



NEWSLETTER



March 2012

Latah County FSA Office

County Committee

Clint Anderson- Chair
John Bohman – Vice chair
Connie Esser - Member

County Executive Director

Jim Knecht

County Office Staff

Janell Benjamin
Shyla Lisenbee
Sherry Pollock
Annette Schenck

FSA information is available
at www.fsa.usda.gov 24
hours a day; 7 days a week

Business Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Contact us

208-882-4960 ext. 2 - phone
208-882-8809 – fax

FSA Farm Loans

Farm Loan Manager

Bardell Faux
208-746-9621

Farm Loan Officers

Brian Hill
Jason Fisher
208-746-9621

USDA Service Center Move

We are now located at 1848 South Mountain View Road. NRCS and FSA are both located at this address.

Telephone and fax numbers have not changed; however please take note that employee extensions have changed.

Shyla Lisenbee – 100
Janell Benjamin – 101
Annette Schenck – 103

CRP Signup Announced

A general CRP signup will be held from March 12 through April 6, 2012. CRP contracts expiring September 30, 2012 and new land not currently in CRP may be offered for enrollment.

CRP, which is a voluntary program, places an emphasis on establishing conservation cover that is beneficial to wildlife as well as providing erosion control and improving water quality.

If you wish to make a CRP offer, please remember that appointments are necessary. Call Janell Benjamin at 882-4960 ext. 101 to make an appointment.

For more information on CRP and other FSA programs, visit a local service center or go online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

GovDelivery

As the USDA Farm Service Agency moves towards a paperless operation

GovDelivery will become your link to FSA programs as the days of receiving a paper newsletter in your mailbox are all but over. GovDelivery is an email system that provides electric deadline reminders, bulletins and newsletters instead of printed paper documents through the mail.

If you have an e-mail address that you have not provided us for your farming operation we encourage you to do so. If you do not have e-mail, copies of the newsletter will still be available at the FSA office. County Committee ballots will continue to be mailed to all eligible producers.

Producers can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by visiting this website, www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe.

DCP/ACRE Signup

The signup period for the 2012 DCP and ACRE programs continues through June 1. As written by Congress, advance payments are not available this year. All payments will be issued in October. Call to make an appointment to sign up.

Crop Certification

It's never too early to start thinking about crop certification. Once you have finished planting your crops this spring call for an appointment to certify all your crop acres. Deadline for certification is June 30, 2012.

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

Signup for the 2010 SURE program continues through June 1, 2012. At this time Latah County is not approved for quality losses, but it is in the works for approval.

During the course of processing SURE applications we have come across several instances where MPCl policies have been purchased using a producers' social security number (SSN), but the same producer receives payments from FSA using an Employer Identification Number (EIN). This is found to be the case in joint operations, corporations and assumed name operations. Here's an example.

Jack and Jill Joint Venture get paid by FSA using an EIN, but Jack buys MPCl using his SSN covering both he and Jill's share. This is acceptable under RMA policy.

What Jack did was not wrong. He can obtain MPCl coverage using whichever ID number he wishes; however be aware that if the ID on the RMA policy and FSA payment records don't match Jack may be determined ineligible for SURE benefits.

If you fall into the situation mentioned above you want to make sure that all parties with a Substantial Beneficial Interest (SBI) are listed on the policy.

So in Jack's case he would want to make sure that his agent includes Jack and Jill Joint Venture as having an SBI.

Latah County was approved as a primary disaster county in 2011 for SURE. A signup date for 2011 crop year losses has not yet been announced.

Congress did not include the 2012 crop year in the 2008 Farm Bill as a year covered under the SURE program.

Noninsurable Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP covers crops that are not insured under multi peril crop insurance or are uninsurable. Grass seed and hay crops are the primary crops covered by NAP in Latah County.

NAP sales closing date for grass seed coverage is September 30; while the sales closing date for hay crops is December 1.

March 15, 2012 is the sales closing date for spring seeded NAP crops.

Farm Loan Programs

Are you a beginning or limited resource farmer or rancher? Contact Bardell Faux, Farm Loan Manager in Lewiston. He can be reached at 208-746-9621.

Selected Interest Rates for March 2012	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	1.375%
Farm Ownership - Direct	3.375%
Limited Resource	5%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Emergency (Actual Loss)	3.75%
Farm Storage Facility (7-Year loan term)	1.375%

Dates to Remember	
March 12	General CRP signup opens
March 15	Deadline for most spring-planted crop insurance purchase or change
March 15	Deadline for non-insured (NAP) spring crop coverage purchase at FSA
April 6	General CRP Signup ends
June 1	2012 DCP Enrollment ends
June 1	2010 SURE Signup ends