

ISSUE NUMBER SIX * August 2012



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Stanislaus-Tuolumne County FSA Updates

Office Location

3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite E
Modesto, CA 95358

Contact Information

Phone (209) 491-9320 ext 2
Fax (209) 491-9331

Hours

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

County Committee (COC)

Dave Wheeler, Chairperson
Larry Byrd, Vice Chair
Stuart Crook, Member
Dale Matney, Member
Miguel Garcia, Advisor

Next COC Meeting:

September 6, 2012

Farm Program Staff:

Jonna Spaletta, CED
Latisha Kahn, PT
Joni Christensen, PT
Carmen Cardenas, PT
Maria Juárez, PT

Farm Loan Staff:

Suzie Wilson, FLM
Deanna Martin, FLO
Amy Cody, FLO
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

2009, 2010 & 2011 AGI Compliance Review

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is reviewing Payment Eligibility for the 2009, 2010 & 2011 program years. This process includes IRS confirming they have received a CCC-931 Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification and Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information from each producer that has received payments, either directly or indirectly (as a member of an entity), from FSA and/or NRCS.

Producers who did not submit the applicable form(s) will be required to pay back any benefits received since FSA cannot verify that the average AGI limitations set in the 2008 Farm Bill have been met (a condition of payment eligibility). **These determinations have been communicated to respective producers via a letter dated July 26, 2012.**

In order to avoid repayment of benefits, producers should submit a complete CCC-931 within 30 days of the date on their letter. Submitting applicable CCC-931's will allow FSA to withdraw and rescind the adverse decision.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at (209) 491-9320 ext 2.

June 2012 MILC Rate

A milk rate of \$1.36775 was announced last week for participating MILC producers. Producers who have a start month of October 2011 through June 2012 must submit the following information before any payments can be issued:

- Updated leases for dairy facilities if they have expired
- CCC-931 Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certifications & Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information
- Milk production records for June
- 580M for modification to MILC contracts, if applicable

Please contact Maria Juarez at (209) 491-9320 ext 118 for more information.

Disaster Set-Aside Program

Disaster Set-Aside Program (DSA) is available to producers who have an FSA loan in primary or contiguous counties declared presidential or secretarial disaster areas. When borrowers affected by natural disasters are unable to make their scheduled payments on any debt, FSA is authorized to consider set-aside of some payments to allow the farming operation to continue.



After a disaster designation is made, FSA will notify borrowers of the availability of the DSA. Borrowers who are notified have eight months from the date of designation to apply. Also, to meet current operating and family living expenses, FSA borrowers may request a release of income proceeds to meet these essential needs or request special servicing provisions from their local FSA county offices to explore other options.

Current Disaster Designations ~ Stanislaus County Only ~

Dates to Remember

9/6- Next County Committee Meeting

October- Final 2012 DCP payments will be issued

October- Final 2011 ACRE payments will be issued

11/5- County Committee Election Ballots to be mailed to eligible voters in LAA #2 & #4

12/1- 2013 NAP coverage deadline for native rangeland, honey & forage crops (i.e. oats, wheat, mixed forage, etc.)

12/3- County Committee Election Ballots must be returned to or post-marked in the County Office

12/15- 2013 NAP coverage deadline for perennial crops (i.e. kiwi, blueberries, etc.)

12/15- New! 2013 deadline to certify perennial forage (including alfalfa, native grass and clover)

Date Declared: May 31, 2012

Code: S3248

Disaster Description: Declared disaster based on damages and losses caused by drought covering 2012 crop year (October 1, 2011 and continuing)

Final Date to Apply: January 31, 2012

If you would like further information on DSA, please contact the Farm Loan Staff at (209) 491-9320 ext 2.

Notice to Hispanic and/or Women Farmers or Ranchers

If you believe that the United States Departments of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied you farm loan benefits between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit www.farmerclaims.gov.

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process. **USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**

Quick Recap of Last Month's Topics

Spring crop certification deadline has passed. July 15, 2012 was the final day for producers to certify all spring planted crops (i.e. corn) or permanent planted crops (i.e. trees, alfalfa & native grass) for the 2012 crop year. Producers who did not request to have their spring crops certified by July 15, 2012 are still allowed to certify their crops, but will be charged a late-filed fee. Fees charged are as follows:

\$30/farm plus \$16 for the 1st hr, with \$8/ 30 minutes thereafter (minimum of 1 hr), or

\$15/farm plus \$16 for the 1st hr using digital imagery (permanent plantings only), with \$8/30 minutes thereafter.

Please note: **Field visits are required in order to verify the crop was planted for all late-filed acreage reports; therefore, acreage must be certified and field visits conducted before disposition of the crop.**

Farm Loan Programs: Direct, operating, youth and guaranteed loans are available. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact Farm Loan Staff at (209) 491-9320 ext 2.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9450, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).