



# June 2009 Gem-Boise-Valley County FSA News

**USDA**  
**Gem/Boise/Valley**  
**County FSA**  
1805 Hwy 16, Rm 4  
Emmett, ID. 83617  
(208)365-3527 x 2  
(208)365-7183 fax

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

**County Committee**  
Joe Kennedy, Chair  
Blaine Lindley, V Chair  
Debra F. Marks  
David Obermeyer  
Shirley Florence

**County Committee meets**  
**Second Thursday of the**  
**month @ 10:00 AM**

**Staff**  
Debbie Carlock, CED  
Deann Kersey, PT  
Sandra Childers, PT

**Farm Loan Manager:**  
John Lejardi  
Canyon/Ada FSA Office  
(208)454-8696

**IMPORTANT:**

**COC NOMINATION PERIOD**  
**BEGINS JUNE 15, 2009**

**CROP REPORTS – DUE BY**  
**JUNE 30, 2009**

**COC NOMINATION PETITIONS**  
**DUE BY AUG. 3, 2009**

**DCP/ACRE SIGNUP**  
**EXTENDED UNTIL AUGUST**  
**14, 2009**

## CROP REPORTING DEADLINE

***Crop reports are due by June 30, 2009. Don't forget to file to avoid late crop reporting fees. Please call before you stop by and we can have them ready for your signature or call the office to set up an appointment to save you time.***

## DCP & ACRE Signup Deadline

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program has been extended until August 14, 2009. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications. Signup in the ACRE option is also available through August 14, 2009.

Please call our office to set up an appointment. We can take some of the information over the phone which will help speed up the process when you come in. If you are leasing ground please remember to bring in your signed lease. If you have all of your crops planted you can also do your crop report at the same time. ***The crop reporting deadline was not extended. Your crop report is still due on June 30, 2009.***

The electronic DCP (or eDCP) service will save you time, reduce paperwork and speed up contract processing at FSA offices. It is available to anyone eligible to participate in the DCP Program. To access this on-line service, you must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

## County Committee Elections "FSA Counts on You"

It's election time again. This year we will be holding elections for LAA-1 and LAA-2. LAA-1 boundary is all land situated in Boise County. Debra Marks currently represents this area. Debra has served 9 years and therefore exhausted the term limits and is ineligible to run. LAA-2 boundary is all land north of the Payette River in Gem County and includes the Sweet and Ola area. Blaine Lindley currently represents this area and will be eligible to run again this year. A nomination form is included in this newsletter. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the County Committee please fill out and return the form to the county office by the close of business on August 3re, or postmark by midnight August 3, 2009. to be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. If you have questions please call our office. Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote.

## Conservation Reserve Program Mid-management Practices

The purpose of mid-contract management activities is to enhance the wildlife habitat value of the enrolled acres by encouraging a diverse community and controlling noxious weeds and other invasive species. An integrated, adaptive management approach will help rejuvenate deteriorating CRP lands in order to increase community diversity and improve cover and food sources, benefiting wildlife and soil and water resources. All CRP contract starting with SU26 are required to complete a mid-management practice during the life of the contract. Please visit with you local FSA office to determine what mid-management practice is needed on your CRP contract land.



## Changes in Payment Limitations

Anyone that plans to participate in 2009 programs is required to submit a completed CCC-902, CCC-926, and CCC-901, if applicable, for payment eligibility and payment limitation purposes. The form used prior to 2009 was named CCC-502.

All partners, stockholders, or members with an ownership interest in the legal entity must make an active contribution, whether compensated or **not** compensated. That active contribution must include:

- personal labor, or
- active personal management,
- or a combination of active personal labor and active personal management to the farming operation;

Note: Spouses automatically qualify with the labor and/or management of their spouse.

