



September 2009

Humboldt/Lander FSA News

**Humboldt/Lander County
USDA Service Center**
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Winnemucca, NV 89445
Phone: (775) 623-5025
Fax: (775) 623-1386
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

County Executive Director:

MaryAnn McDermett
Program Specialist:

Katie Nuffer
Program Technicians:

Donna Harrer
Denise Cerri

Farm Loan Manager:

Carolyn Persinger
(775) 423-5124 x 106

Farm Loan Officer:

Micki Wines
(775) 738-6445 x 105

County Committee

Chairman:

Fred Wilkinson

Vice-Chairman:

Debbie Hummel

Members:

Bob Buckingham
Theresa Marvel
Christina Wohle

Minority Advisor:

Arlo Crutcher



New Nevada State Executive Director Appointed

President Obama has appointed **Clinton Koble** as Nevada's new Farm Service Agency State Executive Director. Mr. Koble most recently served as the Executive Director of the Nevada Rural Development Council in Carson City, Nevada where he specialized in community strategic planning and leadership. He also served in Carson City as the Western Region Representative for the Rural Nevada Development Corporation in Ely, providing small business assistance and housing programs for Nevada's rural communities. While serving in that capacity, Mr. Koble performed small business counseling services for the Nevada Small Business Development Center.

Working with and for the rural communities took Mr. Koble back to his rural roots. He grew up on a farm in North Dakota that remains in his family today. He received his B.A. degree in Political Science and History from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, N.D. Mr. Koble started his appointment on August 10, 2009.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program Changes

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are now required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Early partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's

records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin. The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain
- Pulse crops—lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables
- Cold storage facilities

For more information about FSFL please visit your FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

Biomass Crop Assistance Program

The new Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) is of interest to biomass conversion facilities and those who own, chip and transport biomass material to these facilities.

Chippers and producers with conversion facilities contracts to prepare and deliver materials can apply for matching payments under the collection, harvest, storage and transportation (CHST) component of BCAP. Once an agreement is signed between FSA and a biomass conversion facility and funding is provided, the facilities can begin accepting materials under this program.

The matching CHST payments are paid at a rate of \$1 for \$1 per dry-ton equivalent received by a qualified biomass conversion facility, not to exceed \$45 per dry-ton equivalent. A biomass owner is eligible to receive payments for two years. The purpose of the matching payments is to assist biomass handlers with the CHST cost of delivering biomass to a qualified biomass conversion facility. Once a facility becomes qualified, eligible material owners or producers who deliver biomass to that facility may be eligible to receive CHST payments.

Eligible material owners or producers, who market eligible material to a qualified biomass conversion facility, may apply for the matching CHST payment at their FSA county office. An application must be submitted and approved before the eligible material is sold or delivered to a

Continue on Page 2 Biomass Crop Assistance

Continued from Page 1 Biomass Crop Assistance qualified biomass conversion facility. After the product is delivered, a material handler must provide FSA with documentation of product quantity, quality and payment rate. County offices will validate payment requests with information in the county office and information provided under the terms of MOUs with the qualified biomass conversion facilities. CHST payments will not be authorized until appropriate environmental analysis is completed. Contact your FSA state office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov for more information.

NAP Coverage - Deadlines and Details

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available.

See page 4 for 2010 NAP coverage application deadlines for various crops in Humboldt and Lander Counties.

Producers who already have coverage on 2009 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2010, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date. A new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops. Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.
- File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail, etc.

For more information on NAP coverage please contact Donna Harrer at (775) 623-5025 ext. 100.

Livestock Indemnity Program

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from disaster. Using funds from the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund established under section 902 of the Trade Act of 1974, the program is administered by the USDA Farm

Service Agency (FSA). LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold. **Eligible losses must have occurred on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.**

The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and/or application for payment for either 2008 or 2009 livestock losses.

Livestock Death	Final Date to File a Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application
Calendar Year 2008	Sept. 13, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009
Jan. 1, 2009 to July 12, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009	Jan. 30, 2010
July 13, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2009	30 days after death is apparent	Jan. 30, 2010

Succession in Interest

If you have made changes that affect your interest in base acres since you signed your last Direct and Counter-cyclical Program contract, you must report these *successions-in-interest* to the County Committee by Sept. 30, so a final determination can be made on who is eligible for the program.

Changes that qualify as a succession-in-interest include:

- A sale of land
- A change of operator or producer, including an increase or decrease in the number of partners
- A foreclosure, bankruptcy or involuntary loss of the farm.
- A change in producer shares to reflect changes in the producer's share of the crop(s) that were originally approved on the contract.

If a succession-in-interest has taken place, you, as the "predecessor," are required to refund any advance DCP payments you received for the affected base acres before a payment can be made to the "successor." Not reporting a succession-in-interest can result in contract termination and a loss of program benefits for all producers involved.



FSA Farm Loans to Family Sized Farms

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers loans for eligible 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. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with 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 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 detailed information on loan eligibility or the available loan programs, Humboldt County residents may contact Micki Wines at (775) 738-6445 ext. 105 and Lander County residents may contact Carolyn Persinger at (775) 423-5124 ext. 106.

Marketing Assistance Loans

A Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) is available for producers who share in the risk of producing the crop. To be eligible, a producer must maintain continual beneficial interest in the crop from harvest through the earlier of the date the loan is repaid or CCC takes title to the commodity. Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan — even if the producer regains beneficial interest.

Commodity loan eligibility also requires compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements, acreage reporting and ensuring that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards. For commodities to be eligible they must have been produced by an eligible producer, be in existence and in a storable condition and be merchantable for food, feed or other uses as determined by CCC. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan.

Producers do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical and/or ACRE Programs to be eligible for commodity loans. Violating provisions of a marketing assistance loan may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans.

The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without prior authorization and providing an incorrect quantity certification.



Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to eligible 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 \$5,000.

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.



**PRESORTED STANDARD
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Dates to Remember	
Sept. 7, 2009	Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday
Sept. 13, 2009	Final Date to file 2008 LIP Notice of Loss
Sept. 15-17, 2009	Office Closed—Staff Training in Reno
Sept. 30, 2009	Final Date NAP Application for Coverage—All Grain Crops
Oct. 12, 2009	Office Closed—Columbus Day
Oct. 31, 2009	Final Date Nap Application for Coverage—All other Hay Crops
Selected Interest Rates for September 2009	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.25%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	3.00%
Farm Operating Loans — Limited Resource	5.00%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	4.875%
Farm Ownership Loans — Down Payment	1.50%
Farm Ownership Loans—Limited Resource	5.00%
Emergency Loans	3.75%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (7 yr.)	3.250

Important Dates	
Final Planting Dates	
Spring Grains	May 20, 2010
Fall Grains	Oct. 31, 2009
Corn	June 15, 2010
Crop Reporting	
All Grain Crops for Hay, Grain or Grazing	June 15, 2010
All Other Crops	July 15, 2010
Production Records	
Grain Hay	June 15, 2010
All Other Hay	July 15, 2010
DCP (Grain Program)	
NAP Application for Coverage	
Grain Crops Hay or Grazing	Sept. 30, 2009
All Other Hay Crops	Oct. 31, 2009
All Other Grazing Crops	Dec. 1, 2009
Notice of Loss for NAP	
Within 15 Days of When Disaster is Apparent	
Request for Payment for NAP	
Following Year of Disaster	
Grain Crops for Hay or Grazing	June 15, 2010
All Other Crops for Hay or Grazing	July 15, 2010

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