



# YOLO COUNTY FSA NEWS



Volume 3

September 2008

**Yolo County FSA**

221 W. Court, Suite 3B  
Woodland, CA 95695  
(530) 662-3986 x 2  
(530) 662-4876 FAX

**Hours:**

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

**County Committee:**

Tom Slater, Chairperson  
Randy Timothy, Vice Chair  
Bob Paschoal, Member  
Rudy Lucero, Jr., Advisor  
Marlene Schuler, Advisor

**County Executive**

**Director:**

Marianne A. Morton

**County Office Staff:**

Nathan Bohl  
Beth Collier  
Dee DeLuca  
Caroline Walgenbach  
Julie Zentner



*Columbus*

This office will be closed  
on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>  
in observance of  
Columbus Day

**2008 DCP SIGN-UP  
DEADLINE NEARS**

For a farm to be eligible for the 2008 DCP, its CCC-509 must be initiated and at least one signature submitted by September 30, 2008. The CCC-509 cannot be initiated after September 30, 2008.



The deadline for submitting remaining producer signatures on 2008 contracts has been extended until October 15, 2008. If the signature(s) of one or more producers with shares on a contract is missing on October 16, 2008, that contract will be disapproved.

DCP contracts can be generated online with Level 2 e-Auth access or in any FSA county office nationwide.

**DCP SUCCESSION-  
IN-INTEREST**

If your interest in a farm is lost, transferred or sold prior to September 30, 2008, you are not eligible for 2008 DCP payments.

Producers who received 2008 advance DCP payments and subsequently fail to meet the definition of a producer will be required to refund those payments, even in those cases where the predecessor was considered to be a producer at the time the advance payments were issued.

Grant deeds must be submitted to change ownership. Requests not completed by September 30, 2008 will require the cancellation of the CCC-509 and refund of 2008 advance direct payments.



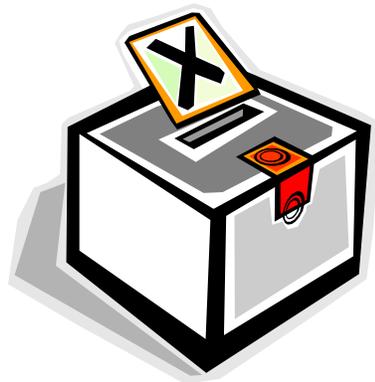
**LAA-3 COUNTY  
COMMITTEE ELECTION**

The election of responsible agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to all farmers and ranchers. County committees are a direct

link between the farm community and the U. S. Department of Agriculture and are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA.

A county or area served by the county committee is divided into local administrative areas (LAA). A member who serves a three-year term on the county committee represents each LAA. Elections are held on a rotating basis each fall.

This year's candidates for LAA-3, which includes Yolo County land south of CR 102 and west of I-5, are Tom Slater of Clarksburg and Rich Yeung of West Sacramento.



### **PROSPECTIVE VOTER REQUIREMENTS**

1. A person of legal voting age who participates or cooperates in any FSA program

OR

2. A person not of legal voting age who supervises and conducts the entire operations on a farm

AND

3. The voter must be eligible to participate in any FSA program provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

If you have any questions about your voter eligibility, please contact your county office staff.

### **MANAGED HAYING AND GRAZING ON CRP ACREAGE**

The State Technical Committee approved the following periods for managed haying and grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage as recommended by the Yolo County FSA Committee (COC):

Managed Haying Period:

- January 1 - March 31

Managed Grazing Periods:

Producers may elect **either**:

- October 1- November 29 (60-day) **and**
- January 31-March 31 (60-day)

**Or:**

- December 1-March 30 (120-day)

Livestock may not graze on CRP land until written approval is received from the Yolo County FSA Committee.

### **MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS**

Marketing Assistance Loans are available to producers who share in the risk of producing the crop and maintain beneficial interest (title, risk and control) in the crop through the time of application. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan — even if you regain beneficial interest.



