



February 2007

Combined Newsletter for Churchill, Nye, Pershing, Storey and Washoe Counties

USDA Service Center

Business Hours

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

Fallon FSA Office

111 Sheckler Rd., Ste. B
Fallon, NV 89406-8951
775-423-5124 (phone)
775-428-1335 (fax)

Fallon COC Members:

Louie Damonte Jr.
Eric Olsen
Michael Laca
Robert James
Raymond Kretschmer

Lovelock FSA Office

110 American Blvd.
Lovelock, NV 89419
775-273-2922 (phone)
775-273-3508 (fax)

Lovelock COC Members:

Karen Wesner
Tim DeLong
Mike Phillips

Staff:

Bob Baldwin, CED
Katie Tipton, COT
Linda King, Fallon
Program PT
Imelda Andersen,
Fallon Program PT
Terry Goldsworthy,
Lovelock Program PT

www.fsa.usda.gov/nv



County Committee Election Results

Congratulations to Karen Wesner. Karen was re-elected to represent farmers from Pershing County LAA 2 on the county committee (COC). Karen was elected to her third consecutive term. The election results for Local Administrative Area 2 are:
Karen Wesner – Elected to the COC
Bob Cooney – 1st alternate to COC

Congratulations to Eric Olsen. Eric was re-elected to represent farmers from Churchill/Washoe/Storey/Nye Counties on the county committee. Eric was elected to his 3rd consecutive term. The election results for Local Administrative Area 3 are:
Eric Olsen – Elected to the COC
Michele Kyte – 1st alternate to COC
Terri McGowan – 2nd alternate to COC.

FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation. The committee members will hold their organizational meeting in January to determine who will serve as the county committee chairman and vice-chairman.

Farm Loan Programs

Quite a few producers are wondering who will be servicing their loans now that Marj has retired and MaryAnn is now the CED in the Winnemucca office.

Be assured that you will still receive quality service. Mark Williams is the Farm Loan Specialist for Nevada. He will be servicing loans from the State Office until the Farm Loan Officer position is filled.

Mark can be reached at 775-784-5411 ext. 110. Linda King, in the Fallon office, is still available for any questions you may have. In the Lovelock office, please call Terry Goldsworthy.

1099-G Mailed from Kansas City

During the last week of January, producers who have received payments from FSA should have also received a CCC-1099-G from the Kansas City office. A CCC-1099-G is a report to the Internal Revenue Service about FSA payments made to you in calendar year 2006. The CCC-1099-G is a service to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participant's responsibility to report income to the IRS.

If you received a CCC-1099-G, we recommend that you check the amounts shown with those in your records to see that the amounts are correct. Refunds will no longer be reported on the 1099-G, but will be available online from the FSA Financial Inquiries (FSA-FI) web-based database. Program participants with eAuthentication user ID's and passwords can access their refund information at FSA-FI and select "Inquiry Type 1099/Refund Reports". Refund amounts are displayed on the Producer's Year-to-Date Activity web page.

If you have a question concerning the 1099-G refund information, you may contact your local FSA office for assistance locating the correct payment data. If you choose to visit the office, bring your CCC-1099-G with you.

Risk Management Education for Sustainable Agriculture in Nevada

There is an *Estate and Farm Transition Planning Workshop* scheduled for:

February 26-27th at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 10 Hospitality Way, Carson City.....or.....

March 1st-2nd at the Hilton Garden Inn, 3650 East Idaho Street, Elko.

There will also be an *Agritourism Symposium* to be held March 12-13th at the Grand Sierra Resort, 2500 E 2nd Street, Reno.

The goal of the program is to deliver risk management education programs to NV agricultural producers. Topics covered include financial, production, legal and market risk, Cattlemen's Update, range management, human resources, value-added marketing, and agritourism.

For more information on the program and educational possibilities, please visit: http://www.cabnr.unr.edu/ag_risk_management/

Annual DCP Enrollment

To participate in DCP, producers are required to **designate shares and sign the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program Contract (CCC-509) on a yearly basis.** The annual DCP sign-up period runs from October 1 to June 1 of the applicable program year. To be considered enrolled timely, the CCC-509 must be submitted by June 1 of the applicable program year. In cases where a farm is reconstituted, all resulting farms will need to enroll (signatures obtained) if the producers intend to participate. CCC-509s with signatures obtained after June 1, but by September 30, will be accepted, but the farm will be assessed a late-filed sign-up fee of \$100. All supporting documentation, such as CCC-502, AD-1026, and CCC-526, must be submitted before payments can be issued. Annual acreage reports indicating uses of all cropland on a farm must be filed by the applicable established reporting dates. Acreage reports filed after the applicable final reporting date may be accepted if all requirements are met and a late-filed fee is paid.

DCP payments are calculated by taking 85 percent of the base acres, multiplied by the farm yield, times the applicable payment rate, times the producer share. Producers may receive an advance of the direct payment, beginning on December 1 of the program year. Final direct payments will be made on or after October 1 following the contract period. Counter-cyclical payments may also be authorized for one or more covered commodities, depending on the projected and actual market prices. Producers may elect to receive up to two counter-cyclical payments per year: (1) the first partial payment, if any, is available after the first six months of the marketing year, and (2) final payment, if any, is made after the end of the marketing year for each eligible crop. Producers who do not elect to take the first advance payments will receive the entire counter-cyclical payment at the end of the marketing year. The amount of a counter-cyclical payment is dependent upon the average of the actual prices received by farmers during the marketing year.

