



NEWSLETTER



October 2011 Tehama County

Tehama FSA Office
2 Sutter Street, Ste. C
Red Bluff, CA 96080

Tel: (559) 527-3013
Fax: (559) 527-7451
www.fsa.usda.gov/CA

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

County Committee
David Lester-Chairman
Jack Moser-Vice Chair
Mike Andersen-Member
Eduardo Curiel-Advisor

County Executive Director
Darci Cullers

FSA Staff
Donna McKenna, PT
Rebecca Tovey, PT

Farm Loan Manager
Katherine Lewis

Farm Loan Staff
Ed DeBauche, FLO
Sandy Davidson, FLO
Jill Monson, FL PT

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICES

District Conservationalist
Larry Branham

Soil Conservationalist
Mindy Nicolletti

2011 DCP Final Payments

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) payments for 2011 participants will be issued after Oct. 7, 2011. These payments will be deposited directly into participating producers' personal bank accounts for those who have direct deposits on file. All others will be mailed and will take up to 2 weeks to be delivered. Please contact the FSA office if you have not received your 2011 Final payment, or you have questions.

If there are any unearned advanced payments, Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will automatically subtract those amounts from the Final DCP payments (i.e. Fruits and Vegetable over plantings, or other receivables established from other programs).

2012 DCP Sign-Up

Enrollment for the 2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) will begin **January 23, 2012** and continues until the deadline of **June 1, 2012**. Due to provisions in the 2008 Farm Bill, Direct Advanced payments for the 2012 DCP program will not be available. Producers will receive their complete final payment in October of 2012. Producers will receive appointment letters in January with a pre-setup appointment time. Producers can also call Donna directly to set up an appointment at a mutually convenient time. If you have new leases for 2012, have land changes, or any other changes to your farming operation, please provide such information to Donna at your appointment. It is the producers' responsibility to report any farming changes to FSA.

Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices.

2012 NAP Coverage

Continuous Coverage letters were mailed in September to producers who had NAP coverage in 2011 reminding them to renew their coverage for the 2012 crop year. You may mail the applicable service fee (\$250 per crop) to the FSA office, or drop of check at our office. Please make checks payable to Commodity Credit Corporation, or CCC.

Please see the following table for some of our NAP crop closing dates:

Closing Date	Crop
12/1/2011	Forage Crops (intended use is grazing; rangeland)
12/1/2011	Honey
12/15/2011	Fruit/Nut Trees (olives, persimmons, grapes, peaches, pears, etc)
1/31/2012	Apples
*NOTE: For a complete listing of crops and deadlines, please call our office.	

If you believe that you have suffered at least a 50% loss for the 2011 crop year, and have not filed a Notice of Loss, please call out office ASAP. NAP losses must be reported within **15 days** of the disaster event, or when the loss is apparent. If you have filed a Notice of Loss, and it has been approved by the County Committee, please provide your production records as soon as possible to determine if you are eligible for a payment. If you decide not to harvest your crop, you are required to notify the Tehama FSA office ASAP so that a Loss Adjustor can appraise your crop.

As a reminder, NAP insurance is available to for crops where a Federal Crop Insurance
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**NOTICE
TO HISPANIC
AND/OR
WOMEN
FARMERS OR
RANCHERS
COMPENSATION
FOR CLAIMS OF
DISCRIMINATION**

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you 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.

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Policy is not available. Until a policy is available, the Farm Service Agency will continue to provide coverage for those crops.

If you have any questions regarding NAP insurance, or questions regarding a specific crop's coverage, please feel free to call our office.

County Committee Elections

Watch your mailbox for the official county office committee election ballot starting early in November. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters starting Nov. 4, 2011. Only producers located in the LAA#2 (east of the Sacramento River to the county line) will receive a ballot. If for some reason you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office.

The eligible candidates for the 2012 COC election are:

Jean Barton: A Tehama County native; Member of the Tehama County Cattle Women's Association; and a local rancher for 50 plus years; has previous COC experience.

Tyler Christensen: A Tehama County native, born into an established Tehama County farming family; several years experience with walnuts and other orchard crops.

Bruce Lindauer: A Tehama County native, born into an established Tehama County farm family; several years experience in walnuts and prunes and other orchard crops.

Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on **December 5, 2011**. Public ballot counting will be held December 8, 2011 at 2:00PM at the Tehama County FSA office.

CCC-927 or -928 Disclosure Form Needed by IRS

Producers who participated in 2009, 2010 or 2011 programs are subject to adjusted gross income limitations (AGI) are required to certify compliance with AGI rules in order to receive FSA benefits. The average AGI verification process for 2009-2011 payment eligibility requires all program participants to provide written consent to IRS for the disclosure of certain information to FSA.

Individuals and legal entities, including members of legal entities that certified to average AGI compliance for 2009, 2010 and/or 2011 payment eligibility must submit a completed CCC-927 or CCC-928 to IRS regardless of whether they received program benefits directly or as a member of a joint operation or entity. These forms must be submitted to IRS in order to avoid a demand for refund of program payments and benefits received. Notification of refunds will be mailed out later this year to producers who are ineligible due to income being above the allowed level, or for producers who did not submit a CCC-927 or CCC-928 to the IRS.

Acreage Spot Check Determinations and Notification

Each year the Farm Service Agency 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 are used in farm program computations.

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

After farms are spot checked, a Notice of Determined Acreage will be sent to the farm operator. Producer notifications will be issued by FSA as spot checks are completed. Questions concerning determined acres should be directed to the Tehama County FSA office for further explanation.

Beginning and Limited Resource Farmers

FSA assists beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises with financing through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's median size.

Additional program information, loan

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applications, and other materials are available at the Tehama County FSA office. You may also visit the following website: www.fsa.usda.gov.

Farm Loan Program Limits

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000 starting on Oct. 1, 2011. .

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan, for loans obligated after Oct. 1, 2011.

To find out more about FSA loan programs, please contact Ed or Sandy at the Tehama County FSA office.



Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans has been established.

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

For additional information contact:

•**Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process:**

www.farmerclaims.gov or call 1-888-508-4429.

•**Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation:**

www.blackfarmerscase.com or call 1-866-950-5547.

•**Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement:**
www.IndianFarmClass.com or call 1-888-233-5506.

Rural Youth Loans

The 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 \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- United States citizenship (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
- Inability to obtain a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan and provide adequate supervision.

Bank Account Changes

Currently policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA county office if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

As always, please feel free to contact the Tehama County FSA office if you have any questions regarding this newsletter or our programs.

Tehama County FSA
Office
2 Sutter Street, Ste. C
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2012 EQIP Program Available

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is now accepting application for the 2012 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The program provides technical and financial assistance for projects which provide significant environmental benefits. Eligible producers engaged in livestock or crop production on eligible land may apply for EQIP program benefits. A deadline will be announced soon, so contact the NRCS office as soon as possible to apply or to inquire about more information.

Dates to Remember	
November 1	Tehama County Committee meeting, 10:00AM
November 5	LAA#2 County Committee Ballots mailed to eligible producers
November 11	Veterans Day Holiday-CLOSED
November 24	Thanksgiving Holiday-CLOSED
December 1	Deadline: 2012 NAP coverage for Forage Crops, Rangeland, and Honey
December 5	Deadline: County Committee ballots due back to County Office
December 15	Deadline: 2012 NAP coverage for Fruit/Nut trees (Olives, grapes, etc)
December 25	Christmas Holiday-CLOSED