



July 2008  
Special Edition

**Inside this issue:**

IMPORTANT!! New Farm Bill Requirements	1
2008 DCP	2
CDP Quality Losses	2
Crop Certification Deadline	3
Get your newsletter via email	3

**Humboldt/Del Norte  
County Committee  
Members:**

**Gary Nicholson**

**Kara Miller**

**Patrick Fulton**

**Joey Borges**

**Robert Vevoda**

**Robert Tedsen**

Humboldt/Del Norte FSA  
5630 S. Broadway  
Eureka, CA 95503  
(707) 442-6058  
(707) 442-7514 Fax

# Farm Service Agency

## NOTICE: 2008 Disaster Programs

### Requires Crop Insurance or NAP

#### Eligibility "Buy-In" Deadline is **September 16, 2008**

The recently-enacted Farm Bill legislates 2008 disaster programs covering losses to crops, trees/vines/bushes, forage, and other losses due to adverse weather. These programs require the crops you planted, grew, produced or were prevented from planting to have been covered by federal crop insurance or FSA's Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). *All of your crops on all of your acreage must be covered, not only those acres that suffered losses.*

Due to the late passage of the Farm Bill in May, you will be given an opportunity to "buy-in" to the disaster program by paying a \$100/crop catastrophic crop insurance or NAP service fee for any 2008 crops that are not already covered by crop insurance or NAP.

This eligibility "buy-in" must be completed by **September 16, 2008** at your FSA Office to satisfy the requirement for total CI / NAP coverage. Note that it does not provide you with crop insurance indemnities or NAP benefits. Once this requirement is met, you may be eligible for one or more of the following programs:

**Supplemental Revenue Program (SURE):** Covers crop revenue losses from quantity or quality deficiencies in disaster declared counties, contiguous counties, or in cases where the overall production loss exceeds 50%

**Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP):** Compensates livestock owners for forage losses due to drought. Additionally, losses due to wildfire will be covered on public lands.

**Tree Assistance Program (TAP):** Provides for partial reimbursement for replanting, salvage, pruning, debris removal and land preparation for orchardists and nursery tree growers if losses exceed 15%.

**Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (EALHF):** Emergency relief to producers of livestock (including horses), honey bees, and farm-raised fish. Covers losses from disasters such as adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires not adequately covered by any other disaster program. This program is authorized at the discretion of the Secretary.

Another disaster program authorized by the Farm Bill is the **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)** for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality. This is the only disaster program that does not require crop insurance or NAP coverage. Further details of all of these disaster programs, including signup information, will be provided at a later date. Note that additional requirements exist for disaster programs eligibility.

Further details of all of these disaster programs, including signup information, will be provided at a later date. Note that additional requirements exist for disaster programs eligibility.

**Bottom Line: To be eligible for Disaster Programs in 2008, you must pay the fees for the eligibility buy-in at your FSA Office by **September 16, 2008**.** Contact your FSA Office for more information.

## Sign-Up Underway for 2008 DCP

Producers have until September 30, 2008 to sign up for the 2008 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP). Producers can fill out their 2008 DCP contract at any USDA Service Center or Farm Service Agency County Office. Sign-up can also be completed online by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/edcp> and clicking on "Access eDCP Service." You can choose payment options, assign crop shares and sign and submit contracts from any computer with Internet access. You can also view and print submitted contract options.

FSA computes DCP 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 2008, eligible producers may request to receive an advance payment of 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. FSA will issue advance direct payments as soon as practical after enrollment. Final direct payments will be issued after Oct. 1, 2008. Counter-cyclical payments vary depending on market prices, and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price (which takes into account the direct payment rate, market price and loan rate). For all eligibility requirements or addition information, contact the FSA office at (707) 442-6058.

*“To be eligible for  
2008 programs  
ALL of your crops  
on all of your  
acreage must be  
covered by Crop  
Insurance or  
NAP, not only  
those acres that  
suffered losses.”*

## New Crop Certification Deadline

For 2008, the final crop reporting dates for most crops are being extended to August 15, 2008. Late fees will not be applied if acreage reports are filed by the August 15 and all other reporting requirements are met according to 2-CP.

Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed crop acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency Programs.

## FSA COC Nomination Deadline

County committees play a crucial role in helping county office staff implement the 2008 Farm Bill. Due to the importance of county committee members and their roles, producers are encouraged to participate in the 2008 FSA county committee election process by nominating an eligible candidate by the August 1 deadline.

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. The form and other valuable information about FSA county committee elections are available online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; click on News & Events, then County Committee Elections. Nomination forms for the 2008 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on August 1, 2008.

FSA county committee members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues.

Members serve three-year terms. Nationwide, there are more than 7,800 farmers and ranchers serving on FSA county committees. Committees consist of three to five members who are elected by eligible local producers.

FSA will mail ballots to producers beginning Nov. 3. The voted ballots are due back at the local county office either via mail or in person by December 1, 2008.

Newly elected committee members and alternates take office January 1, 2009.

## 2005-2007 Quality Loss Sign-up for CDP

Signup for quality losses under the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) began on June 23, 2008. Producers can apply for crop quality losses at their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office.

The CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered losses to their 2005-2007 crops from natural disasters and related conditions. Producers who incurred qualifying quantity or quality losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 may receive benefits for only one of these years. However, 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 quality losses of at least 25 percent to be eligible for CDP Quality Loss. Producers may receive assistance for both quantity and quality losses. However, the total quantity and quality assistance, together with any crop insurance or NAP payment received for the same crop and the value of the crop production not lost, must not exceed 95 percent of the total value of the crop absent the disaster.

## Want Your Newsletter Via E-mail?

If you use a computer at home or in your farm or ranch operation, you may prefer to receive information via e-mail from your Farm Service Agency. Use the e-mail address below to share your e-mail address if you would like to be added to our e-mail list. We are exploring the option to send the county office newsletter and other information directly to your computer. To get on our list, send your e-mail address and full name, address and phone number to [joleen.logan@ca.usda.gov](mailto:joleen.logan@ca.usda.gov). Note that USDA will not share or sell your e-mail address.

Note also that all county FSA newsletters are available on the FSA California website at [www.fsa.usda.gov/ca](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ca).

*“Final crop reporting dates for most crops are being extended to August 15th”*

### Humboldt/Del Norte County FSA Office Staff

#### County Executive Director

Katherine Delbar

#### Program Technician

Dolores Mayorga

#### Farm Loan Manger

Belle Davis

#### Farm Loan Officer Trainee

Stacey Moyles

#### Farm Loan Technician

Karri Bartolomei



**Humboldt/Del Norte County  
Farm Service Agency  
5630 S. Broadway  
Eureka, CA 95503**

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.