
CURRY COURIER

TELEPHONE (505) 762-4769

CURRY COUNTY FSA OFFICE
918 PARKLAND DRIVE
CLOVIS, NM 88101 4432

OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY - FRIDAY
8:00AM - 4:30PM

USDA SERVICE CENTER FARM SERVICE AGENCY

LDP rates are figured using the posted county prices which change daily (weekly for cotton& peanuts) depending on the previous day's cash closing prices. Give us a call at **762-4769** to check on the daily rates; or, rates can be found on the Internet at www.fsa.usda.gov.

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CUSTOMER RECORD UPDATES - County offices throughout the nation have been selected for random program reviews. These reviews are designed to enable FSA to have reliable and statistical data in which to discern the overall effectiveness of programs and to determine management controls that might be needed. County offices are in the process of reviewing records to ensure compliance with programs in conjunction with these reviews. There is a possibility that you may be contacted in the near future to provide additional information to ensure that payments have been distributed correctly. Please be assured that if you are asked to provide additional information, it is to meet program requirements.

DIRECT COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROGRAM (DCP) – The annual DCP sign-up period has begun! If your farm has participated in the farm program anytime since 2002, you are eligible to enroll your farm for the 2007 Fiscal Year contract. Sign-ups will be considered ‘on time’ if filed before June 1, 2007. CCC-509's (DCP Contract) with signatures obtained after June 1, but before September 30, will be accepted, but the farm will be assessed a late-filed sign-up fee of \$100. All supporting documentation, such as CCC-502, AD-1026, and CCC-526, must be submitted before payments can be issued. Annual acreage reports indicating uses of all cropland on a farm must be filed by the applicable established reporting dates. Acreage reports filed after the applicable final reporting date may be accepted if all requirements are met and a late-filed fee is paid.

Payment Options

Producers may receive a **22 percent** advance of the direct payment (instead of the old 50%) amount, beginning on December 1, 2006. Final direct payments will be made on or after October 1. Direct payments are based on fixed rates. The payment amount for direct and counter-cyclical payments is the result of the following, for each covered commodity: “base acres x 85 percent x applicable payment yield x applicable payment rate x producer payment share”. The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 established the following payment rates for each of the eligible commodities to compute direct payments. The direct payment each crop will receive is:

Barley, \$0.24 per bushel	Corn, \$0.28 per bushel	Grain sorghum, \$0.35 per bushel
Oats, \$0.024 per bushel	Wheat, \$0.52 per bushel	Peanuts, \$0.018 per pound
Upland cotton, \$0.0667 per pound	Rice, \$0.0235 per pound	Soybeans, \$0.44 per bushel
Flax, \$0.448 per bushel	Other oilseeds, \$0.0080 per pound.	

Counter-cyclical payments may also be authorized for one or more covered commodities, depending on the projected and actual market prices. Producers may elect to receive up to three counter-cyclical payments per year: (1) the first partial payment, if any, is available in October of the calendar year in which the crop is harvested, and cannot exceed 35 percent of the total projected payment; (2) a second partial payment, up to 70 percent of the projected payment, minus the amount of the first partial payment, available the following February; and (3) final payments, if any, are made after the end of the marketing year for the crop. Producers who do not elect to take the first and second advance payments will receive the entire counter-cyclical payment at this time. The amount of a counter-cyclical payment is dependent upon the average of the actual prices received by farmers during the marketing year.

PLANTING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES OR WILD RICE –Planting fruits, vegetables, or wild rice on base acres may adversely affect your program benefits and can be considered a violation of your contract if you do not meet certain regulations. An acre for acre payment reduction can be applied to **farms** that have a history of planting vegetables. An acre for acre reduction can also be applied to **producers** who have a history of planting the fruit or vegetable. Fruits or vegetables may also be planted on base acres enrolled in DCP if they are double-cropped with a covered commodity with no payment reductions. Curry County is considered a double-cropping region for DCP purposes. If you are considering planting a fruit or vegetable, PLEASE visit the office prior to doing so in order to determine which option may work for you!

CHANGES IN FARMING OPERATION – Failure to notify FSA of changes in your farming operation may adversely impact your eligibility for USDA benefits. You should also be aware of Highly Erodible Land Conservation, Wetland Conservation, Payment Eligibility, and Payment Limitation provisions, which impact your eligibility for DCP payments. Changes to your farming operation may include, but are not limited to, a change in the structure of your farming operation or changes in your rental agreement. Any change to your farming operation must be reported to FSA when the change occurs, but **no later than September 30**, of the program year. Failure to timely report changes may result in ineligibility for a variety of benefits.

