



July 2009

Humboldt/Lander FSA News

Humboldt/Lander County
USDA Service Center

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www.fsa.usda.gov/nv

Hours

Monday - Thursday
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

County Staff

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Katie Nuffer | PS |
| Donna Harrer | PT |
| Denise Cerri | PT |
| Cathy Yardley | FLO |
| (775) 738-6445 x 106 | |
| Carolyn Persinger | FLM |
| (775) 423-5124 x 106 | |

County Committee

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Fred Wilkinson | Chairman |
| Debbie Hummel | Vice-Chairman |
| Bob Buckingham | Member |
| Theresa Marvel | Member |
| Christina Wohle | Member |
| Arlo Crutcher | Minority Advisor |

FSA COC Nomination Deadline

County committee members play a crucial role in helping the county office staff implement the Farm Bill Programs. Right now, producers can have an impact on the election of the county committee by nominating eligible candidates by the August 3, 2009 deadline.

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must complete and sign form FSA-669A. The form and other valuable information about FSA county committee elections are available online at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; click on News & Events, then County Committee Elections. Nomination forms for the 2009 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 3, 2009. The members whose current terms are expiring are:

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|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Humboldt LAA 3 | Bob Buckingham |
| Lander LAA 5 | Christina Wohle |

FSA county committee members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms. Nationwide, there are more than 7,800 farmers and ranchers serving on FSA county committees. Committees consist of three to five members who are elected by eligible local producers.

FSA will mail ballots to producers beginning Nov. 6, 2009. The completed ballots are due back at the local county office by Dec. 7, 2009, either via mail or in person.

DCP & ACRE Signup Deadline

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program has been extended until August 14, 2009. Signup in the ACRE option is also available through August 14, 2009. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications.

FSA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2009, you may request to receive advance direct

payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price.

The new ACRE Program is an option for eligible DCP farms that allows participants to receive additional payments based on crop revenue reductions instead of only low national prices. Revenue considers both yields and prices, so the reductions can be attributed to low yields and/or low prices. Note that there must be both a revenue reduction for the farm and at least a 10% revenue reduction for the State.

Crop Reporting Deadline Has Been Extended

The certification form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Please note that this includes grazing land and BLM/FS permits.

The producer certification deadline for all hay and grazing crops, with the exception of small grains, has been extended to August 14, 2009.

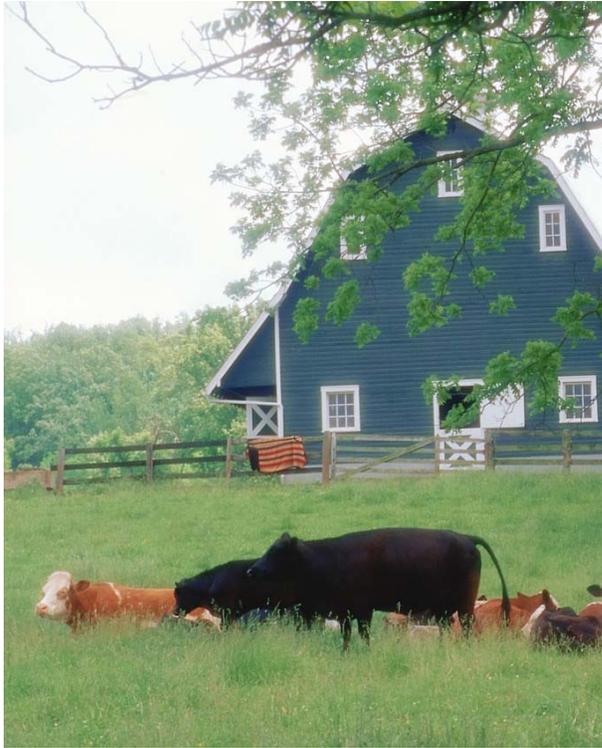
Exception: For NAP purposes, producers are required to file an acreage report by the extended acreage reporting date, but no later than 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest if that is earlier than the extended acreage reporting date.

The annual requirement of reporting to the FSA office can be referred to as crop reporting, acreage reporting, or crop certification. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Payments.

WATCH FOR NAP DEADLINES

See page 4 for details and
call your FSA office





Farm Reconstitutions

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. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by **August 1** for farms enrolled in specific programs.

The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon:

Estate Method— the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

Designation of Landowner Method—may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

DCP Cropland Method — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

Default Method — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

Successor In Interest

Many FSA programs will allow payments to be made to heirs or successors when a program participant passes away. Additionally, contracts in programs such as CRP must be revised to reflect the successor(s) to a deceased participant's interest.

In the event of an FSA program participant's death, it is important that FSA be notified. Entities and joint operations that participate in FSA programs also need to notify FSA if a shareholder or member passes away. Since FSA benefits are reported to IRS, maintaining current, accurate records about participants is vital to ensure that those payments are reported correctly.

Changes in Payment Eligibility and Payment Limitations for 2009

FSA has all new Payment Eligibility and Adjusted Gross Income forms for 2009 and subsequent years that must be submitted for anyone planning to participate in 2009 programs.

Another change for 2009 is that all partners, stockholders or members with an ownership interest in the legal entity must make a contribution, whether compensated or not compensated, for active personal labor, active personal management, or a combination of the above to the farming operation.

For 2009 and subsequent years, assistance and benefits under some programs are subject to different AGI limitations and direct attribution for payment eligibility and payment limitation.

Please call the office for more information.

FSA Farm Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers loans for farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit elsewhere. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers may have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or may have limited resources.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,094,000. Emergency loans are always direct loans for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas

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designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are also available through FSA.

For details on loan eligibility or available loan programs, contact the county office staff for an appointment with a farm loan officer.

Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency 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. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years 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.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms. The FSA staff can help you with questions you may have about a particular program.

Beginning and Limited Resource Farmers

FSA assists beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years

- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county’s average size.

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements. Loan approval is not guaranteed.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

| Dates to Remember | |
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| August 3 | County Committee Nomination Deadline |
| August 14 | DCP/ACRE Signup Deadline Crop Acreage Reporting Deadline |
| August 30 | NAP Deadlines Start for 2010 - call the local FSA office for your crop deadlines |
| Selected Interest Rates for July 2009 | |
| 90-Day Treasury Bill | 0.125% |
| Farm Operating Loans — Direct | 2.5 % |
| Farm Ownership Loans — Direct | 4.625 % |
| Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher | 1.5 % |
| Emergency Loans | 3.75 % |



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Winnemucca, NV 89445



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NAP Deadlines and Program Changes for 2010

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) deadlines for various crops are coming up as early as **August 30, 2009** for any and all grain crops, whether for hay or grazing. Contact your local office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov for deadlines and details for your crops. When low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occurs due to natural disaster, NAP can provide financial assistance.

The 2010 crop NAP application closing date is **October 31, 2009** for all hay crops, except small grain. Closing date for all grazing, except grain crops, is **December 1, 2009**.

NAP coverage may be continued for each subsequent year for the same crop or crops, if the producer pays the applicable service fee by the next year's application closing date.

Eligible producers must apply for coverage of noninsurable crops and pay the applicable service fees at their local FSA office. The service fee is \$250 per crop or up to \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 per producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Limited resource producers are not subject to annual fees.

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