

Colfax County News

November 2006



Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program

DCP signup for 2007 began on October 1, 2006 and ends on June 1, 2007. Producers must apply for DCP on an annual basis and can opt out of participating in DCP for any year if they so choose. To be eligible for payments under DCP, owners, operators, landlords, tenants, or sharecroppers must share in the risk of producing a crop on base acres on a farm enrolled in DCP, and be entitled to share in the crop available for marketing from the base acres or would have shared had a crop been produced. Cropland acreage must be reported annually, compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements on all land, comply with planting flexibility requirements, use base acres for agricultural or related activities, protect base acres from erosion including providing sufficient cover as determined necessary and control weeds. Direct and Counter-Cyclical payments are available. Direct payments are not based on producers' current production choices, but instead are tied to acreage bases and yields. Because direct payments provide no incentive to increase production of any certain crop, the payments support farm income without distorting producers' current production decisions. Counter-Cyclical payments provide support counter to the cycle of market prices as part of a "safety net" in the event of low crop prices. Counter-cyclical payments for a commodity are only issued if the effective price for a commodity is below target price for the commodity. The counter-cyclical payment rate is the amount by which the target price of each commodity exceeds its effective price. The effective price for each commodity equals the direct payment rate plus the higher of the national average market price received by producers during the marketing year or the national loan rate for the commodity. **PRODUCERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ENROLL ONLINE.** Electronic service is available on <http://www.fsa.gov/> and clicking on access eDCP service. Producers must have an active USDA eAuthentication level 2 account accessible at <http://eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local FSA office for identity verification.

NAP Production

If you purchased NAP coverage, you must report your production to the office at the end of the growing season. It is important to report production to maintain your yields. Please bring in your contemporaneous calendars to the office as soon as possible.

NAP

USDA's Farm Service Agency's NAP provides financial assistance to producers on noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters. A producer who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop and does not exceed a gross revenue of \$2 million is eligible. Crops must be noninsurable and must be grown for food, grown for livestock consumption including native forage or fiber. Eligible disasters are drought, freeze, hail, excessive moisture, excessive wind, flood, heat, disease or insect infestation. Producers must apply for coverage and pay the applicable service fees at the local FSA office. The service fee is \$100 per crop per county not to exceed \$300 per producer per county and not to exceed \$900 for multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request waiver of service fees. Coverage period begins 30 days after application for coverage and fees have been paid or the date the crop is planted and does not exceed the final planting date. A report of acreage must be filed to verify the existence of the crop and record the number of acres covered by the application. Acreage reports are combined with production reports to calculate approved yields. The approved yield is the average of your actual production history for a minimum of 4 years to a max of 10 years. To calculate your yield FSA divides your total production by your crop acreage. When a natural disaster occurs you must notify FSA and complete a Notice of Loss and an application for payment within 15 days. Natural disasters must reduce production by more than 50 %.

Monthly County Committee Meetings

The December meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 05, 2006 at 1:00 PM in the Federal Building Room 206. The meeting has been changed from the second Tuesday to count ballots for the committee election.



Happy Thanksgiving



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