PURCHASE NONINSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP) COVERAGE – If you are interested in purchasing a 2007 Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) application on any of your uninsurable crops, stop by the office for more information! Continuous Coverage letters have been mailed to those producers who had coverage for 2006. Those who received these letters need to keep in mind that if they want to add additional crops, they will have to come into the office and make this selection. **January 31** will be the final date to purchase coverage for: Alfalfa, Native Grass, Mixed Forage, Pecans, Cucumbers, and Peppers.

NOTE: File a **Notice of Loss** (CCC-576, Page 1) the **earlier** of: 15 calendar days after a damaging weather condition occurs, damage to the crop becomes apparent, or final harvest date. Remember to file your prevented plant acres within 15 days of the final plant date for the crop. Also remember that if you have an approved Notice of Loss and you have turned in your harvest data and/or received a loss adjuster report, you must file **Notice of Payment** (CCC-576, Page 2)!

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FARM PROGRAM STAFF
Rhonda Mitchell, CED
Anita Helmer, PT
Kelly Lunsford, PT
Lonnie McFarland, Temporary PT
Falon Pettigrew, Temporary PT
Jimmy Ware, PT

COUNTY COMMITTEE
Storm Gerhart, COC Member
Vivian Jimenez, Advisor
Jim Lay, COC Chairman
J L Wall, COC Vice-Chairman
County Committee Regular Meeting Scheduled
Monthly on Third Tuesday beginning 9:30 a.m.

FARM LOAN STAFF
Bob Ledingham, FLM
LeAnn Gibbs, FLO
Kim Dewbre, PT

REPORTS OF PRODUCTION – If you had 2006 NAP coverage for any crop OTHER than Wheat or Grass Grazing, you must report all production for that crop and acreage no later than the immediately subsequent crop year. Which means that if you had coverage for Haygrazer/Cane/Sudex, pumpkins, watermelons, or alfalfa this year and didn't report a loss, you must provide verifiable/reliable records by July 15, 2007. Don't wait!! Bring in your production as soon as possible!

To be considered 'Verifiable' the record should: 1) be dated, 2) show disposition of the crop's production, including both quantity and price, 3) be seasonal or crop specific for crops that are produced more than once in a calendar year, 4) be provided if they exist. 'Reliable' records may be provided if verifiable records do not exist. These records include, but are not limited to: copies of receipts, ledgers of income, income statements of deposit slips, register tapes, invoices for custom harvesting, and pick records.

2006 COUNTY COMMITTEE (COC) ELECTION – Ballots have been mailed for customers located in LAA2 for the COC election that is the position currently held by Jim Lay on the west side of the county. Eligible nominee Lon Sultemeier is on your ballot. All ballots must be returned by December 4. Ballots will be counted on December 11 at the Curry County FSA Office. Remember to sign your ballot label before returning!!

LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM (LAGP) – Curry County producers are eligible for the Livestock Assistance Grant Program. This program is being administered by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture. Currently there is \$1.5 million to help producers recover losses suffered because of drought. These monies will be distributed between 31 counties in New Mexico. To apply for a drought assistance grant, producers can visit NMDA's website at www.nmda.nmsu.edu to download the program guidelines and application form. Program packages will also be available at USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices or the county Cooperative Extension Service (CES) offices. Completed applications must be returned to NMDA by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 21, 2006. The county FSA and CES offices cannot accept completed applications.

Anyone having questions regarding the application process can contact NMDA at (505) 646-8955 or by e-mail at LAGP@nmda.nmsu.edu.

CROPLAND COMPLIANCE – Remember that maintaining weeds and erosion must be controlled on cropland for compliance with several different government programs. You should inspect cultivated and CRP acres to see if erosion or weeds need to be controlled. Out-of County owners should check with your operator or have someone inspect your acreage for erosion or weed control. The rain has been wonderful, but has certainly added some undesirable affects as well!!

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) – Remember that emergency grazing will expire on November 30. Producers are reminded to monitor the acres being grazed and if grass is getting to the minimum height stated in your grazing plan, you need to remove livestock!

OFFICE CLOSURE – The Curry County Service Center will be closed November 10 for Veteran's Day, November 23 for Thanksgiving, and December 25 for Christmas.

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