



November 14, 2007

# YAKIMA COUNTY FSA NEWS

## Yakima County FSA

1606 Perry Street, Suite A  
Yakima, WA 98902-5769  
Phone- (509) 454-5746, Ext. #2  
Fax- (509) 454-5682

## Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

## County Committee

Nadeen Boyle, Chairperson  
Linda North-Spaulding, Vice-Chair.  
Daniel T. Martinez, Member  
Gilbert Gonzalez, Jr., Advisor  
Jose Guzman, Advisor  
Carol Hull, Advisor

## Office Staff

Raquel Calderon, PT  
Sandy Christensen, PT  
Jennifer DeWeese, PT  
Sherry Fadden, PT  
Steve Jones, FA  
Crispin Garza, SCL  
Brian Miller, CED  
Kim Miller, PT  
Lisa Ruff, FLM  
Scott Smith, FLO

## Next COC Meeting

December 7, 2007  
9:00 AM

## Dates to Remember

- November 12 Office Closed for Veterans Day
- November 20 NAP Application Deadline
- November 22 Office Closed for Thanksgiving
- December 3 COC Election Voting Deadline

## FSA Web Sites

State- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>  
National- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>  
USDA- <http://www.usda.gov>



## FSA COMMITTEE ELECTIONS



The final day to vote in the Committee election is **Monday, December 3.**

The County Committee election is being held in Local Administrative Area #3 this year. This area consists of farms located in the lower valley, south and west of the Yakima River, plus the land situated south of Ahtanum Creek. Producers in this area will be electing a County Committee person and two alternates to serve a three-year term. The following candidates have been nominated for the election:

- **Nadeen Boyle** farms west of Harrah, and has over 36 years of experience in the production of corn, mint, wheat and hay, and raising cattle. Ms. Boyle is a member of the Farm Bureau, and is a FSA County Committee member.
- **Gilbert Gonzalez, Jr.** farms one mile southeast of Wapato, and has 24 years experience in the production of cantaloupe, cucumbers, peppers, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, and watermelons. Mr. Gonzalez is a FSA County Committee advisor.
- **Carol R. Hull** farms near White Swan, and has 28 years experience in the production of hay and raising cattle. Ms. Hull is an enrolled member of the Yakama Nation, and is a FSA County Committee advisor.
- **Sergio Marquez** farms between Toppenish and Harrah, and has 28 years experience in the production of apples, apricots, cherries, nectarines, and peaches. Mr. Marquez is a member of the Center for Latino Farmers and is on the Board of Directors for the Agricultores Latinos Association.

The election ballots must be returned or postmarked by Monday, December 3, 2007. In addition, voters must sign the certification on the ballot envelope for the ballot to be considered valid! Producers who did not receive a ballot and feel they should, please contact our office. **Please take the time to vote for the candidate of your choice!**

## CROP DISASTER PROGRAM

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses from natural disasters and related conditions that occurred in 2005 and 2006 and for 2007 crops if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 2007, or in the case of prevented plantings, would have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to receive benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple crops as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.

Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. The payment rate is set at 42 percent of the established price. The payment quantity for quality losses will be equal to the lesser of: (1) the actual production of the crop affected by a quality loss; or (2) the quantity of expected production of the crop affected by a quality loss. The quality loss must be at least 25 percent of the value that all affected production of the crop would have had if the crop had not suffered a quality loss. Assistance, together with any crop insurance or NAP payment received for the same crop and including the value of the crop production not lost, must not exceed 95 percent of the total value of the crop absent the disaster.

Farmers may receive a maximum of \$80,000 in CDP benefits. Producers who are interested in applying for CDP benefits should contact our office for an appointment.

## LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) compensates livestock producers for feed losses resulting from natural disasters occurring between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007.

Producers in primary or contiguous counties declared secretarial disaster

areas or counties declared presidential disaster areas between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, are eligible. Losses incurred due to drought are only eligible on nonirrigated pastures. Producers incurring a loss in more than one of the 2005, 2006 or 2007 calendar years must choose only one year for which they want to receive benefits.

The following are among the types of commercial livestock operations that may be eligible for LCP: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, swine or deer.

The payment rate for each livestock category will be 61 percent of the nationally established payment rate. Producers will not be penalized if they reduced the average number of livestock they owned for grazing during the production year for which assistance is being provided. Producers may receive a maximum of \$80,000 in LCP benefits. Producers who are interested in applying for LCP benefits should contact our office for an appointment.

### LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) compensates livestock producers for livestock losses between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, that resulted from natural disasters, including losses due to blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into 2007.

Producers in primary or contiguous counties declared secretarial disaster areas or counties declared presidential disaster areas between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, are eligible. Producers incurring eligible livestock losses in more than one of the 2005, 2006 or 2007 calendar years must choose only one year for which they want to receive benefits.

The following are among the eligible livestock under LIP: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, catfish, crawfish, equine, sheep, goats, swine, poultry or deer.

The payment rate will be 26 percent or above the market value of the livestock on the day before the date of death, as determined by the U.S. Secretary of

Agriculture. These rates are available at the local FSA Service Center. Producers may receive a maximum of \$80,000 in LIP benefits. Producers who are interested in applying for LIP benefits should contact our office for an appointment.

### NONINSURED CROP LOSS COVERAGE

Producers may now purchase catastrophic crop loss coverage for noninsurable crops, for harvest in 2008, under the *Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)*. The cost of the coverage is \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per producer, per County. Producers interested in this program should call our office for an appointment to apply. The application closing date for asparagus, berries, prunes & plums and other noninsurable perennial fruit and vegetable crops, and honey is **November 20, 2007**.

### LOANS AVAILABLE

FSA has direct and guaranteed loan programs available for family-sized farm businesses. FSA's loan programs are designed to help farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.

The loan limits for direct operating and farm ownership loans are \$200,000 each. The loan limit for guaranteed operating and farm ownership loans is a combined total of \$949,000. Funding is allocated for these programs after October 1 of each year.

Depending on the type of loan, funds can be used to purchase farms, livestock, and equipment, operate the farm, build or repair farm buildings, pay for water development for conservation practices and in some cases refinance debts. For additional information contact our office.

Se habla español en esta oficina de FSA. Si quiere información tocante a los programas de crédito, conservación y otros programas que suministra esta oficina, por favor visite o llame la oficina de FSA. El número de teléfono es (509) 454-5746. La dirección se encuentra encima.