

USDA FSA

Bay County

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Advisor

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Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00am – 4:30pm
We are closed on
National Holidays

January/2009

DCP SIGN-UP BEGINS

The 2009 Direct and Counter Cyclical (DCP) sign-up started December 22, 2008 and runs through June 1, 2009. The program is very similar to what it was in the last farm bill with base acres and yields remaining the same. The rates for each commodity have also remained unchanged, but we will calculate the payment for 2009 using 83.3 % of the base instead of 85%.

Please make an appointment with our office and have any cash rent statements with you at that time. If you have any farm changes we will need to be notified about them prior to you enrolling into the farm programs.

COC ELECTION RESULTS

The COC election results for the following townships of Gibson, Fraser, Garfield, Mount Forest and Pinconning have been counted. Bernie Cianek has been elected to serve as the COC representative for this area. Bernie will be serving along with Gene VanDriessche, Bill Meylan and Renee Deshano on the COC for a term of three years. A special thanks to Dan Schultz for serving on the COC for many years in this area.

SUPPLEMENTAL AG DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The 2008 Farm Bill is offering five new disaster programs, however to be eligible you must have at least CAT level crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or NAP coverage for all non insurable crops. Programs included in the Supplemental Disaster Assistance will be:

- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program(SURE)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Tree Assistance Program(TAP)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

Producers must obtain a crop insurance policy for each insurable commodity and NAP for each non-insurable commodity on the farm to be eligible for assistance under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.

Producers must timely obtain a crop insurance policy for insured crops or timely file the required paperwork for NAP for the grazed land for eligibility under LFP.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) is exempt from the risk management purchase requirement



RECORD CORRECTIONS AND RECONS

Producers are being encouraged to get all of their records updated with our office as soon as they can in preparation for a farm sign-up into the programs. If any producer is either adding land or has deleted land from what you were operating last year, we are asking that you give us a call and let us know of the changes.

AGRICULTURAL FOREIGN INVESTOR DISCLOSURE ACT (AFIDA)

Any foreign person that purchases or sells farm land must, by law, disclose that purchase to their local FSA office within 90 days. Please call if our office if you have any questions on this provision.

CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)

We are still taking offers from producers if they may be interested in participating in a conservation program on your farm. Producers can participate with a filter strip, windbreak, wetland restoration, or riparian buffer strip. Rental rates are competitive and now may be the time to look into one of these practices before planting.

NON-INSURABLE ACREAGE PROGRAM (NAP)

The NAP deadline is March 15, 2009, and the service fee for this program has increased to \$250.00 per crop not to exceed \$750.00 per producer per county. If you are a multi-county producer and you want to cover NAP in all counties the cost cannot exceed \$1,875.00 for all counties. Producers that already have this coverage need to turn in their production for proven yields for APH purposes.

REASONABLE ACCOMODATIONS

Special accommodation will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please contact us at the phone numbers listed.

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To file a complaint of Discrimination, write to 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.