



USDA Service Center
 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite E
 Modesto, CA 95358
 Phone (209) 491-9320
 Fax (209) 491-9331

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

County Committee (COC)
 David Santos, Chairman
 Kurt Erickson, Vice Chair
 Dave Wheeler, Member
 Stuart Crook, Member
 Dale Matney, 1st Alternate
 Mary Blake, 1st Alternate
 Tina Nunes, Advisor
 Miguel Garcia, Advisor

Next COC Meeting:
 October 7th, 2010

Farm Program Staff:
 Jonna Spaletta, CED
 Joni Worley, PT
 Carmen Cardenas, PT
 Maria Juárez, PT
 Latisha Kahn, PT
 Ashley Nichols, PT

Farm Loan Staff:
 Suzie Wilson, State Specialist
 John Oosterman, FLM
 Joe Enos, Loan Officer
 Alma Jaquez, PT
 Lupe Mims, PT

For further details and to discuss your own operation's eligibility for any program, contact your nearest FSA office.

For a list of local offices, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/ca



Stanislaus - Tuolumne County News September 2010 Issue

2008 SURE Disaster Program Deadline

Sign-up for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) for the 2008 crop year **ends September 30, 2010**. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on **all** crops of economic significance in all counties; or, if crop insurance is not available, to purchase Non-Insured Crop Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

- at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition. A crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more to the total expected revenue from all crops produced on the farm
- the farm experiencing the loss must be in a county declared a disaster by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in a contiguous county. (Those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are also eligible to receive SURE payments for production or crop quality losses)

Note: Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss. Please contact Maria or Joni with any questions.

2011 NAP Coverage

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available.

Producers who already have coverage on 2010 NAP crops can choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2011, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date.

As a reminder, producers who have NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports
- Notify our office within 15 days of a qualifying loss or within 15 days of the loss being apparent.
- Provide proof of harvested production using acceptable method, such as packing house recipes, farmers market sales reports, etc.

2011 NAP Application Closing Dates

Crops	Closing Date
Forage Crops/Hay/Native Rangeland (Intended use of Grazing & Forage, i.e. Oats & Wheat) Onions Honey	12/1/2010
Fruit & Nut Tree Crops (i.e. Kiwi, Cane berries) Strawberries	12/15/2010
2011 Avocados & Citrus	1/1/2010

***Please contact our office to find out all other crop application deadlines and for clarification on what crops are covered by crop insurance in Stanislaus & Tuolumne Counties.

MILC Start Month Changes

The Stanislaus-Tuolumne County FSA office would like to remind all MILC participants that the 2011 fiscal year is fast approaching and with it comes the beginning of a new Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) payment period. The new year begins October 1, 2010 and your current CCC-580 MILC contract automatically renews itself for the same "start" month initially selected.

If you would like to change the start month you previously selected for 2010, you must submit a CCC-580M (Milk Income Loss Contract Modification) by the 14th of the month prior to the month you chose in 2010 or the new month that you are designating for payment for 2011, **whichever comes first**.



Example - If you originally selected October and you want December as your new start month for 2011, a CCC-580M must be submitted by September 14, 2010.

Any other changes that affect your operation, such as relocation of the dairy and/or changes in the entity (type, members/partners, shares, or structure) must also be reported on the CCC-580M as soon as possible.

Also, a new 2011 CCC-926 Average Adjusted Gross Income Statement must be submitted for each participating individual, entity, and/or members/partners before any 2011 payments can be issued. We will also be reviewing leases (if applicable), so if you have a lease that will be expiring, please be ready to provide us a current copy that will carry you through the next fiscal year (Oct. 2010 - Sept. 2011).

Make A Difference & Vote!

The 2011 County Committee Election for LAA #1 is underway. 2011 nominees are: Larry Byrd, Christopher W. Mayfield, Joanne De Raadt, Linda A. Santos & Anita Moran Slicton.

Keep your eyes out for brief candidate biographies in the November issue!

As a reminder, LAA #1 covers north of the Tuolumne River & east of Highway 99, including Valley Home, Knights Ferry, Riverbank, Oakdale and Waterford.

