



November 2009

Glenn County FSA News

Glenn County USDA Service Center

Glenn County FSA Office
132 North Enright Ave
Willows, CA 95988
530-934-4669 (phone)
530-934-8667 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours:

Monday – Friday
7.00 am – 4.30pm

County Committee:

Eric Larrabee
Pete Knight
Ed Owens
Tariq Khan – Advisor

County Executive Director:

Donald Perez

Farm Loan Manager:

Michele Larrick

Staff:

Michele Clark
Gerri Edwards
Elaine Gallegos
Cynthia Jones
Mary O' Brien
Ray Philp
Judy Richter
Shaleen Swanson

Final Payments for 2009 DCP

Enrolled producers can expect their final direct payment to be deposited directly into personal bank accounts sometime during the first few weeks of October.

Producers who did not elect to receive an advance direct payment will receive their entire direct payment for the year in one lump sum after the end of the fiscal year (Sept. 30).

The direct payment for a crop equals 85 percent of the farm's base acreage times (x) the farm's direct payment yield times (x) the direct payment rate.

If there are any unearned payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the final Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments you are about to receive.

Livestock Forage Disaster Program

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to: drought conditions or fire on federally managed land.

Eligible livestock producers may receive assistance for eligible livestock grazing losses that occur due to drought or fire on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011, during the calendar year in which the loss occurs.

County committees can only accept applications after being notified by the National Office of qualifying drought as signified by a Drought Monitor level of D2 or higher, or if a Federal agency prohibits producers from graz-

ing normally permitted livestock on Federal managed lands due to a qualifying fire. FSA began accepting 2008 calendar year applications September 14, 2009. **The applications must be filed by December 10, 2009. Late filed applications for LFP cannot be approved.**

For 2009 and subsequent years, signup applications must be filed no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the grazing losses occurred. Losses must occur in the calendar year the application is being filed.

The monthly payment rate will be an amount equal to 60 percent of the lesser of:

- the monthly feed cost for all covered livestock, using a feed grain equivalent (for example, the feed grain equivalent for an adult beef cow is 15.7 pounds of corn per day)
- the monthly feed cost calculated using the normal carrying capacity for the grazing land.

Drought eligibility criteria require that the drought must have occurred on:

- native or improved permanent vegetative cover
- small grains or forage sorghum planted specifically for grazing

Losses due to drought must occur during the normal grazing period for the specific type of grazing land.

Additional Information about LFP including eligible livestock and fire criteria is available at county FSA offices or on line at: www.fsa.usda.gov.

ELAP for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-Raised Fish

ELAP provides compensation to eligible producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other loss conditions, including losses due to blizzards and wildfires caused by natural occurrence (for example, lightning.) ELAP is for losses that are not covered by Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), or Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE).

Eligible producers under ELAP may receive assistance for losses that occur on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011. Eligible losses include feed losses, physical losses and additional costs incurred in providing feed to eligible livestock. Losses due to drought are not eligible.

The two parts to the ELAP application are:

1. A notice of loss
2. Application for payment

An application for payment cannot be filed until a notice of loss is submitted.

Signup for eligible losses during 2008 and 2009, began September 14, 2009. who suffered For losses in calendar year 2008, producers must provide a notice of loss and application for payment in their administrative county office no later than **December 10, 2009**. Application for payment for calendar year 2009 losses shall be filed no later than January 30, 2010.

Producers who suffer losses September 14, 2009, through December 31, 2009, shall file a notice of loss within 30 days of when the loss is apparent to the participant, but no later than January 30, 2010.

There are no late filed provisions for ELAP. Producers with eligible losses must timely file an acreage report on grazing land acres, honey bee colonies and farm-raised fish pond acres

Physical losses of honey bees and honey bee hives lost due to adverse weather or natural occurrence are eligible under ELAP. Producers will be required to provide documentation of beginning and ending inventory of honey bee colonies when claiming a physical loss of honey bees or honey bee hives. Physical losses will be compensated at 60 percent of the actual replacement cost of the honey bees or honey bee hives.

Additional ELAP information is available at FSA county offices or on line at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Help Available to Stressed Farmers

In the past year the economy, inclement weather, drought and other factors have hurt many farming operations around the country. These events

pushed some farmers to the emotional breaking point. Watching their livelihood being threatened is difficult for farmers and ranchers and for those who care about them.

The **National Suicide Prevention Hotline** is available to help. If you know a farmer or rancher who is under stress and is reluctant to ask for help, or if you just need to talk to someone, call **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**. Your call will be routed to the nearest crisis center, where trained staffers are available 24/7. This nationwide service is free and confidential. Help is just a phone call away.

Visit <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/> for more information. This service is not affiliated with the US Department of Agriculture.

Voting for County Committee Begins

Ballots for this year's county committee election will be mailed to eligible voters on November 6, 2009. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on December 7, 2009. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 7, 2009.

Acreage Spot Check Determinations and Notification

Each year FSA completes spot checks of acreage reports. Acreage reports are an integral part of farm program participation. Acreage spot checks are completed to ensure accurate acreage reports in farm program computations.

FSA will conduct spot checks on a selected number of farms in each state. All acreage determinations use the FSA Geographic Information System official acreages.

After farms are spot checked, a Notice of Determined Acreage will be sent to the farm operator. Questions concerning determined acres should be directed to your local FSA office for further explanation.

Loans for Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating capital and/or to purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged groups.

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Socially disadvantaged applicants are members of groups who have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice without regard to their individual qualities.

For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, Native Americans, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

If producers or their spouses believe they qualify as socially disadvantaged, they should contact their local FSA office for details. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

Marketing Assistance Loans

A Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) is available for producers who share in the risk of producing the crop. To be eligible, a producer must maintain continual beneficial interest in the crop from harvest through the earlier of the date the loan is repaid or CCC takes title to the commodity.

Beneficial interest means 1) retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; 2) responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and 3) title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for a loan, even if the producer regains beneficial interest.

Commodity loan eligibility also requires compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements, acreage reporting and ensuring that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards. For commodities to be eligible they must have been produced by an eligible producer, be in existence and in a storable condition and be merchantable for food, feed or other uses as determined by CCC. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan.

Producers do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical and/or ACRE Programs to be eligible for commodity loans.

Violating provisions of a marketing assistance loan may trigger administrative actions,

such as assessing liquidated damages, calling in the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans.

The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without prior authorization and providing an incorrect quantity certification.

Rural Youth Loans

Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000. See your local FSA office for details

2010 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2010. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 1, 2009. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.



Selected Interest Rates for October 2009	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	3.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.000%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency - Actual Loss	3.750%

Dates to Remember	
Nov. 6	County committee ballots mailed to voters
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Holiday
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec 10	2008 LFP Sign-up
Dec 10	Ballot Counting

The United States 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 part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (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 USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."