



March 2007

# Combined Newsletter for the Yerington and Minden FSA Offices

**USDA Service Center**

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

**Yerington FSA Office**  
215 W. Bridge St., Ste.10A  
Yerington, NV 89447  
(775)463-2855 Ext.100  
(775)463-3780 (fax)

**County Committee**  
Priscilla Carrera, Chair.  
David Giorgi, Vice-Chair.  
Joe Frade  
Denise Hunewill  
John Maurer

**Minden FSA Office**  
1702 County Rd, Ste. B  
Minden, NV 89423  
(775)782-3661 Ext.100  
(775)782-3547(fax)

**County Committee**  
Mickey Andersen, Chair.  
Bruce Bruns, Vice-Chair.  
Alonna Giacomini  
Mike Sarman  
Tom Summers

**Staff**  
Betty Hodik, Acting CED  
Susan Pruis, Minden PT

**OFFICES CLOSED**

Yerington-	3/7/07
	3/9/07
	3/14/07
	3/21/07
	3/23/07
	3/28/07
Minden-	3/2/07
	3/16/07
	3/30/07

www.fsa.usda.gov/nv

**Marj Leavitt FLM Retires**

January 3, 2007 was my last official day with USDA-FSA due to retirement. Over the last 30+ years, I have met many people who are the highlights to my career. I thank you for the opportunity to have worked with you or to have been more involved in your lives as a farm loan official. I will miss each of you. I would love to receive word from you as to how things are progressing. The Fallon office will forward any mail if sent to: Marj Leavitt, Retired, 111 Sheckler Rd, Fallon NV 89406 E-mail me direct at: [mleavitt@cccomm.net](mailto:mleavitt@cccomm.net). Wishing you all success and a happy life. Marj Leavitt, Farm Loan Manager (retired).

Mark Williams is the Farm Loan Specialist for Nevada and will be servicing loans from the State Office and can be reached at 775-784-5411 ext.110. Linda King in the Fallon Office is still available for any questions you may have at 775-423-5124 ext. 104.

**Office Updates**

Harvey Neill, CED in the Yerington and Minden FSA Offices will be out of the offices indefinitely on sick leave. The Yerington County Office Committee along with the Chairman from the Minden COC, and Roger Van Valkenburg, SED appointed Betty Hodik, Program Technician from the Yerington FSA Office as Acting CED for the interim. She is scheduled to be in the Minden Office on Wednesdays.

Due to staff shortage, the **Yerington Office** will be **closed** on Wednesdays through March (as Betty will be in the Minden office) and Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> and Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The **Minden Office** will be **closed** on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 16<sup>th</sup> and March 30<sup>th</sup>. This is only temporary and we will do our best to accommodate you, the producer. Please call ahead to schedule appointments in each office.

We all wish Harvey well and hope to see him back in the offices soon.

**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 and updated 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 aver-

USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) are conducting workshops in March as part of RMA's Targeted States Education Program for Nevada Producers.

We have the following events scheduled for the next few weeks in Western Nevada:

**Crop Insurance Update – 11:00 am, Tuesday, March 6, 2007, at the Sturgeon's Center Club, Lovelock, NV**

**Risk Management for Nevada Farms Workshop – 10:00 am, Thursday, March 8, 2007, at Casino West, Yerington, NV**

**Cattle Risk Management Workshop – 10:00 am, Friday, March 9, 2007, at the Fallon Convention Center, Fallon, NV**

Producers can get more information about these sessions by contacting Custom Ag Solutions at 877-227-8094 or by emailing Kole Swanser at [kswanser@casnow.com](mailto:kswanser@casnow.com). Additional information is also available on the internet at [www.NevadaAgRisk.com](http://www.NevadaAgRisk.com). Thanks!

age of the actual prices received by farmers during the marketing year.

The DCP signup process will require a visit to the County Office, so please call and schedule an appointment prior to **June 1<sup>st</sup>**.

### **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.
- 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.

### **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.

### **Attention Wool Producers!!!**

If you plan on applying for a wool LDP for 2007, make sure you sign the CCC-633EZ page 1 before you lose beneficial interest (before delivering to the Wool Pool). Contact your FSA Office for additional information.

### **COC Elections- Yerington**

Congratulations to David Giorgi who was re-elected to represent farmers and rancher from Lyon County LAA 3 on the County Office Committee (COC) for his 2<sup>nd</sup> term.

Congratulations also go to Denise Hunewill who was newly elected for LAA 2 in Lyon County. Richard Huntsberger was elected as 1<sup>st</sup> alternate to the COC for LAA 2.

Thank you goes to James Mabe who served as an alternate and a member to the COC representing agricultural producers from LAA 2

The new COC elected Priscilla Carrera from Mineral County as Chairperson, and David Giorgi from Lyon County as Vice-Chairperson

### **COC Elections- Minden**

Congratulations to Bruce Bruns who was re-elected to represent farmers and ranchers from Alpine County, LAA 3 on the County Office Committee (COC). Marie Johnson will be serving as 1<sup>st</sup> alternate for LAA 3.

Congratulations also out go to Michael Sarman, who was elected for Douglas County LAA 1. He is replacing James Settelmeyer who resigned to serve as Assemblyman for District 39.

Tom Summers was newly elected for Mono County, CA, LAA 5. Welcome and congratulations to him.

At the January Organizational Meeting the COC elected Mickey Andersen as Chairman and Bruce Bruns to serve as Vice-Chairman.

### **Banking Changes**

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA county office staff if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.



### **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.

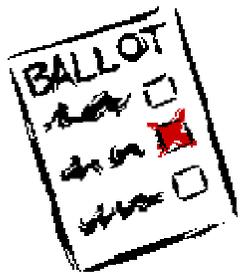
If you received a CCC-1099-G, we recommend that you check the amounts shown with those in your records to see that the amounts are correct. Refunds will no longer be reported on the 1099-G, but will be available online from the FSA Financial Inquiries (FSA-FI) web-based database. Program participants 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.

### **FSA SPOTCHECKS**

All member information (CCC-501s) and payment eligibility (CCC-502s) are subject to spot check through our end-of-year review process. If selected for a spot check, producers will be asked to submit proof of their contribution to the operation such as seed, fertilizer and chemical bills, land lease agreements, land contracts or property tax payments, equipment lists, cancelled checks for paid labor or hired management, and any other items the FSA County Committee determine are necessary.

The producer is required to provide these items for the spot check so that the FSA county committee can make a determination that the farming operation is actually being performed as was stated on the applicable CCC-501 or CCC-502 that was originally completed.



<b>Selected Interest Rates for March 2007</b>	
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	5.125
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.375
Limited Resource Loans	5.0
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.0
Emergency Loans	3.75 %
Farm Storage Facility Loans	4.75
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	6.125
<b>DATES TO REMEMBER</b>	
Deadline to sign up for 2007 DCP (without penalty)	06/01/2007
Deadline to report small grain crops	06/15/2007
Deadline to report all other crops	07/15/2007
Yerington Office closures for March	Wednesdays 03/09/07 03/23/07
Minden Office closures for March	03/02/07 03/16/07 03/30/07



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