



August 2011

**Canyon/Ada County
FSA Office**
2208 E Chicago St
Ste B
Caldwell, ID
208-454-8695 Phone
208-454-1037 Fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/id
Hours
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Michael Goodson,
Chairperson
Helen Lammey, Vice
Chairperson
Marcella Stewart, Member
Robin Wylie Lindquist,
Member
Ted Wheeler, Member

County Committee meets
 First Tuesday of each
 Month

Staff
 Farm Programs
 Steve G. Ulrich, CED
 X107
 Bobe Kendall, PT
 X104
 Farleigh Byers, PT
 X100
 Nick Molenaar, PT
 X111
 Mark Havlicak, PT
 X105
 Debra Ragsdale, PT
 x109

Farm Loan Programs
 John Lejardi, FLM
 X106
 Mike Anderson, FLO
 X103
 Susan Smith, FLO
 X110
 Lora Ulrich, FLO
 X102
 Shawna Anderson, FLOT
 x108
 Linda McIntyre, PT
 X101

2010 ACRE Certification Deadline Extended

The deadline for a 2010 production certification to comply with the ACRE provisions for production reports has been extended to the Close of Business (COB) on September 1, 2011. Because of this extension, using a register on Sept. 1, 2011, is **not** authorized.

The extension is for completing both the farm benchmark yield (2005 through 2009) and the actual farm yield (2010). For more details contact the local FSA office.

Actively Engaged

FSA wants to remind producers about the rules that govern the requirements to be 'actively engaged' in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program administered by FSA.

Normally the stockholder or a member of a legal entity **must** make contributions of active personal labor and/or active personal management for the farming operation. The contributions are to be performed on regular basis, must be identifiable, and separate from the contributions of others.

The exception to this rule for a stockholder or member of a legal entity only occurs if both of the following apply:

- At least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management; and
- The total direct payments received, both directly and indirectly, by the legal entity and each of the members don't exceed \$40,000.

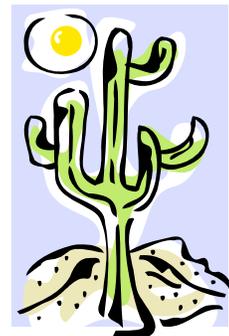
Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans has been established.

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

For additional information on this and other settlement issues contact:

- **Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process, please visit:** www.farmerclaims.gov or call 1-888-508-4429
- **Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation, please visit:** www.blackfarmercase.com or call 1-866-950-5547
- **Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement please visit:** www.IndianFarmClass.com or call 1-888-233-5506



NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS OR RANCHERS

COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: www.farmerclaims.gov

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are now required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables - cold storage facilities

For more information about FSFL please visit your FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

Rural Youth Loans

FSA makes loans to 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 advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

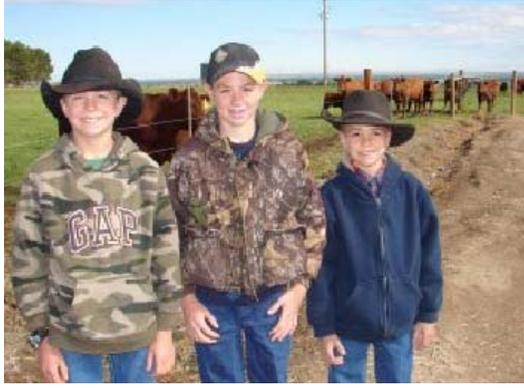
Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

✓ United States citizen or a legal resident alien (or permanent resident of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)

- ✓ 10 years to 20 years of age
- ✓ Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- ✓ Reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
- ✓ Unable to get a loan from other sources
- ✓ Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work
- ✓ Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor.
- ✓ The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.





IDAHO YOUTH SUCCESS

Want to see the future of Idaho Agriculture? Head to Caldwell and visit the Three Brothers Cattle Ranch and what you find will enlighten and encourage you.

Just ask the Three Brothers, otherwise known as the Hungate Boys, 11-year old Cole; 12-year old Drake and 9-year old Chad. The brothers took out an FSA loan to start their own cattle operation and they're old hands at the farming and ranching game. Last year they started the Three Brothers Chicken Ranch. After a success there, they're moving on to bigger and better things.

'It all started when we trapped gophers for all the farmers and made about a thousand dollars, then my grandpa gave us 10 laying chickens and we started our chicken ranch,' said Cole Hungate who loves to talk ranching.

"We got a \$5,000 loan from FSA and bought 4 cows with it. I had \$200 to spare so I used that to registers a brand and to cover feed," said Drake Hungate.