## ISDA Seeking Specialty Crop Grant Applications

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) is pleased to announce the competitive solicitation process to award Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. The USDA has allocated these funds to the state and ISDA will be passing them through as competitive grants. Funds will be available to interested local, state, and federal government, non-profit and for-profit organizations, and universities as competitive grants. Eligible projects will solely enhance the competitiveness of U.S. grown specialty crops in either domestic or foreign markets and projects must benefit more than one product or organization. Projects may include, but are not limited to, pest and disease control, sustainability, enhancing food safety, improving efficiency and reducing costs of distribution systems, developing new and improved seed varieties, increasing child and adult nutrition knowledge and consumption of specialty crops; specialty crop research, and assisting all entities in the specialty crop distribution chain in developing “Good Agricultural Practices”, “Good Handling Practices”, “Good Manufacturing Practices”, and in cost-share arrangements for funding audits for such systems for small farmers, packers, and processors.

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## Power of Attorney

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you want a crop loan, a power of attorney form will need to be completed for husband and wife, if both do not come into the office to sign the forms on the day the loan is disbursed.

## Youth Loan Participant is Essay Winner

*by Nicole Ledesma*

Tyler Hughes of Challis, Idaho, a youth loan participant with FSA, took top honors in an essay contest sponsored by Farm Bureau. Farm Bureau sponsors this program to promote awareness of agriculture among Idaho 5th graders.

The essays are first judged at a local level, then at the district level, and finally the top 3 essay's are forwarded on to be reviewed at the state level. According to Farm Bureau officials, Tyler showed “a very complete and extremely mature understanding of Idaho agriculture,” capturing first place in the state and \$50.

The last paragraph of his essay states:

“Idaho farmers and ranchers work hard. They spend long days and nights farming, harvesting crops, and taking care of livestock and the environment. They feed my family and your family. I am a fourth generation Idaho rancher and PROUD of it!”

FSA is proud of Tyler and would like to congratulate him on his honors!



FSA-669A  
(02-25-08)

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Farm Service Agency

**NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION**

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or print Nominee's Full Name)

**TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE**

2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE

5. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)

**3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION**

*I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.*

I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.

I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.

6A. COUNTY

6B. LAA NO.

7. STATE

4A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE

4B. DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)

**DATE OF ELECTION IS 1st MONDAY OF DECEMBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR**

**8. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE**

**VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:** The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

**ETHNICITY**

Hispanic or Latino  
 Not Hispanic or Latino

**RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)**

America Indian or Alaska Native     Black or African-American  
 Asian     Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  
 White

**GENDER**

Male  
 Female

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM**

Complete the form as follows:

**ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:

- A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
- B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
- C. Willing to serve if elected.

**ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.

**ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.

**ITEM 4** The nominee must sign and date.

**ITEM 8** Completing this item is voluntary.

**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 3.**

**NOTE:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 7 CFR Part 7. The information will be used to obtain nominees for County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.



**ISDA - Continued from page 2**

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
June 15, 2009	COC Nomination Period open
June 30, 2009	CROP REPORT DEADLINE
April 27 to August 14, 2009	ACRE program signup period
Aug. 1, 2009	Deadline for Recon Requests
Aug. 3, 2009	Deadline to file COC Election Nomination
Aug. 14, 2009	DCP / ACRE Signup Deadline
<b>Selected Interest Rates for June 2009</b>	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.25%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	4.25%
Farm Ownership Loans — Down Payment	1.50%
Emergency Loans	3.75%

“We are looking for quality projects that will have a significant and lasting impact on Idaho’s specialty crop industry,” commented Director Celia Gould, ISDA, “The evaluation committee will be looking for feasible proposals that will benefit a great number of producers with a good return on investment.”

Specialty crops include fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture. Get more details at [www.agri.idaho.gov](http://www.agri.idaho.gov). Applications are due to ISDA by July 1, 2009. For questions please contact Lacey Menasco at [lacey.menasco@agri.idaho.gov](mailto:lacey.menasco@agri.idaho.gov) or 208-332-8538.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”