



December 2010

Jefferson/Clark FSA

Service Center
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Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

County Committee:

Lee Burtenshaw
George Ellsworth
Gene Place
Andy Wagoner

Advisor:

Susan Stewart

Staff:

Lisa Eaton, PT
Joy Lopez, PT
Elaine Roker, PT

CED:

Ben Evans

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Thanks to Eugene Place for his Nine years of Service

The Jefferson/Clark FSA Office and County Committee wish to thank Eugene for his nine years of service on the Jefferson/Clark County Committee (COC).

Eugene has been on the COC since 2002. During this time, he has served as the COC Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Regular County Committee Member. We will miss him.

Election Results for the Jefferson/Clark County Committee

We wish to congratulate Kevin Small and Robert McCulloch on their nomination to the Jefferson/Clark County Committee.

The elections results are as follows:

- In **LAA #3**, that area north of Hwy 33 in Jefferson County - Robert McCulloch, (48 votes), will serve as a regular member on the committee, Patrick Hendren, (32 votes), will serve as 1st Alternate, and Jordan C. Thomas (16 votes), will serve as 2nd Alternate.
- In **LAA #1**, that area west of I-15 and north of Hwy 22 in Clark County - Kevin Small (4 write-in votes) will serve as a regular member on the committee, and Carolyn R Shenton (1 write-in vote) will serve as 1st Alternate. Tod Shenton, listed on the ballot, was ineligible due to the fact he was elected as a Clark County Commissioner. A COC member cannot also be an elected official.

FSA county committee members serve three-year terms and make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues.

January 30th deadline to apply for Wool & Unshorn Pelts LDP's and Loans

Eligible producers have until Jan. 30, 2011, to apply for LDPs for wool, mohair and unshorn pelts produced during the 2010 crop year. Also, you must sign a *new CCC-633 for the 2011 crop year, before you lose beneficial interest in the pelts or wool.*

For Pelts, eligible producers must have beneficial interest, owned the lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter and sell the unshorn lamb for immediate slaughter. Producers must also comply with wetland conservation and highly erodible land conservation provisions.

IRS Form 1099-G

Each year producers receive 1099-G forms from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) detailing payments producers have received from the CCC. CCC's annual report of program payments on the 1099-Gs help our customers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the producer's own responsibility to report income to the IRS.

FSA staff cannot interpret IRS regulations or advise producers about which payments to report on their income tax returns. However, we can review payments for accuracy.

Office Closure

For your planning purposes, our office will be closed on the following Fridays because the Holidays fall on Saturday:

December 24: Christmas Day Holiday

December 31: New Year's Day

Spousal Signatures

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

There are exceptions to the rule, where spouses may not sign on behalf of each other for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities.

Individual signatures are also required on certain Commodity Credit Grain Loans, Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents.

Farm Loan Program Payments

For Income Tax purposes, if you plan to **deduct interest** for farm loan program payments made in 2010, your payment must be received in our office by **close of business (4:30 p.m.) December 30, 2010**.

Conservation Loan Program

The Conservation Loan (CL) Program provides farmers with the funds to implement conservation measures on their land. The available limit for a direct CL is \$300,000, and the limit for a guaranteed CL is \$1,119,000.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will work with applicants to develop a conservation plan containing approved conservation practices. Examples of some conservation practices are: water conservation structures, forest cover, permanent pastures, manure digesters and other installations.

For more information on a potential Conservation Loan, call the local FSA office and make an appointment with a loan officer.

DCP and ACRE Signup Advance Payments

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and also the 2011 ACRE Program has begun and will continue through **June 1, 2011**.

Advance payments of 22% on the 2011 DCP program will be available starting December 1, 2010. The remaining 78% of your DCP payment will be issued after October 1, 2011. ACRE is a revenue based payment alternative to the price-based counter-cyclical (CC) payments.

In DCP, eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. DCP or ACRE contract signatures for enrollment are due by the signup deadline of June 1, 2011. For more information producers can contact their local FSA office.

BCAP Update

Instructions for Biomass Conversion Facilities (BCFs) to become approved BCAP-certified facilities are anticipated in the next few weeks. The actual Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) or agreement will be similar to the first pilot phase program but will contain new language that will address requirements of the new regulation. Biomass Conversion Facilities may wish to contact the FSA State Office to make sure they are notified when this information is received. BCFs and interested producers can also watch the national website for further BCAP information at www.fsa.usda.gov under Energy Programs.

All BCFs must complete and submit the MOU, along with any other documents or permits required by the notice. This is the first step in the BCAP process. Additional notices dealing with project area proposals and new procedure on the collection, harvest, storage and transportation cost portion are also scheduled to be released shortly. The new BCAP regulation has significant changes in required conservation plans, fair market value and eligible material that will be explained in future notices.



Commodity Loans

Commodity loans, also referred to as Marketing Assistance Loans, are available to producers who share in the risk of producing the crop. To be eligible, you must maintain beneficial interest in the crop through the time of application. During the term of the loan, loss of beneficial interest is a violation of loan provisions.

Violating provisions of a marketing assistance loan may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans. The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without prior authorization and providing an incorrect quantity certification.

Quality on Loaned Grain

This year's large grain crop has its obvious up side, but there is a downside too. Many producers are hard pressed to find adequate storage for every bushel harvested. Overfilled grain storage bins can lead to grain quality problems.

Bins are ideally designed to hold a maximum volume of grain. When bins are overfilled and grain is heaped up, airflow is hindered and the chance of spoilage increases.

Producers who take out marketing assistance loans and use the farm-stored grain as collateral should remember that they are responsible for maintaining the quality of the grain through the term of the loan.

Farm Loan Programs

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

If you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan, ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee.

Direct farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained from FSA for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum of \$1,119,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that the application and loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner.

To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency 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 \$5,000.

Many farm and even city families have found the Youth Loan program an excellent means to introduce the next generation to the business of agriculture. Is there someone in your family who may qualify?



Limited Resource and Beginning Farmers

FSA sets aside targeted funding to assist beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more that 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 % of the county's average size.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov

Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for Farm Service Agency loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for 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 a group.

FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

Both operating loans and loans for the purchase or improvement of farms or ranches are available under this category.

Continuous CRP

The Continuous Conservation Reserve Program allows participants to enroll acreages in conservation practices that will reduce soil erosion, improve water and soil quality and provide wildlife habitat and food sources.

Continuous CRP program participation is voluntary. Eligible landowners enter into contracts that range from 10 to 15 years in length. In return, the landowners will receive annual rental payments, incentive payments for certain activities and cost share for establishment

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

2010 – 2011 Dates to Remember!

- Ongoing** : Continuous CRP signup
Ongoing : Sign-up for the 2011 DCP program
Dec. 24, 2010 : Office Closed for Christmas Day
Dec. 31, 2010 : Office Closed for New Year's Day
January 17, 2011 : Office Closed for Martin Luther King's Jr's Birthday
January 31, 2011 : Deadline for LDP's on Unshorn Lamb Pelts and Wool
February 21, 2011 : Office Closed for Presidents' Day
March 31, 2011 : Final date to request loan/LDP on 2010 crop barley, canola, honey, oats, rapeseed, wheat, flaxseed, and sesame seed
May 31, 2011 : Final date to request loan/LDP on 2010 crop corn, dry peas, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, safflower seed, small chickpeas, soybeans, sunflower seed
June 1, 2011 : Deadline to sign into DCP/ACRE

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