FY 2007 MILCX Option

Because the selection of October and November were not an option at the time of signup when MILCX program was first announced, several applicants selected December as their FY 2006 production start month, or did not change their FY 2007 production start month by September 14, 2006.

Although the option to change their production start month was available, many producers assumed that their production start month for FY 2007 would begin with October 2006, which is the first month of FY 2007 with a payment rate in effect.

Relief is now authorized through close of business December 14, 2006, for eligible dairy operations to change their FY 2007 production start month selection from December to either of the following: October 2006 or November 2006.

The relief provision is only authorized for FY 2007 changes from December 2006, to either October or November 2006.

Additional information on the selection changes is available at the local FSA county office.

Online Services

If you are among the growing number of producers have access to the Internet at home, you might be interested in USDA's online services that are available to you. Here's a quick run down of available services.

- The USDA Customer Statement. This provides the producer online access 24/7 to the farm's USDA business transactions in a single report accessed with one login and password. It includes participation, application and payment status in various commodity and conservation programs, farm loans, maps, and land unit information.
- eLDP is the Farm Service Agency's electronic Loan Deficiency Payment Service. This allows producers to request LDPs online and, in most cases, receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours.



Effective February 26, 2007 the Lovelock county office cannot accept cash for transactions.

Acceptable forms of payment include: Personal check, money order, or cashier's checks.

Maintaining the Quality of Loaned Grain

This year's large grain crop has its obvious up side, but there is a downside too. Many producers are hard pressed to find adequate storage for every bushel harvested. Overfilled grain storage bins can lead to grain quality problems. Bins are ideally designed to hold a level volume of grain. When bins are overfilled and grain is heaped up, airflow is hindered and the chance of spoilage increases.

Producers who take out marketing assistance loans and use the farm-stored grain as collateral should remember that they are responsible for maintaining the quality of the commodity through the term of the loan.

For information about grain storage options visit <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/cropsystems/M1080-FS.pdf> or contact your local extension office.

- eDCP is the FSA's electronic Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program. This allows producers to enroll in DCP online, choose DCP payment options, assign crop shares, and sign and submit contracts, view and print them out at any time.
- My USDA is an online portal the producer can create. It can be customized so that the news, reports, links, and USDA business data most important to the producer will immediately be viewable.

Stop by the county office for assistance in obtaining a USDA eAuthentication Service Level 2 Customer Account. This provides a single user ID and password that grants access to the Customer Statement, and many other USDA e-Services, including submitting forms online through USDA e-File, such as eLDP and eDCP.

Continuous CRP

The Continuous Conservation Reserve Program is a private lands environmental improvement program that allows participants the opportunity to enroll acreages in conservation practices that will reduce soil erosion, improve water and soil quality and provide wildlife habitat and food sources.

The Continuous CRP program is a voluntary enrollment program. Eligible landowners enter into contracts that range from 10 to 15 years in length. In return, the landowners will receive annual rental and maintenance payments, incentive payments for certain activities, and cost share for establishment.

To be eligible for enrollment in the Continuous CRP, participants and acreage must meet certain requirements. Provided the eligibility requirements are met, FSA will automatically accept enrollments of acreage into Continuous CRP. Landowners may enroll in the program at any time during the year.

For more information on Continuous CRP enrollments or local Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) availability, please contact your local FSA office or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/facts/html/crpecont03.htm>.

Spousal Signatures

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

There are exceptions to the rule. Spouses may not sign FSA-211s on behalf of each other or sign on behalf of the other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities. Spouses must have a power of attorney on file or sign personally for claim settlements, such as promissory notes, and on security documents for price support loans.

Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents.

A spouse's authority to sign documents on behalf of the other spouse does not entitle the spouse to review or receive agency records of the other spouse.

Loans for Beginning Farmers, Socially Disadvantaged

FSA is authorized to assist beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person whom:

- 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 average size.

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements. Loan approval is not guaranteed. Socially disadvantaged groups are Hispanics, American Indians, African Americans, Asians, Pacific Islanders and women.

MARCH 6TH



Insurance Agent, Janet Blethen, will be hosting RMA's presentation on the new Agri-Lite policy. This policy, called AGR, is based on gross revenue. This will be held at 11:00 am at Sturgeon's in Lovelock. Lunch will be provided following the presentation around 12:30 pm. Rain and Hail representatives are also planning on attending. There is no cost to attend and reservations are not necessary.

Selected Interest Rates for January 2007	
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.125%
Limited Resource Loans	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.000%
Emergency Loans	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loans	4.625%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	5.000%

Dates to Remember	
Crop Loan & LDP Final Availability Dates	
Mar 31	Barley/Oats/Wheat/Honey/ Canola/Crambe/Flaxseed/ Rapeseed/Sesame seed
May 31	Corn/Sunflower seed/Safflower seed/Dry Peas/Grain Sorghum/ Lentils/Mustard seed/Small Chickpeas/Soybeans
Feb 19	Office closed for President Day
March 6	Agri-Lite presentation in Love- lock
See pg. 2	Risk Management Education for Sustainable Agriculture in Nevada
Continues	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Visit our Web site at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nv	

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