

August 2012



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Tehama County FSA Updates

DEAR PRODUCERS: Welcome to the new GovDelivery bulletins and updates service from your Tehama County FSA office. Note that you are welcome to request to receive bulletins from more than one county and can add or remove individual subscriptions at any time.



Tehama County FSA Office

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Office Hours: 8:00-4:30

Phone: 530-527-3013

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County Executive Director:

Darci Cullers

Program Technicians:

Donna McKenna

Rebecca Tovey

Farm Loan Manager:

Shaleen Hogan

Farm Loan Officer:

Ed DeBauche

Farm Loan Technician:

Jill Monson

County Committee (COC):

David Lester, Chair

Jack Moser, Vice Chair

Tyler Christensen, Member

Ed Curiel, Minority Advisor

County Committee Elections

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to ensure FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

Since this only happens once a year, here is an election refresher. For election purposes, counties are divided into local administrative areas, or LAAs. Each LAA contributes one producer to serve a three-year term on the Farm Service Agency county committee.

This year LAA 1 is holding an election. The nominated candidates are Jack Moser, a farmer and the incumbent. Gerrie Larson is a beekeeper and honey producer. This area is north of Gyle road and west of I-5 to the county lines. Producers in that area will be mailed an election ballot on or around **November 5, 2012**. Ballots must be returned or postmarked by **December 3, 2012** to be considered valid.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) is a federally funded program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed. These benefits are only available for crops for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is not available. Application for coverage must be filed by the applicable crop's application closing date.

The following closing dates for purchasing NAP coverage are coming up:

- Forage seed, fall seeded crops: September 1, 2012
- Forage crops, Hay and Grazing: December 1, 2012



- Honey:

December 1, 2012

Production records and applications for payment for all crops must be reported to FSA no later than the acreage reporting date for the crop for the following year. FSA requires that any production reported in a loss year be verifiable according to agency specifications. NAP Losses must be reported within 15 days of loss.

Contact your FSA County Office for deadlines and more information.

NAP Actual Production History (APH) Records

Production records for individual crops need to be filed at the FSA office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up-to-date. Records submitted must be reliable or verifiable. Records need to show crop disposition. We recommend producers submit production records as soon as harvest is complete. **All production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date.**

Friendly Reminders

NOTE: Remember that the Notice of Loss application (CCC-576) for NAP must be filed within 15 days of when the loss is apparent to you to be considered timely filed.

NOTE: Remember that you must turn in your production on a yearly basis at the end of harvest. This step is important to maintain your Actual Production History (APH), to calculate the level of crop loss and your potential payment. The deadline to turn in all production is July 15 of the subsequent crop year.

NOTE: Remember to file your acreage reports timely regardless of whether you insure your crop with FSA or not. Acreage reporting deadlines are the earlier of 15 days before harvest or by July 15 of the crop year.

2011 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

The 2011 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) is coming. Tehama County did have a secretarial disaster declaration. Losses in excess of 10% will be paid.

SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that occurred in the 2011 crop year.

SURE is available to eligible producers on:

-Farms in counties with Secretarial Disaster Declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred crop production or quality losses, or both, and includes all crops grown by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops.

-Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.

The 2011 SURE program has not been announced yet. Please stay tuned to future newsletters for the actual start date.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) haying and grazing

To assist farmers and ranchers affected by drought, Secretary Vilsack is using his discretionary authority to allow additional acres under CRP to be used for haying or grazing under emergency conditions. CRP is a voluntary program that provides producers annual rental payments on their land in exchange for planting resource conserving crops on cropland to help prevent erosion, provide wildlife habitat and improve the environment. CRP acres can already be used for emergency haying and grazing during natural disasters to provide much needed feed to livestock. Given the widespread nature of this drought, forage for livestock is already substantially reduced. The action today will allow lands that are not yet classified as "under severe drought" but that are "abnormally dry" to be used for haying and grazing. This will increase available forage for livestock. Haying and grazing will only be allowed following the local primary nesting season, which has already passed in most areas. Especially sensitive lands such as wetlands, stream buffers and rare habitats will not be eligible. For more information contact the County office.

Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP)

Payments for the 2012 Direct and Counter Cyclical program will be going out in October. Make sure you have your acreage reports and all required forms filed. If you have any questions, please call the County Office.

Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC)



Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC) payments have been going out since February. FSA posts monthly MILC payment rates online at: [click here](#) Please call the County Office if you have questions.

Adjusted Gross Income

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have established an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent is required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to FSA.

This ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments and; \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs. Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-931 to their local FSA County Office to avoid interruption of program benefits. This form may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices.

New Crop Reporting Dates

Almonds, Apples, Fall Barley, Spring Oats (planted 10/1-2/15), Prunes,	March 15
Spring Wheat (planted 11/1-2/15)	May 15
Grapes, Spring Oats (planted 3/1-4/20)	June 15
Forage Seeding	
Spring Barley, Corn, Dry Beans, Grain sorghum, Spring Oats (planted 4/21-5/31),	July 15
Rice, Safflower, Spring Wheat (planted 3/6-5/31)	November 15
Apiculture	December 15
Perennial forage (grazing), Fall wheat	

Farm Loans Available

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 you may be eligible for FSA loan assistance.

FSA offers direct Operating and Farm Ownership loans up to \$300,000. We also have a Beginning Farmer/Socially Disadvantaged Down-payment Assistance program providing joint financing with another lender. Operating and Farm Ownership loans are also available through the Guaranteed loan program which has a maximum limit of \$1,214,000. This makes the maximum combination of direct and guaranteed loan indebtedness \$1,514,000.

Do you know a youth who needs money for their agriculture project? FSA also provides youth loans up to \$5,000 to eligible youth for a supervised agriculture project.

To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Conservation Programs from Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Are you Interested in:

- Addressing problems on your land?
- Learning how you can improve your operation?
- Applying for cost-share funding for a project on your farm or land?

Then you should consider developing a conservation plan.

Programs Available:

Environmental Quality Incentive Program

Agriculture Water Enhancement Program

Conservation Stewardship Program

For more information about these programs click [here](#)

Contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service at **530-527-3013 ext. 3**

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