



MARCH 2008 YAMHILL COUNTY AG NEWS

YAMHILL COUNTY FSA OFFICE
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County Committee

Lester Sitton, Vice Chairman
Zach Christensen, Chairman
Arne Goddik, Member

Office Staff

Darca Glasgow, CED – Ext 103 - darca.glasgow@or.usda.gov
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Farm Loan

Nancy Thompson, FLM - nancy.thompson@or.usda.gov
Suzanne Hayes, FLO – suzanne.hayes@or.usda.gov
Phone – Hillsboro FSA Office – 503-648-3174 Ext 2

2008 Yamhill County Office Committee

Following is your 2008 County Committee for Yamhill County:

Zach Christensen - Chairman of COC represents area 3 (West of Lafayette Hwy & South of Baker Creek Rd)

Lester Sitton – Vice Chairman of COC - represents area 1 (West of Abbey Rd, Kuehne Rd & North Valley Rd and North of Baker Creek Rd)

Arne Goddik – member of COC - represents area 2 (East of Abbey Rd, Kuehne Rd & North Valley Rd and East of Lafayette Hwy).

Federal Crop Insurance Program – Adjusted Gross Revenue March 17 is the final date to obtain 2008 AGR & AGR-Lite

The Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR & AGR-Lite) program provides whole-farm coverage against natural perils and price fluctuation. The AGR program is based on your personal historical allowable income from 2002-2006 Schedule F (or equivalent) reports to the IRS and your intended commodity report for 2008. The policy covers most commodities produced in the Willamette Valley, including livestock.

AGR guarantees income to protect savings, investments and future earnings and the premium is subsidized for affordability. This is a self-help USDA program, with coverage and cost determined by the uniqueness of your farm's commodities being raised, historical income and intended revenue.

Call today for more information and see how AGR can work for you!

Contact: Mary Lou Casey, RMA – Phone: 509-228-6325 Email: mary.lou.casey@rma.usda.gov



Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) Fed Cattle - Feeder Cattle - Swine - Lamb



The Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) policy offers protection against a decline in fed cattle, feeder cattle, hog and lamb prices below the established coverage price.

How LRP works:

- 1) Once eligibility is established through an application process, producers purchase a Specific Coverage Endorsement (SCE) for a certain number of head, level of coverage and number of weeks. Applying for the basic policy does not incur any costs nor does it require a commitment to purchasing coverage in the future. But once enrollment is in place, coverage may be purchased without delay.
- 2) Information required for a SCE includes the number and type of livestock insured, the coverage price and premium cost for the coverage and the end date of the SCE. Premium is paid upon signing the SCE. USDA provides a 13 percent subsidy.
- 3) If the actual ending value at the end of the insurance period is less than the coverage chosen, a settlement (indemnity) check is issued.
- 4) Liability is not dependent upon the price for which a producer sells their livestock. Proof of ownership is required.

LRP continued

Cause of Loss – A policy will be due an indemnity if fed cattle, feeder cattle, hogs or lamb prices drop below a predetermined level and all terms and conditions of the policy have been met.

RMA Web site Information

Daily LRP Coverage Prices, Rates and Actual Ending Values:

www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/livestock_reports/

Calculate premiums: <http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/premcalc.html>



Where to Purchase

All MPCl policies are available from private insurance agents. A list of livestock insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers or at the RMA website: <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/>

2008 Farm Program and Farm record Changes

We are still in “waiting mode” for a Farm Bill. In the meantime, please continue to update your records as early as possible. This allows us to quickly move to sign up once the Farm Bill passes rather than be held up by record changes.

If you have any changes to your farming operation, including new owners, new ground or lost ground, notify us of the changes. If you have changed your operation entity or have changed entity type, entity members, or member percentage notify the FSA office of these modifications along with any new tax ID numbers. If you have new leases with your landowners we will need copies of them.

For any farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. All landowners must furnish their tax identification numbers. Remember, failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and fines if you are participating in farm programs.

BEWARE!

Of Crop Insurance Rebating Schemes

With the spring sales closing date for many Federal crop insurance policies right around the corner, crop insurance agents have stepped up their (RMA) has received reports from producers been approaching producers with rebating insurance premiums, refunds, dividends, or purchases. Most of these activities are insurance program participants that it is take appropriate regulatory action against participate in such schemes. Producers rebating activities will not only lose their eligibility in all USDA programs. of illegal rebating to the Office of Inspector



marketing efforts. The Risk Management Agency and agents that some aggressive marketers have offers. These schemes promise lower items of value tied to crop insurance illegal. RMA reminds all Federal crop now coordinating with state regulators to all those who are found to promote or who are found to participate in illegal crop insurance coverage but will also lose Producers and agents can report suspicions General Hotline: 1-800-424-9121.



Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) Closing Dates coming up



Producers in need of insurance coverage for Spring annually planted crops under the Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) have until March 15 to apply for coverage on certain crops for which the catastrophic level of insurance is not regularly available. Crop insurance is an important risk management tool for producers, but it's not available for all crops. That's why NAP is so important.

NAP is a federally funded program that provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when low

yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occurs because of natural disasters.

NAP continued

Producers must apply for coverage before disaster strikes. Like regular crop insurance, once an application period closes, the opportunity to obtain coverage is gone.

NAP applications for coverage on the following crops must be filed and service fees paid by March 15, 2008: Bean, broccoli, cantaloupe, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, peas, potatoes, pumpkin, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon.

NAP coverage requires a service fee of \$100 per crop, per producer with a \$300 cap per county. Out-of-pocket expenses will not exceed \$900 for any producer, even if production occurs in multiple counties. Service fees may be waived for eligible limited resource producers.

More information on NAP and other disaster assistance programs is available online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>



2008 Crop Acreage Reporting

We are in the process of taking 2008 acreage reports. If you have everything planted and we have not yet mailed you an acreage report you may contact our office to let us know what you have planted. Also let us know if everything is the same as last year. If you still have spring planting to do you can contact us at a later date. The deadline for reporting your crop acreage for 2008 is June 31. We will need planting dates of anything that is a new planting, and will also need the acreage for split fields.

FAILED ACREAGE

If you have "failed acreage" for any crop you must file an acreage report or a revised acreage report if you have already completed one for 2008. So any time you have failed acres please let us know as soon as possible. You will not be able to come back in a year or two and say "oh by the way I lost that crop and had to replant".

Failed acreage is acreage that was timely planted with the intent to harvest, but because of disaster related conditions, the crop failed before it could be brought to harvest.

Producers who are requesting failed acreage credit shall prove to COC's satisfaction that:

- The crop was planted with the intent to harvest using farming practices consistent for the crop and area.
- The acreage failed because of disaster related conditions.

Farm Loans Available

Loan applications are being accepted for farm operating and ownership purposes. Operating loans include annual operating expenses, farm equipment and livestock purchases, and refinancing related debt. Ownership loans include the purchase or enlargement of a farm, or construction and/or repair of buildings. Loan guarantees are available to lenders where FSA provides up to a 90% guarantee of loss on the principal of a farm loan. The loan purposes are similar to direct loans, except refinancing real estate debt is also eligible.

For more information on the above described farm loans contact Suzanne Hayes, Farm Loan Officer, 1080 SW Baseline, Suite B-3, Hillsboro, OR 97123 or call for an appointment at 503-648-3174, Ext. 116.



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.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
YAMHILL COUNTY FSA
2200 SW 2ND STREET
McMINNVILLE, OR 97128-5444

PRESORTED
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PERMIT NO. 71

Return Service Requested



MARCH OBSERVANCES

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



MARCH 9TH — DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS



MARCH 17TH — HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



MARCH 23RD — EASTER SUNDAY



"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 Civil Rights, 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."

COMPLAINT PROCESS

AFTER AN FSA OFFICIAL MAKES A DECISION ON YOUR REQUEST FOR USDA SERVICES OR APPLICATION, YOU WILL BE SENT A LETTER INFORMING YOU OF THE DECISION AND OPTIONS YOU CAN PURSUE IF YOU DISAGREE. GENERALLY, PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS HAVE FOUR CHOICES — 1) AN INFORMAL REVIEW WITH THE ORIGINAL AGENCY DECISION-MAKER, 2) AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEDIATION, 3) APPEAL TO STATE COMMITTEE AND/OR 4) APPEAL TO THE USDA NATIONAL APPEAL DIVISION (NAD).

CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANT PROCESS

ANY PERSON, CLASS OR GROUP OF PERSONS MAY FILE A DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT WITHIN 180 DAYS OF AN ALLEGED DISCRIMINATORY ACTION. COMPLAINTS MAY BE FILED IN WRITING OR ORALLY WITH THE AGENCY HEAD, ANY DESIGNATED AGENCY OFFICIAL OR THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON D.C. 20250. ASSISTANCE IN FILING A COMPLAINT CAN

BE OBTAINED BY CALLING OR VISITING THE FSA OFFICE.