



Farm Service Agency

FSA NEWS

August 2009

Hawaii County FSA Office
154 Wai'anuenue Ave.
Room 219
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: (808) 933-8340
Fax: (808) 933-8345

Office Hours
Monday through Friday
7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Kealahou FSA Office
81-948 Waena'Oihana Loop
Room 103
Kealahou, HI 96750

Office Hours
Monday through Friday
8:30 am—2:00 pm

County Committee
Yoshio Watanabe, Chair
Charles Onaka, Vice-Chair
Aileen Yeh, Member

Staff

Farm Programs:

Lester Ueda,
County Executive Director

Program Technicians:

Malia Boyce
Debbie Jitchaku
Jennifer Withrow (Kona)

Farm Loan Programs:

Miki Miyasato,
Farm Loan Specialist

John Tamashiro,
Farm Loan Officer

Linda Kow,
Program Technician

2010 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of Noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters.

To be eligible for NAP, crops must be Noninsurable and commercially-produced agricultural commodity crops for which the catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance is not available, and must be one of the following:

- crops grown for food;
- crops planted and grown for livestock consumption, including, but not limited to grain and forage crops, including native forage;
- crops grown for fiber, such as cotton and flax (except for trees);
- crops grown in a controlled environment, such as mushrooms and floriculture; specialty crops, such as aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng, ornamental nursery and turfgrass sod;
- sea oats and sea grass; and
- seed crops where the propagation stock is produced for sale as seed stock for other eligible NAP crop production.

Applying for Coverage:

Eligible producers must apply for coverage of Noninsurable crops using Form CCC-471, "Application for Coverage," and pay the applicable service fees. The service fee is \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties.

Limited resource producers may request a waiver of service fees. Limited resource producer status can be determined using the USDA Limited Resource Farmer and Rancher Online Self Determination Tool at <http://www.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/tool.asp>.

Deadline

The deadline to apply for coverage on floriculture, ornamental nursery, Christmas trees, turfgrass sod, seed crops, aquaculture, ginseng and industrial crops is **September 1, 2009**. For all other crops, the deadline to apply is December 1, 2009.

Continuation—2010 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Information Required to Remain Eligible for NAP

To remain eligible for NAP assistance, the following crop acreage information must be reported annually: name of the crop; type and variety; location and acreage of the crop; share of the crop and the name of other producers with an interest in the crop; type of practice used to grow the crop (irrigated or non-irrigated); date the crop was planted in each field; and intended use of the commodity (fresh, processed, etc.)

In addition, producers must annually provide the following production information: the quantity of all harvested production of the crop in which the producer held an interest during the crop year; the disposition of the harvested crop, such as whether it is marketable, unmarketable, salvaged or used differently rather than intended; and verifiable or reliable crop production records (when required by FSA).

Producers must provide production records in a manner that can be easily understood by the FSA county committee. Questions regarding acceptable production records should be directed to your local FSA office.

Failure to report acreage and production information may result in reduced or zero NAP assistance. Be aware that acreage reporting and final planting dates vary by crop and by region.

FSA Use of Reported Acreage and Production

FSA uses acreage reports to verify the existence of the crop and to record the number of acres covered by the application. The acreage report and production report are combined to calculate the approved yield (expected production for a crop year). The approved yield is the average of your actual production history (APH) for a minimum of 4 to a maximum of 10 crop years. To calculate your APH, FSA divides your total production by your crop acreage.

Your approved yield may be calculated using substantially reduced yield data if you do not report acreage and production, or report fewer than 4 years of crop production.

Applying for NAP Assistance When a Natural Disaster Strikes:

When a crop or planting is affected by a natural disaster, you must notify your local FSA office and complete Part B, (the Notice of Loss portion) of the application, which is Form CCC-576, the Notice of Loss and Application for Payment. This must be completed within 15 calendar days of the:

- natural disaster occurrence;
- Final planting date if your planting was prevented by a natural disaster;
- Date damage to the crop or loss of production becomes apparent to you.

Risk Management Purchase Requirement

Noninsurable commodities on a farm are required to have NAP coverage in order to be eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program, Tree Assistance Program (TAP) and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP).

More Information

Further information on NAP is available from your local FSA office or on FSA's website at:

www.fsa.usda.gov

Socially Disadvantaged Producers

FSA is reaching out to women, ethnic and minority farmers in the state in an effort to get more of them involved in its programs. The programs are available to all producers, but FSA would like to increase participation by traditionally underrepresented groups in all program areas.

FSA defines a socially disadvantaged (SDA) farmer, rancher, or agricultural producer as one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as a member of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. SDA groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

FSA also reserves a portion of its direct and guaranteed loan funds each year for SDA loans for eligible participants. These loan programs are designed to help farmers purchase and operate family farms.

COC Election

This year's election will take place in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2. This consists of the Kona and Mauna Kea districts with tax map key zones 5, 6, 7 and 8. This year's candidates for LAA 2 are as follows:

Nancy Griffith-Lukela

Ms. Griffith-Lukela has been raising coffee since 1975. In 2000, her farm, which consists of coffee and apple bananas, have been certified organic. She is a member of the Kona Coffee Farmers Association and a past member of the Kona Coffee Council. She also won a gold medal "Cream of the Crop People Choice-Organic Division."

Charles T. Onaka

Mr. Onaka is a 3rd generation rancher. He has been raising cattle for the past 37 years. He has also raised coffee for the past 30 years. Presently, Mr. Onaka serves on the Hawaii County Farm Service Agency Committee and has done so for the past six years. He also has won the award "Rancher of the Year" three times.

Ballots will be mailed to voters in the Local Administrative Area 2 on November 6, 2009. The last day to return voted ballots to the USDA Service Center is December 7, 2009.

We're on the web:

www.fsa.usda.gov

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication and Compliance, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

USDA, FARM SERVICE AGENCY
HAWAII COUNTY FSA OFFICE
P O BOX 845
HILO, HI 96721-0845

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Honolulu, Hawaii

PERMIT 9822

LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

Applications are now being accepted for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). LIP provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from disaster. Using funds from the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund established under section 902 of the Trade Act of 1974, the program is administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold. ***DROUGHT IS NOT AN ELIGIBLE CAUSE.*** Eligible losses must have occurred on or after January 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011.

The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and/or application for payment for either 2008 or 2009 livestock losses.

Date of Livestock Death	Final Date to File a Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application for Payment
Calendar Year 2008	Sept. 13, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009
Jan. 1, 2009 to July 12, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009	Jan. 30, 2010
July 13, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2009	30 days after death is apparent	Jan. 30, 2010

For more information on available supplemental disaster assistance programs, please visit your FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.