionnaire in December 2007. To get an accurate count for 2007, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service must receive a completed report for every farm and ranch in the U.S. The Census is the only source of uniform agricultural data for every county in the U.S. and provides a complete statistical picture of U.S. farms and ranches every five years.

How can YOU benefit from responding to the Census of Agriculture? Here are some possibilities:

- Producers can negotiate for more competitive market prices because they have the same facts as buyers.
- Farm organizations use the data to evaluate and propose policies and programs that help the agricultural producer.
- Farm service providers can anticipate needs and be more responsive to producers.
- Colleges and universities use census data in research programs aimed at increasing agricultural production and profitability.
- State departments of agriculture use census data to better serve farmers and ranchers during drought and emergency outbreaks of diseases or infestations of pests.
- Rural electric companies use census data to forecast future energy needs for the agricultural producer and the communities they live in.
- USDA uses census data to help evaluate participation of farmers and ranchers in its programs and services.
- Elected representatives use the data to develop farm policies and programs to protect and promote U.S. agriculture.
- Public and private analysts make extensive use of census data in projecting and evaluating results of agricultural programs and events.

The information you provide on the Census is kept confidential by law, Title 7, U.S. Code, and will not be disclosed to any other government or private entity.

For more information about the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) or the Census of Agriculture, including complete results of the 2002 Census, visit our website at www.nass.usda.gov, or call NASS's Utah Field Office in Salt Lake City at 1-800-747-8522.

AgrAbility of Utah

AgrAbility of Utah is part of a national program administered through the USDA. AgrAbility focuses on promoting independence for members of the agricultural community who have disabilities resulting from injury, illness, age, or other causes. AgrAbility offers opportunities to persons of all ages and connects individuals to a network of service providers, product suppliers, and product manufacturers in order to provide education, information, services, and support.

AgrAbility of Utah is administered by the Utah State University's Agricultural Systems Technology and Education Department, USU Extension, the Center for Person's with Disabilities, and the Association for Independent Living of Utah.

Types of assistance available include:

- Agricultural work-site analysis
- Farm/Home accessibility survey
- Environmental modifications
- Equipment adaptation and modification
- Information and referral
- Facilitation of independent living
- Individual advocacy
- Peer support
- Coordination of community service
- Education
- Agricultural safety workshops to prevent further injuries

If you or someone you know could use some assistance in making your farm or ranch operation easier because of a disability, please contact this office or:

Rhonda L. Miller, PhD
Project Director
(435) 797-3772
1-877-225-1860 Toll Free
Fax: (435) 797-4002
E-mail: rlmiller@cc.usu.edu



Farm Reconstitutions

In Farm Service Agency terms, farms are *constituted* to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is called for. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation.

When combining different tracts into one farm unit, FSA simply adds each tract's base acreage to determine the base acreage for the newly constituted farm. If a tract is removed from a farm, such as when there is an operator or ownership change, the base acreage that is attributed to the tract is removed from the farm. In some cases, the base acreage could be distributed by different means.

The final date to request a 2006 reconstitution is August 1, 2006. If 2006 DCP direct payments have already been issued on the farm, the reconstitution will be effective for 2007, unless the payments are refunded.

Cache County Fair & Rodeo



Make plans to participate in the annual Cache County Fair and Rodeo August 10th through 12th. As always, this year's events promise to be enjoyable and educational. Livestock and dairy classes, the annual alfalfa hay contest, the home arts department, community booths and displays of talent are all part of this annual County celebration. The shaded fair grounds make our county fair one of the most enjoyable in the entire state.

Dates to Remember	
Today	File your Acreage Report
August 1	COC Nomination Deadline
August 2	COC Meeting
August 7-12	Cache County Fair
September 4	Labor Day Holiday
September 6	COC Meeting
September 30	Final deadline to sign DCP contract
October 4	COC Meeting



Cache County FSA Office
1860 North 100 East
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Bruce's Comments

We have inspected about 80% of the CRP acreage in Cache County at this time; most is in great condition. Letters detailing any problems found on your farm will be in the mail shortly. If you know of an existing problem on your CRP; that problem should be resolved as soon as is reasonable. If you have questions on maintaining your CRP give me a call or stop by the FSA office.



We hope each of you will take the time to be involved with nominating and voting for a person to serve on the Cache County FSA Committee. This year we will be voting on a new committee member from the west side of Cache County.

We want to make sure that all of your questions about farm programs are answered to your satisfaction. The staff and I here at the FSA office want to keep you informed and help you participate. For information from your computer on current FSA programs go to this web page, www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/default.asp For answers to your questions, please call me at (435) 753-5480 Ext. 17 or contact me by email at bruce.lundquist@ut.usda.gov

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