

AUGUST 2012



Grand Traverse Area FSA Updates

Grand Traverse Area FSA Office

Grand Traverse / Kalkaska / Leelanau Counties

Address:
1501 Cass Street, Ste A
Traverse City, MI 49684

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Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

County Executive Director:
Greg Shy

Farm Loan Manager:
James Monroe

Program Technicians:
Caleb Boge
Jan Malik
Janet Howes

Got Hay? Need Hay?



Hay Net is the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) online service for farmers and ranchers to use to share hay need ads and hay availability ads online.

There is a one-time registration process that is to be completed by all users who want to post an ad online. However producers who wish to only browse the ad listings do not need to register.

To visit the FSA Hay Net site, follow the Hay Net link on <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> and click on Online Services.

1099-G and 1099-MISC

Beginning with calendar year 2012 IRS reporting, producers will not receive IRS Form 1099-G and/or IRS Form 1099-MISC in the mail if the total of reportable payments for each tax identification number is less than \$600. However, if voluntary withholding or involuntary withholding was withheld from a payment and total payments are less than \$600, then the proper IRS 1099 form will be issued.

Also beginning with calendar year 2012 IRS reporting, multi-county producers whose total reportable payments for each tax identification number are equal to or greater than \$600 will receive one IRS Form 1099-G and/or one IRS form 1099-MISC.



DATES TO REMEMBER



September 30th - Deadline to purchase NAP coverage for forage crops and rye

November 15th - Crop reporting date deadline for perennial forage, fall wheat and all other fall seeded small grains

November 20th - Deadline to purchase NAP coverage for perennial crops

December 1st - Deadline to purchase NAP coverage for maple sap and honey

January 15th, 2013 - Crop reporting date deadline for apples, blueberries, cherries, grapes, peaches



MILC Program Receipts

FSA's Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) Program compensates dairy producers when domestic milk prices fall below a specified level. MILC payments are made when the Boston Class I milk price falls below \$16.94 per hundredweight (cwt) as adjusted by the dairy feed ration adjustment.

Eligible producers should continue to submit their current MILC statements to the FSA office for payment.

FSA Power of Attorney

For those producers who are unable to physically come into the FSA office to conduct business and/or sign paperwork may file a FSA-211 form to allow a designated Attorney-in-Fact to act on their behalf for FSA and CCC programs. Spouses do not have to sign a FSA-211 to sign document on behalf of each other unless a written notification denying authority has been provided to the local office. Contact the FSA office for more information.



Please note that FSA-211 is not applicable for Farm Loan Programs or allowed on any Adjusted Gross Income certifications such as CCC-931.

County Committee Election Ballots for LAA2 - Leelanau Co

County Committee (COC) elections provide producers the opportunity to represent producers in their community by serving on their local FSA COC. All farmers and ranchers are encouraged to consider running for these seats.

Election ballots for LAA 2, Leelanau County (Glen Arbor, Empire, Kasson, Cleveland, Centerville, Solon and Elmwood Townships) will be **mailed out November 5, 2012** to each producer on the eligible voter's list in this area. Producers are encouraged to vote for a candidate listed on the ballot or may write-in a candidate.



Farm Reconstitutions [County Committee Election Ballots for LAA1 – Continued]

For FSA program purposes, tracts having the same owner and the same operator are grouped under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary.

The reconstitution—or recon—is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Although the date has passed to be effective for the current year, recons for program year 2013 will be processed in early October.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet each of the basic eligibility requirements described below:

1. Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA
2. Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
3. Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate a person **must 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.

All ballots are to be returned to the Grand Traverse Area FSA Office or postmarked by **December 3rd, 2012**. For more information about FSA county committees, visit your FSA or USDA Service Center or the website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

August 2012 Interest Rates



Farm Operating Loans – Direct	1.250%
Farm Ownership Loans – Direct	3.000%
Farm Ownership Loans – Joint	5.000%
Limited Resource Loans	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans – Direct FO Down Payment	1.500%
Emergency Loans	2.250%
Farm Storage Facility Loans	7 yr – 1.000% 10 yr – 1.625% 12 yr – 1.875%
Commodity Loans	1.250%

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 20250-9410, 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).