Chad Hungate is still too young for a loan but he turns 10 in November and vows to be first in line for an FSA Youth Loan.

"I'm leaning how to take care of cattle, when to feed 'em, how much they're selling for, when to buy and when they calve," said Chad. Chad says he's ready to start a cattle operation of his own. *"After I pay off the loan with the money the calves bring I'm gonna buy some more calves."*

Disaster Assistance

The Farm Service Agency has programs available to assist producers who have experienced damage from natural disasters recently.

FSA administers several important programs that help producers recover from disaster damage and livestock deaths. Among the key programs available to address impacts from disasters are the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP), the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP), the Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program.

Fact sheets for all of these programs can be found at www.fsa.usda.gov; click on Newsroom, then Fact Sheets.

Contact the local FSA county office for details.

Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged Applicants.

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



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If producers or their spouses believe they would qualify as socially disadvantaged, they should contact their local FSA office for details. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

CREP & Continuous CRP Available

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) allows farmers and ranchers to voluntarily enroll environmentally sensitive land into a program that decreases erosion, restores wildlife habitat and safeguards ground and surface water. CREP is a partnership with federal and state government and is limited to specific geographic areas.

Environmentally sensitive acreage qualifying for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) or Continuous CRP will be eligible for annual rental payments and cost-share of up to 50 percent on approved practices. These programs will remain funded, and continue to provide heightened environmental benefits on select areas.

Adjusted Gross Income Report

Producers are reminded they must submit an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) verification consent form (CCC-927 or CCC-928) to the IRS as soon as possible in order to maintain eligibility for 2009 and 2010 program benefits.

The consent form authorizes IRS to verify for FSA whether a payment recipient's AGI meets the eligibility requirements for FSA programs.

Producers who fail to file these forms before Sept. 2011 will receive a notice from the National Office stating that the producer is ineligible for 2009 and/or 2010 payments.

IRS requires written consent from all individuals or legal entities before verification of the average AGI can be provided to USDA. Individuals must submit form CCC-927 and legal entities must submit form CCC-928.

Fall Crop Insurance

USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds producers of important 2012 crop year Federal Multi-Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) sales closing dates and changes to fall planted crop programs.

Winter coverage for the Barley Multi-Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) program was added for counties: Ada, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Jerome, Minidoka and Twin Falls.

Winter coverage for Austrian Winter Dry Peas in Benewah County was added which provides winter protection for dry peas in Benewah, Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nez Perce counties. Coverage for the Forage (Alfalfa) Seed Pilot provided via written agreement in counties outside the current pilot area of Idaho: Canyon and Owyhee counties. Producers wishing to insure alfalfa seed in counties outside the current pilot area should submit their requests for written agreement through an insurance agent by September 30, 2011.

If there is no coverage filed in a county for a specific crop under the traditional MPCI program, producers are encouraged to ask a crop insurance agent whether they would be eligible for coverage under a written agreement.



RMA also reminds Idaho producers of the 2012 crop year sales closing deadlines:

Canola/Rapeseed (for Fall Planted types)	Aug. 31, 2011
Mint with Winter Coverage	Sept. 30, 2011
Forage (Alfalfa) Seed Pilot (all Idaho, Oregon, Washington counties)	Sept. 30, 2011
Fall Planted Barley with Winter Coverage – (in selected counties)	Sept. 30, 2011
Fall Planted Dry Peas Lentils with Winter Coverage (in selected counties)	Sept. 30, 2011
Wheat	Sept. 30, 2011
Apiculture (Honey)	Sept. 30, 2011
Pasture Rangeland Forage -	Sept. 30, 2011

RMA reminds producers of the important link between Federal crop insurance and Farm Service Agency (FSA) disaster programs. For non-insurable crops, a producer may buy coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program by the closing date. For further information about timetables, please contact the local FSA County Office.

Producers are encouraged to visit their crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2012 crop year. Federal crop insurance program policies are sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance companies and agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers throughout the RMA Web site at www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents.

Selected Interest Rates for August 2011	
90-Day Treasury Bill	.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	2.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.625%
Limited Resource	5.00%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.5%
Farm Storage Facility (7-year)	2.25%
Emergency	5.00%

Dates to Remember	
Aug. 1	COC Nomination Due in County Office
Aug. 1	Reconstitutions Request Deadline
Sept. 1	2010 ACRE Certification Deadline
Sept. 30	Fall Seeded NAP Signup Ends

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