

January 2013



## Genesee County FSA Updates

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Genesee County  
FSA Office

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**County Executive Director:**

Jayne VanNess

**Program Technicians:**

Karla Klasek  
Brielle Hartner  
Amanda Conklin (Shared)

**Farm Loan:**

David Hemker

### County Committee Election Results

Congratulations to William H. Hunt who was re-elected to represent farmers from the townships of; Burton, Davison, Forest, Genesee, Richfield and Thetford on the County Committee.

First Alternate to the County Committee is Terry Spezia and Second Alternate is Tracy Jelinek.

FSA appreciates all the voters in those areas that took the time to complete the election ballot. The County Committee system works only because of your participation.

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### IRS 1099 Changes

For calendar year 2012, changes have been made to the way FSA reports farm program payments to the producers and to the IRS. In past years, IRS Form 1099-G would be issued to show all program payments received from the Farm Service Agency, regardless of the amount.

Beginning in calendar year 2012, producers whose total reportable payments from FSA were less than \$600 will not receive IRS Form 1099-G. Also, producers who receive payments from more than one county will only receive one Form 1099-G if the total of all payments from all counties exceeded \$600.00.

### LDP's for Wool and Unshorn Lamb Pelts

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Eligible wool and/or unshorn lamb producers have until January 31, 2013 to apply for Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's) for wool and unshorn lamb pelts produced during the 2012 year.

To qualify for payment, producers must have beneficial interest in the product and the wool and/or pelts must have been produced by an eligible producer from sheep or unshorn lambs of domestic origin in the United States.

## 2011 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program Applications

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The Farm Service Agency (FSA) will continue to accept SURE applications for **2011** crop losses through June 7, 2013. The SURE Program provides payments to producers when crop revenues are less than the crop guarantee. The Sure Program payment is equal to 60 percent of the difference between the crop guarantee and revenue.

To be eligible for the 2011 SURE Program, producers must have had crop insurance on all insurable crops and/or Non Insurable Crop coverage on Non Insurable Crops from FSA for all crops grown in 2011 and must show that at least one crop having a 10 percent production loss.

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### Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claims Period

USDA has announced that Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who allege discrimination by the USDA in past decades can file claims between September 24, 2012 and March 25, 2013.

The process offers a voluntary alternative to litigation for each Hispanic or female farmer and rancher who can prove that USDA denied their applications for loan or loan servicing assistance for discriminatory reasons for certain time periods between 1981 and 2000.

As announced in February 2011, the voluntary claims process will make available at least \$1.33 billion for cash awards and tax relief payments, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers. There are no filing fees to participate in the program.

The department will continue reaching out to potential Hispanic and female claimants, around the country to get the word out to individuals who may be eligible for this program so they have the opportunity to participate.

Call center representatives can be reached at 1-888-508-4429. Claimants must register for a claims package (by call the number or visiting the website) and the claims package will be mailed to claimants. All those interested in learning more or receiving information about the claims process and claims packages are encouraged to attend meetings in their communities about the claims process and contact the website or claims telephone number.

**Website:** [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

**Phone:** 1-888-508-4429

**Claims Period: September 24, 2012 through March 25, 2013.**

Independent legal service companies will administer the claims process and adjudicate the claims. Although there are no filing fees to participate and a lawyer is not required to participate in the claims process, people seeking legal advice may contact a lawyer or other legal service provider.

To read Secretary of Agriculture, Thomas Vilsack's news release click on the following link:

[www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2012/09/0309.xml&contentidonly=true](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2012/09/0309.xml&contentidonly=true)

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9450, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).