

Modoc County News

**Modoc County
USDA Service Center**

Modoc County FSA
802 W 12th Street
Alturas, CA 96101
530-233-4391 (phone)
530-233-8869 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov

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

County Committee
Darrell DePaul
Kathy Ackley
Ron Schluter

Staff
Marlene Hamilton
Katherine Lewis (Yreka)
Christopher Lauppe



**New to the Alturas
Service Center:**
Ms. Dot Merrill was re-
cently hired by the
Natural Resources
Conservation Service in
Alturas as a summer in-
tern. Dot will be work-
ing as a Range
Conservationist and re-
turn to University of Ne-
vada at Reno in the fall.

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM SIGN-UP DEADLINE JULY 18, 2008

Livestock producers have until July 18, 2008 to enroll in the Livestock Compensation Program. The LCP provides payments to eligible livestock owners or cash lessees of certain types of livestock for feed losses and increased feed costs that occurred between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007. All applicants must also meet FSA eligibility requirements concerning Wetlands, Highly Erodible Land, and payment eligibility.

Maximum payment amounts are based on livestock numbers in Modoc County on 1/1/2007 with beef/buffalo/beefalo cows and bulls at \$10.66 per head, 500 lb and up beef/buffalo/beefalo at \$8.00 per head, all sheep and goats at \$2.67, and horses at \$7.89 per head. Swine are also eligible with varying rates. Eligible payment amounts consider dryland pasture and rangeland acres and reduction in use due to drought, irrigated pasture loss due to no irrigation water availability in 2007, Forest Service and BLM allotment AUM use and reduction in 2007, and additional feed purchase costs in

calendar year 2007 over calendar year 2006 with proper documentation. This program is also approved for use in all counties surrounding Modoc and many other counties in the US. The deadline in all counties is July 18, 2008. There are no late-filing provisions. Contact our office for additional information and to make an appointment to apply. Do not wait.

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM

Sign-up continues in the Crop Disaster Program with no deadline announced. Farmers who obtained Multi-Peril Crop Insurance or NAP coverage (Noninsured Crop Assistance Program) for 2005, 2006, or 2007 are eligible to apply for disaster assistance payments under the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) for quantity losses that exceeded 30 percent in any of these years due to weather related causes. Quality losses are also applicable to some crops. Producers with no insurance in any of these years are not eligible for assistance under CDP.

Dates to Remember:

July 4 - Independence Day Holiday.

July 15 – Final date to timely report crops.

July 18 – Deadline for Livestock Disaster Program signup.

July 28 – Emergency Loan Deadline

Ongoing – Continuous signup for Conservation Reserve Program.

Ongoing – Continuous signup for Crop Disaster Program

Aerial Photos:

Need a color aerial photo of your farm or ranch to provide to the Ag Commissioner for a spray permit? Need one to provide to your chemical or fertilizer applicator? Need one for your planning purposes? Contact Marlene in our office. No cost.

REPORTING CROP ACREAGE

Crop acreage reports must be completed with the Modoc County FSA Office by July 15, 2008. Aerial photocopies have been sent out to many Modoc County farmers. If you didn't get one, contact our office. Get these completed and returned as soon as possible. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans, and Loan Deficiency Payments, including Wool. Late filed reports are charged a fee for a farm visit for crop verification.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

Prevented planting: Needs to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the crop.

Failed acreage: Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop and producers must be able to establish that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted due to a natural disaster.

FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

Nominations are being accepted now for this fall's county committee election. The position for a representative for the Surprise Valley/Goose Lake area will be up for election. Darrell DePaul is the current FSA committee member for this area. Three positions will be filled: Regular Member, First Alternate and Second Alternate. If you are interested in being on the ballot and serving on the committee, please contact our office.

RECORD UPDATES

Please remember to keep your records updated with the FSA office. Sales and purchases of agricultural land, changes in rental of ag property, address changes, and phone number changes are important for us to be able to give you good service. We are now adding email addresses to producer profiles if you wish to have that included.

PREMISES REGISTRATION

The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is a voluntary Federal-State-Industry partnership designed to help you respond to and minimize the impact of an animal disease outbreak. It starts with a simple Premises Registration. For more info. Contact our office.

CREATING THE FUTURE

FSA's Farm Loan products are meeting the needs of American ag producers who are unable to obtain credit elsewhere. Uses include options for purchase of property and equipment, operating capital, and refinancing of current loans. There are loan opportunities for existing farmers and ranchers to grow and restructure their operations. There are loan opportunities for farm and ranch employees who are ready to make their own dreams of becoming a farmer or rancher come true.

FSA has Direct Ownership and Operating Loans, Guaranteed Ownership and Operating Loans, Rural Youth Loans, Beginning Farmer Loans, and Emergency Loans.

Katherine Lewis, FSA's Farm Loan Officer for Modoc and Siskiyou County, is available to discuss your financing needs, small or large. Contact her in Yreka at 530-842-6123, extension 111.

EMERGENCY LOANS

July 28, 2008 is the final date to apply for an Emergency Loan in Modoc County. Applicants must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of normal production directly related to drought in 2007. Applicant must be able to repay the loan and any other loans and be unable to obtain credit elsewhere. The applicant must have adequate security for the emergency loan and must purchase multi-peril

crop insurance if available for the applicant's crops. All applicants must complete a certification of disaster losses, which reflects the exact date(s) and nature of the designated disaster and how it caused the loss or damage. Contact Katherine Lewis, Farm Loan Officer in Yreka at 530-842-6123 extension 111.

THE NEW FARM BILL

A new farm bill has been passed by an override vote, the "Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008". We have not received a briefing on changes in FSA programs but this should be coming soon. Look for an update on the 2008 program for wheat, barley, and oats in our next newsletter. We will also have an update on the status of Loan Deficiency Payments for commodities including wool. Whatever the changes, Marlene and I will be here to deliver the programs to you through the Modoc County FSA Office.

CONSERVATION HELP?

Need planning assistance on your farm or ranch concerning irrigation scheduling and efficiency, soil testing, wildlife enhancement, crop yield enhancement? Contact the USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service Offices in Alturas (233-4391), Tulelake (667-3125), or Susanville (257-4127).

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