



# NEWSLETTER



October 2012

**Boundary/Bonner  
County FSA Office**

**County Executive  
Officer -**  
Rick Bateman

208-267-2707 phone  
208-267-7741 fax

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**County Office Staff**  
Debbie Willcox,  
Program Technician

**Farm Loan Manager**  
**Bardell Faux**  
208-746-9621 (phone)

**County Committee**  
Cari Stockdale  
Wes Hubbard  
Wayne Nishek  
Allen Cary

**The County Committee  
meets quarterly on the  
second Tuesday of the  
month at 10:00 a.m.**

## **County Committee Elections**

LAA 1 and LAA 3

There are two LAAs that are having County Committee elections this year. LAA 1 is the area West of Highway 95 in Boundary County. LAA 3 is the Sandpoint area North to the County line and East to the Idaho border.

Watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on Nov. 5, 2012. If for some reason you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office.

Completed and signed ballots must be returned to the county office by close of business on Dec.3, 2012.

## **2012 DCP Final Payments**

DCP payments for 2012 were available after October 1st and are currently being issued. These payments will be deposited directly into participating producers' bank accounts.

***If there are any receivables due to unearned payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the October Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program payments.***

## **2013 Reporting of Pasture, Rangeland, Forage and Fall Seeded Crops**

All producers are reminded that the acreage reporting date for pasture, rangeland, forage and Fall seeded crops has changed. Nov. 15, 2012 is the new acreage reporting date for these agricultural practices. All fall seeded crops including winter wheat now have a reporting date of Dec.15, 2012. Please call for an appointment to certify your wheat crop.

## **IRS 1099 Changes**

Calendar year 2012 has brought changes to the way FSA reports farm program payments to the producer and to the IRS.

In past years, IRS Forms 1099-G would be issued to show all program payments received from the Farm Service Agency, regardless of the amount.

Starting with calendar year 2012, producers whose total reportable payments from FSA are less than \$600 will not receive IRS Form 1099-G. Also, producers who receive payments from more than one county will only receive one Form 1099-G if the total of all payments from all counties is \$600 or more.

***The same changes will apply to producers and vendors who normally receive IRS Form 1099-MISC from FSA.***

## **USDA Announces Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claims Period**

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who allege discrimination by the USDA in past decades can file claims between September 24, 2012 and March 25, 2013.

The process offers a voluntary alternative to litigation for each Hispanic or female farmer and rancher who can prove that USDA denied their applications for loan or loan servicing assistance for discriminatory reasons for certain time periods between 1981 and 2000.

The voluntary claims process will make available at least \$1.33 billion for cash awards and tax relief payments, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers. There are no filing fees to participate in the program.

The Department will continue reaching out to potential Hispanic and female claimants, around the country who may be eligible for this program.

Call center representatives can be reached at 1-888-508-4429. Potential claimants who registered earlier this year should have received a claims package. All those interested in learning more or receiving additional information about the claims process should visit the website or contact the claims telephone number.

Website: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

Phone: 1-888-508-4429

Claims Period: Sept. 24, 2012 - Mar 25, 2013.

Independent legal services companies will administer the claims process and adjudicate the claims. Although there are no filing fees to participate and a lawyer is not required to participate in the claims process, persons seeking legal advice may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider.

<b>Selected Interest Rates for October 2012</b>	
Farm Operating - Direct	1.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	3.00%
Limited Resource	5.00%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Emergency Loans -Amount of Actual Loss	2.125%
Farm Storage Facility – 7 year	1.125%
Farm Storage Facility – 10 year	1.750%
Farm Storage Facility – 12 year	2.125%

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
October 8	Columbus Day Federal Holiday
Nov 5	County Committee election ballots in mail
Nov 12	Veterans Day Federal Holiday
Nov 15	Crop reporting deadline for pasture, rangeland and all other forage crops.
Nov 22	Thanksgiving Day Federal Holiday
Dec 15	Crop reporting deadline for Fall alfalfa seed, Fall barley, Fall canola, Dry Peas, Fall Mint, Fall wheat and all other Fall seeded crops.