To receive a market loan gain, producers must also meet "person," "actively engaged" and average adjusted gross income requirements; comply with highly erodible land and wetlands conservation requirements; report all cropland on the farm and ensure that the commodity meets CCC minimum grade and quality standards. The quality of a commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan.

Producers do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program to be eligible for commodity loans.

Violating provisions of a marketing assistance loan may trigger administrative actions.

### **FARM LOANS**

FSA offers loans for farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain conventional credit.

FARM OWNERSHIP or OPERATING LOANS may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000; the maximum indebtedness of a guaranteed loan is \$949,000. Emergency loans are available for farmers who have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are also available through FSA.

Each fiscal year, the Agency targets a portion of its direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loan funds for BEGINNING FARMERS and RANCHERS.

A beginning farmer or

rancher is an individual or entity that has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years; meets loan eligibility requirements; substantially participates in the operation; and does not own a farm greater than 30 per cent of the median size farm in the county.

All applicants for direct loans must have at least 3 years experience in the operation of a farm. If the applicant is an entity, all members must be related by blood or marriage. All stockholders in a corporation must be eligible beginning farmers.

SDA LOAN funds are reserved each year specifically for direct and guaranteed loans to socially disadvantaged applicants, but regular loan funds can also be used.

A socially disadvantaged person is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice due to his or her identity as a member of a 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.

SDA loan applicants do not receive automatic approval - individual appli-

cants under this program must meet all regular FSA farm loan program requirements.

Persons who are primarily and directly engaged in farming and ranching on family-size operations may apply. A family-size farm is one that a family can operate and manage itself.

FSA RURAL YOUTH LOANS enable 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's advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.



### **LIVESTOCK FORAGE PROGRAM**

The Livestock Forage Program can be of special benefit to Western United States producers whose herds have suffered under poor forage conditions due to drought. Parts of the West in major livestock regions experiencing the second consecutive year of drought may have

already obtained LFP-eligible status.

LFP-eligible grazing land must be in a county considered “severely affected” by drought as reflected by a Drought Monitor D2 level for at least eight weeks during the normal grazing period. Disaster payments for LFP are based on a percentage of the monthly feed cost. Thirteen California counties have met and another

several dozen may soon meet these criteria if appreciable precipitation fails to occur in the near future.

LFP requires that grazing acres be covered by crop insurance or NAP. Due to the late passage of the 2008 Farm Bill, livestock producers could not have known of this requirement in time to timely apply for 2008 NAP; consequently, those who did not pay their

2008 NAP administrative fees have been given the opportunity to pay a NAP eligibility buy-in fee (\$100 per crop per county). *This buy-in fee does not confer NAP or CAT benefits; it merely allows producers to meet the NAP requirement for LFP.*

THE DEADLINE TO PAY 2008 NAP/CAT BUY-IN FEES IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2008!!!!

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Yolo County Farm Service Agency  
221 West Court Street, 3B  
Woodland, CA 95695

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

9/16/2008	Deadline to pay 2008 NAP/CAT buy-in fees
10/01/2008	2009 DCP sign up begins; beginning of first 60-day managed grazing period on CRP
10/13/2008	Columbus Day – office closed
10/15/2008	Final date to submit 2008 CCC-509 signatures
Mid-October	Final 2008 DCP direct payments issued
11/11/2008	Veterans Day – office closed
11/27/2008	Thanksgiving Day – office closed
11/29/2008	End of first 60-day managed grazing period on CRP
12/01/2008	NAP ACD's – 2009 forage (grazed), honey, citrus*, fall-planted seed*, multi-planting crops*, fall-planted garbanzo beans*, forage* (mechanically harvested), value loss*, controlled environment crops* and fall-planted garlic* (*extended); beginning of CRP 120-day managed grazing period; deadline to return LAA-3 ballots
12/15/2008	NAP ACD – 2009 fruit and nut trees
12/25/2008	Christmas Day – office closed
TBA	2005, 2006 and 2007 CDP sign up deadline; 2008 Farm Bill Town Hall Meeting

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