

# USDA



**Jefferson/Clark FSA**  
Service Center  
210 S 5<sup>th</sup> W  
Rigby ID 83442

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**Hours:**  
Monday – Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

**County Committee:**  
Lee Burtenshaw  
George Ellsworth  
Gene Place  
Tod Shenton  
Andy Wagoner

**Advisor:**  
Susan Stewart

**Staff:**  
Lisa Eaton, PT  
Joy Lopez, PT  
Elaine Roker, PT

**CED:**  
Ben Evans

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# Jefferson Clark FSA News

May 2010

## **Critical DCP & Acre Deadline!!!!**

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will continue until **June 1, 2010** with no late signup provision to allow you to enroll after that date. What that means is if you don't have all signatures representing 100% of the DCP payment shares the contract payment will be lost with no options for appeal as this is a statutory deadline.

It is the responsibility of the farm operator to get all the required signatures back to the Office by 4:30 PM on June 1<sup>st</sup>. All returned contracts being mailed must be postmarked by June 1<sup>st</sup> or will be ineligible regardless of the date of signature. Faxed signatures must be received by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

You may want to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. ACRE payments are revenue-based payments and are tied to crop production and the National Average Market Price for planted crops. ACRE payment acreage is limited to the total amount of base acres on the farm, and can only be issued for a crop if two triggers are met. Eligible commodities are wheat, barley, corn, oats, pulse crops and grain sorghum. Each crop has its own guaranteed price. The deadline for ACRE is also **June 1<sup>st</sup>**.

## **ACRE Proven Production Deadline!!!**

For Producers enrolled in ACRE for 2009 you have until July 15<sup>th</sup> to provide production for crop years 2004 – 2009.

*Failure to provide production or request the county average yield will make you ineligible for the ACRE Payment (if applicable) for 2009.*

If you stored your grain on the farm and need it measured – Please contact this office at 208-745-6664 ext. 111.

## **Average Gross Income – Deadline!!!**

**Did you Receive Payments from FSA or NRCS for 2009? If you want to keep the money you must submit forms to the IRS by June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.**

Form CCC-927 (individuals) or CCC-928 (Entity including Trusts) will be verifying from the IRS that your Adjusted Gross Income you certified to in 2009 is correct. FSA receives only a yes or no answer, (no tax information is received).

These forms are available online or at your FSA Office

## **Crop Reporting Deadline!!!!**

The acreage reporting deadline is **June 30<sup>th</sup>**. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs including DCP/ACRE and CRP.

Crops that are not reported to the FSA office by June 30<sup>th</sup> will be subject to late-filed provisions that include inspection fees for each farm.

Crops planted after June 30<sup>th</sup> have 15 days where they can still be reported to FSA without late-filed provisions & fees being assessed.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

## **Measurement Service**

Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. Producers must file a request and pay the cost of a field visit to have stake and referencing done on the farm.

## **2010 FSA County Committee Elections**

It is county committee election time! First, a little background on the election process: For the purpose of county committee (COC) elections, counties are divided into local administrative areas, more commonly referred to as LAAs. Each LAA is represented by one person who is elected by all active producers within that LAA and serves a three-year term. Jefferson/Clark has five LAA's because the counties are combined. Each year an election is held in a LAA to replace or re-elect the committee member(s) whose three-year term is expiring.

This year LAA #1 and #3 will be conducting elections. LAA #1 is that area West of I-15 & North of Hwy 22 in Clark Co. LAA #3 is that area North of Hwy 33 in Jefferson County.

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers.

County Committee members are a critical component of FSA operations. The intent is to have the COC reflect the makeup of the producers and to represent all constituents. This means wherever possible, socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers and Ranchers, need to be on the committee to speak for these groups.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

### **Election Period**

- June 15, 2010 – The nomination period begins. The nomination form can be found on Page 3
- Aug. 2, 2010 - Last day to file nomination forms (FSA-669A) at the local USDA Service Center
- Nov. 5, 2010 - Ballots mailed to eligible voters
- Dec. 6, 2010 - Last day to return voted ballots to the USDA Service Center
- Jan. 1, 2010 - Newly elected county committee members take office

### **Who Can Hold Office**

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria.

- Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
- Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate

Not have been:

- Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee

- Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony
- Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services.

### **Nominations**

**Make a difference: get involved - Nominate and Vote!** Fill out the enclosed "nomination form" and return it today!

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign the nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected.

Nomination forms for the 2010 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on **Aug. 2, 2010**.

Agricultural producers who reside in LAA #1 or #3, and participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates.

### **Who Can Vote**

Agricultural producers of legal voting age, who live in the LAAs up for election, may be eligible to 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 of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote.

## **County Committee Meetings**

The Jefferson/Clark FSA County Committee usually meets the second Tuesday of each Month. The following dates have been set for the rest of 2010: June 8, July 13, August 10, and September 14. October 12, November 9 and December 7. Please call the office to verify that the County Committee is still meeting or if you need an appointment.

## **Farm Reconstitutions**

At FSA, farms are "constituted" to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. If an owner or operator cannot agree about program participation, like in the case of the new ACRE program, then producers should inquire about reconstitutions at the local FSA office.

The reconstitution—or recon—is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by August 1.

FSA-669A (03-24-10) 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)		<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE</b>	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
		5. COUNTY	
		6. LAA	7. STATE
<b>3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:</b> 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. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.		<b>8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:</b> If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).	

**9. 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.

<b>ETHNICITY</b>	<b>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</b>	<b>GENDER</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> 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.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)
- ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.

**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 2, 2010.**

**NOTE:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the 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. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**

### ***Early Land Preparation for CRP***

Beginning May 1 for arid areas, or July 1, of the final year of a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract, cover may be destroyed on certain acreage before the contract expires to prepare a seedbed for fall seeded crop. A CRP general signup may occur in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010. Questions have arisen concerning the general signup eligibility of land that is expiring from CRP that is approved for early land preparation.

CRP participants that signed CRP-1G, Addendum, Modification To Allow Early Land Preparation, approved before April 22, 2010, to begin early land preparation were informed that beginning early land preparation activity will affect general signup eligibility.

If early land preparation activity is performed, the land is **not eligible** to be offered for the anticipated FY 2010 general signup. However, the CRP-1G may be withdrawn provided cover has not been damaged or destroyed because of early land preparation.

If no early land preparation activity was performed, the land is otherwise eligible to be offered for the anticipated FY 2010 general signup.

If the county committee has not approved the CRP-1G Addendum, the CRP-1G shall be voided and the participant will be informed that a new CRP-1G Addendum that includes general signup eligibility provisions must be filed.

Additional information on early land preparation for expiring CRP acres is available at your local FSA county offices.

Visit Idaho's FSA Website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/id>

#### ***2010 Dates to Remember!***

- Ongoing** : **Continuous CRP signup**
- May 11<sup>th</sup>** : **Jefferson/Clark County Committee Meeting at 10:00 a.m.**
- May 31<sup>st</sup>** : **Closed for Memorial Day**
- June 1<sup>st</sup>** : **Final application date for 2010 DCP and/or ACRE Programs**
- June 15<sup>th</sup>** : **Deadline to file CCC-927 or CCC928 with the IRS.**
- June 30<sup>th</sup>** : **Crop Report Deadline**
- July 15<sup>th</sup>** : **Proven Production for ACRE**
- August 1<sup>st</sup>** : **Deadline to request Recon**

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