



June/July 2007

Elko-Eureka County News

Elko/Eureka County USDA Service Center

Elko/Eureka County FSA
555 W Silver St. Ste 101
Elko NV 89801
(775)738-6445 ext. 2
(774)778-9712 (fax)

www.fsa.usda.gov/nv

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Steve Wines, Chair
Mark Damele, Vice Chair
Patsy Tomera, Member
Audrey Spratling, Member
Clayton Cota, Member
Vince Garcia, Advisor

County Committee meets on the second Monday of each month at 1:30 pm in the Conference Room at the Service Center

Staff
Clayre Moiola, CED
Cathy Yardley, FLO
Micki Wines, PT
Maria Murillo, PT

New Disaster Programs

As part of new legislation passed by Congress last month, a multi-program package to help farmers in Nevada who have suffered losses over the past three years will soon be available.

Specific details are not yet available. As more information becomes available we will provide updates and information will soon be available online at: www.fsa.usda.gov. We anticipate that sign up will occur later this fall.

A few program specifics are:

Crop Disaster Program:

All crops are eligible. However, producers must have purchased crop insurance or coverage under the agency's Non-insured Assistance Program in order to qualify. Eligible losses are those that exceeded 35 percent and occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007 (2007 crops must have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007) as a result of a natural disaster. The producer will choose one year for benefits. Quality loss assistance will be available for some crops as well.

Emergency Conservation Program:

Nationwide, \$16 million has been made available for the cleanup and restoration of farm and agricultural production lands.

Livestock Programs:

Producers choose for each livestock program one of three years for which they would receive benefits.

The Livestock Compensation Program provides benefits for producers in designated disaster counties for their added costs of procuring livestock feed in 2005, 2006 or 2007 (up to Feb. 28, 2007). Eligible livestock

under are: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, swine, deer, and catfish.

The Livestock Indemnity Program makes payment available to producers that have incurred more than normal livestock losses between Jan. 1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007, due to a disaster. A producer will select the losses in one year for benefits.

Dairy Programs:

The Dairy Assistance Program compensates producers for reduced milk production due to a natural disaster in a declared disaster county. Nationwide, \$16 million is available.

Milk Income Loss Contract Program

This program extends the MILC program for one additional month, through Sept. 30, 2007.

Acres Reporting

The timely filing of an acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a number of programs, including Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, as well as marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments. To be timely, you must file an FSA-578 by June 15 for small grains and July 15 for all other crops.

To be considered timely, acreage reports for:

- prevented planted acreage must be filed no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the applicable crop.
- failed acreage must be filed before the disposition of the crop.

FSA will accept crop certifications from farm operators, farm owners, persons authorized by power of attorney and tenants and sharecroppers, for which they have a share. Crop acreage reports from producers are accepted for multiple future applications.

DCP Deadline

The deadline to sign up for the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program – known as DCP-- has been extended to August 3, 2007. Those producers who have eligible crop acreage base farms and have not yet enrolled in the program have been given additional time to sign up their farms. This is an annual program that requires a new signed contract every year. Call today to make an appointment to enroll your farm.

Measurement Service

Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. Producers must file a request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit to have stake and referencing done on the farm.

Incorrect acreage self-certification can result in reduced program payments, penalty, or loss of eligibility.

COC Election Nominations

From June 15 through Aug. 1, farmers and ranchers can nominate eligible peers as candidates for election to the Elko / Eureka County Farm Service Agency County Committee. This is an important time for Local Administrative Area communities, because county committee members make decisions that have significant effects on you and the area's agricultural sector as a whole.

For example, committee members make decisions on applications for federal farm program and disaster payments. Committee members play a vital role by helping local farmers and ranchers manage tough financial times and natural disasters.

County committee members make many other

important decisions that affect local farmers and ranchers, such as whether haying and grazing should be allowed on Conservation Reserve Program land. Talk to a county committee member or the County Executive Director for details on the types of decisions county committee members make.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet basic eligibility requirements. Contact the county office staff or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections> for details about candidate eligibility. Nomination forms can be obtained at the county office or online at the above address. Remember, the nomination period runs June 15 through Aug. 1. Voting takes place in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by Nov. 2, 2007. Dec. 3, 2007 is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office Jan. 1, 2008.

Continuous CRP Sign-Up

Environmentally desirable land devoted to certain conservation practices may be enrolled in CRP at any time under continuous sign up provisions. Offers are automatically accepted provided the land and producer meet certain eligibility requirements. Continuous CRP enrollments are not subject to competitive bidding.

To be eligible for Continuous CRP, a producer must have owned or operated the land for at least 12 months prior to submitting the offer. Exceptions to the rule include:

- if the new owner acquired the land due to the previous owner's death;
- the ownership change occurred due to foreclosure where the owner exercised a timely right or redemption in accordance with state law; or
- the circumstances of the acquisition present adequate assurance to FSA that the new owner did not acquire the land for the purpose of placing it in CRP.

To be eligible for placement in CRP, land must be either cropland that has been planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity four of the previous six crop years from 1996 to 2001, and which is physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity; or certain marginal pastureland.



The following conservation practices are eligible for Continuous CRP sign up: riparian buffers; wildlife habitat buffers; wetland buffers; filter strips; wetland restoration; grass waterways; shelterbelts; living snow fences; contour grass strips; salt tolerant vegetation; and shallow water areas for wildlife.

All eligible owners and operators, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status, shall have an opportunity to submit requests to place land in CRP. For more information contact the county office staff for details.

Preventing Fraud & Waste



The Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency are partners in preventing fraud, waste and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program. FSA has been, and will continue to, assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. In addition, FSA will refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse to RMA. Producers can report suspected cases to FSA or RMA.

CCC-633-EZ Reminder

The Farm Service Agency currently uses the CCC-633-EZ form. It's a one size fits all form you can fill out to indicate your intention to receive loan deficiency payments for all your crops at the beginning of the crop year, long before you've lost beneficial interest.

The same form is then used to submit a request for an LDP any time during the loan/LDP availability period before or after losing beneficial interest.

For the 2006 crop year, the CCC-633 EZ and eLDP online requests are the only methods available to request LDPs.

Farm Loans

Congratulations and welcome **Carolyn Persinger!** Carolyn has been selected as the new Farm Loan Manager (FLM) in Nevada. She was the Farm Loan Officer in Tiffin, Ohio and will bring her extensive 15 years **farm loan** experience and knowledge to the county offices. She's stationed in Fallon and scheduled to begin her appointment on July 16, 2007.

Congratulations to Micki Wines, PT in Elko Eureka Office. Micki has been selected as the Farm Loan Officer Trainee (FLOT). She will remain in the Elko Eureka Office and Cathy Yardley will be her Trainer. Micki will start her new duties August 6, 2007.

POSITION TO FILL

The Elko Eureka FSA Office has advertised the Program Technician position. We hope to interview the last couple of weeks of July and have someone in the position by the end of August. Anyone interested can call the Office or stop by and pick up an application. The applications must be returned by July 13, 2007.

Selected Interest Rates

Selected Interest Rates	
Farm Operating - Direct	5.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.375%
Limited Resource	5.0%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.0%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	04.625 %
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	04.875%



Dates to Remember	
July 4	Office closed for Independence Day
June 15	Last day to complete 2007 Acre-age reports for grain crops
July 15	Last day to complete 2007 Acre-age Reports for all other crops
July 15	Last day to provide 2006 hay production.
August 3	DCP sign up deadline
Oct. 31	Last day to purchase NAP for 2008 hay crops.
Dec. 1	Last day to purchase NAP for 2008 grazing

Visit our Web site: <http://www.fsa.usda/nv>

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