



# NEWSLETTER



December 2011

**Elko/Eureka  
FSA Office  
555 W. Silver St  
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Elko, NV 89801**

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[www.fsa.usda.gov/NV](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/NV)

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

#### **County Office Staff**

*Claire Kehoe*  
County Exec Director

*Micki Wines*  
Farm Loan Officer

*Maria Murillo*  
*Jacque Fender*  
Program Technician

#### **County Committee**

*Patsy Tomera*  
Chairperson  
*Mitch Heguy*  
Vice-Chairperson

Members:  
*Ira J Wines*  
*Mark Damele*  
*Cloyton Cota*  
Meeting:  
2cd Tuesday/Month

## **Get GovDelivery eNews**

Receive free e-mail updates and in some regions even newsletters now by visiting: [www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe).

Producers can now enroll in this new GovDelivery system for notices, newsletters and electronic reminders. FSA, like many other organizations, is working smarter and more efficiently by moving to electronic notifications to conserve resources and save taxpayer dollars.

County Committee ballots will still be mailed to all eligible producers. Once you subscribe, you will receive a message with the option to select from other USDA subscriptions also. GovDelivery will not share your email address with anyone for commercial or any other purposes.

## **Returning COC Ballots**

Ballots for this year's county committee election have been mailed. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on **Dec. 5, 2011**. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight Dec. 5, 2011.

## **2012 DCP/ACRE Sign-up**

2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) enrollment begins Jan. 23, 2012 and ends June 1, 2012.

#### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

- All producers planting on **DCP base** acres must be identified on the DCP/ACRE contract and receive a proportionate share of DCP/ACRE payment for the farm.
- Changes on the farm after enrolling June 1<sup>st</sup> in DCP/ACRE **must** be reported to your local FSA office such as: Ownership changes, Producer changes (Individuals and Entities, Change in crop shares arrangements. No changes are allowed after Sept. 30, 2012.

## **Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)**

The sign-up for 2010 losses in the SURE program runs through **June 1, 2012**. The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that incurred in the crop year 2010. SURE is available to eligible producers with qualifying losses on:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred crop production or quality losses, or both, and includes all crops grown

*Continued on Page 2 - SURE*

**NOTICE  
TO HISPANIC  
AND/OR  
WOMEN  
FARMERS OR  
RANCHERS  
COMPENSATION  
FOR CLAIMS OF  
DISCRIMINATION**

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



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*SURE - Continued from Page 1*

by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops.

- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.

## 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, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

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

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000.

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan, for loans obligated after October 1, 2011.

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

## LDPs for Unshorn Lamb Pelts

Eligible producers have until Jan. 31, 2012, to apply for Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) for unshorn pelts produced during the 2011 crop year.

Eligible producers must have beneficial interest in the pelts, 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 on all lands they operate or have interest in.

To qualify for payment, pelts must have been produced by an eligible producer from live unshorn lambs of domestic origin in the United States.

## Disaster Assistance Programs

FSA disaster assistance programs include:

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

To be eligible for the SURE, TAP and ELAP programs, producers must have purchased catastrophic risk protection insurance for all insurable crops, and NAP coverage for non-insurable crops. Sign-up ends Jan. 30, 2012, for LFP, LIP, and ELAP. Producers have 90 days from the time a loss is apparent to file an application for TAP.

Farm-Raised Fish means all fish being produced for sale by an eligible producer. In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are not required to purchase the catastrophic insurance or NAP.

## IRS Form 1099-G

Producers receive CCC-1099-Gs annually detailing payments from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on the CCC-1099-G is a service intended to help FSA customers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the producers' 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, county office staff can review payments for accuracy of data.

## Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these 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.

## Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans has been established.

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

For additional information on this and other settlement issues contact:

### Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process:

[www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov) or  
1-888-508-4429

### Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation:

[www.blackfarmercase.com](http://www.blackfarmercase.com) or  
1-866-950-5547

### Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement:

[www.IndianFarmClass.com](http://www.IndianFarmClass.com) or  
1-888-233-5506

## Rural Youth Loans

FSA 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. Loans may not exceed \$5000.

### Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- United States citizenship (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- 10 to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.



Happy Holiday's  
From the ELKO Staff

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 Elko NV 89801



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**Emergency Conservation Program Sign Up**

Elko FSA Office is now holding a sign up for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) for practice EC3, Restoring Permanent Fences in Elko County. The program was requested as a result of the Indian Creek, Chukkar Canyon and Izzenhood fires that occurred during the end of September near the Tuscarora area. Please call the Elko FSA Office at (775) 738-6445 if you have any questions or wish to make an appointment. The sign up period ends January 12, 2012. Please note there is currently no funding for this program and it is uncertain when funding will arrive.

Selected Interest Rates for December 2011	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	0.150%
Farm Ownership - Direct	3.375%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	0.150%
Farm Storage Facility-7YR	1.500%
Farm Storage Facility-10YR	2.125%
Farm Storage Facility-12YR	2.375%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.125%

Dates to Remember	
Dec. 5	COC Ballots due back in County Office by COB
Dec.26	Office Closed-Holiday
Jan. 2	Office Closed-Holiday
Jan. 12	ECP signup Ends
Jan. 23	2012 DCP Enrollment begins
Jan. 30	Sign-up ends Jan. 30, 2012, for LFP, LIP, and ELAP.
Jan. 31	Deadline to apply for Unshorn Lamb Pelts Loan Deficiency Payment

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