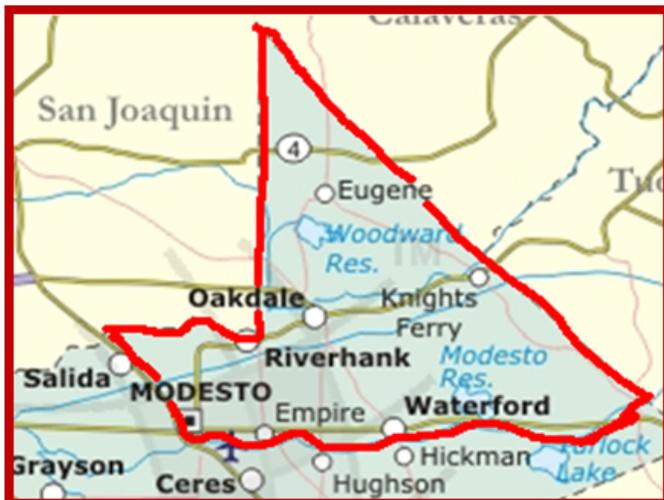
To be eligible to vote, a person, must meet the following requirements (1 or 2, and 3):

1 Is of legal voting age and has interest in a farm or ranch as either of the following:

- an individual
- the authorized representative of an entity
- both spouses where property is owned jointly
- spouses in community property States

2 Is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm

3 Participates or cooperates in any FSA program that is provided for by law



The LAA #1 eligible voters list is available for viewing in the county office. If you meet the requirements above and want to make sure your name is on the list, please stop by or call (209) 491-9320 ext 109 and speak to Latisha.

Remember to vote and make a difference!!

Election Dates to Remember:

Nov. 5, 2010 - Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters

Dec. 6, 2010 - Ballots must be received by the county office or postmarked

Jan. 1, 2011 - The newly elected county committee member will take office

Tree Assistance Program



The Tree Assistance Program (TAP) provides financial assistance to qualifying producers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines that were lost due to natural disasters occurring on or after May 8, 2010 and on or before September 30, 2011.

Eligible causes of loss are natural disasters including: plant disease, insect infestation, lack of rainfall, fire, freeze, flood, earthquake, lightning, or other occurrences as determined by the Secretary.

To qualify for TAP benefits, producers must:

- produce commodities for commercial purposes
- suffer qualifying tree, bush, and vine losses in excess of 18% mortality from an eligible natural disaster
- have owned the eligible trees, bushes, and vines when the natural disaster occurred; or have a production history for commercial purposes on planted or existing trees, bushes or vines
- replace eligible trees, bushes or vines within 12 months from the date the application is approved



To apply for losses that occur between May 8, 2010 and September 30, 2011, applications and supporting documentation are due within 90 calendar days of the disaster event, or date the loss is apparent. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Joni.

DCP / ACRE Program Update

The 2010 DCP/ACRE program year is coming to a close and our office would like to remind all participating producers of the following:

- All advanced payments requested by producers for 2010 should have already been received
- Final 2010 DCP payments are scheduled to be issued during October
- Final 2009 ACRE payments are scheduled to be issued during October 2010
- Any producer who rents land on a monthly basis *or* has provided a CCC-510 Cash Rent Certification Statement, must supply copies of their cashed rent checks covering October 2009 through September 2010 before their final payment can be issued

***Appointments for the 2011 DCP/ACRE program year will start beginning in November 2010. As a reminder, all leases that will be expiring before September 2011 will need to be renewed to participate.

If you have any question regarding your current or future DCP/ACRE contracts, please contact Carmen or Maria at (209) 491-9320.

Farm Loan Programs

FSA offers loans for eligible farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Emergency loans are available for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers & Ranchers and loans for the socially disadvantaged are also available.

For details contact the county office farm loan staff.

Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

USDA Farm Loan Offices offer loans designed specifically for social disadvantaged producers. A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities.

For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are: Women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

If producers or their spouses believe they would 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.

Stanislaus -Tuolumne
 County FSA Office
 3800 Cornucopia Way, Ste E.
 Modesto, CA 95358



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Assistance for Asparagus & Catfish Producers

The Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (TAA) assists eligible producers of asparagus, catfish and shrimp who experienced a decline in their product sales due to imports. TAA provides training to help producers increase profitability, improve production efficiency, consider marketing opportunities, and evaluate alternative enterprises. TAA also helps participants develop a business plan, assess changes to their business & provides cash payments to help implement changes.

Applications must be received by Sept. 23, 2010.

Applicants must provide documentation that they produced or caught the approved commodity in the marketing year for which the commodity petition was approved and that they produced or caught the commodity in at least one of the three prior years. For more details, contact your nearest FSA office.

Important Dates to Remember

9/30/2010	2008 SURE Sign-up ends
October	Final 2010 DCP payments will be issued Final 2009 ACRE payments will be issued
10/7/2010	Next County Committee Meeting
November	2011 DCP/ACRE Sign-up starts
11/5/2010	Election ballots will be mailed to producers in LAA #1
12/1/2010	NAP Application deadlines for forage crops, hay, native rangeland, honey & onions
12/6/2010	COC election ballots must be received in the county office or postmarked by this date
12/15/2010	NAP Application deadlines for fruit & nut tree crops
Continuous	MILC Program Sign-up Report losses for TAP within 90 days of loss Submit Form CCC-927/928 to IRS Farm Loans - Direct & Operating

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 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 to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."