



March 2010

# Humboldt/Lander FSA News

## DCP Signup Continues

**Signup for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues until June 1, 2010. FSA will not accept 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 2010, 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 payments for a commodity are only issued if the effective price for a commodity is below the commodity's target price.

The electronic DCP (or eDCP) service will save you time, reduce paperwork and speed up contract processing at FSA offices. It is available to anyone eligible to participate in the DCP Program. To access this online service, you must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

## SURE

Currently applications for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) are being taken for the 2008 Crop Year. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster that were incurred starting in the crop year 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops of economic significance in all counties or, if crop

insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage.

Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

- at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition
- crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm
- the farm experiencing the loss must be in a county declared a disaster county by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties. Those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are also eligible to receive SURE payments for production losses or crop quality losses.

Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss.

A SURE calculator is available at: [http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/sure\\_calculator\\_2008.xls](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/sure_calculator_2008.xls). The calculator is not official, but is intended for educational use. A fact sheet and backgrounder are also available online.

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

**Humboldt/Lander County  
USDA Service Center  
1200 E. Wmca. Blvd.  
Winnemucca, NV 89445  
Phone: (775) 623-5025  
Fax: (775) 623-1386  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/nv](http://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 McDermott  
**Program Specialist:**  
Katie Nuffer

#### Program Technicians:

Donna Harrer  
Denise Cerri

#### Farm Loan Officer:

Micki Wines  
(775) 738-6445 x 105  
Phyllis Dowd  
(775) 423-5124 x 107

### County Committee

Fred Wilkinson—Chairman  
Debbie Hummel—Vice Chairman  
Theresa Marvel—Member  
Christina Wohle—Member  
Susan Kern—Member  
Arlo Crutcher—Minority Advisor

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. (subject to change)





## Adjusted Gross Income

USDA has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Internal Revenue Service to establish an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to USDA.

The agreement ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

**Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service by June 15 to avoid interruption of program benefits.** These forms may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainsevl> et.

## Actively Engaged

USDA has amended the rules that govern the requirements to be 'actively engaged' in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program administered by FSA.

Normally the stockholder or a member of a legal entity **must** make contributions of active personal labor and/or active personal management for the farming operation. The contributions are to be performed on regular basis, must be identifiable, and separate from the contributions of others.

The exception to this rule for a stockholder or member of a legal entity only occurs if both of the following apply:

- At least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management; and;
- The total direct payments received, both directly and indirectly, by the legal entity and each of the members can not exceed \$40,000.

## NAP Production Records

Any producer that has not submitted their production records for the 2009 crop year must do so as soon as possible. **To be filed timely, production records must be submitted before a 2010 acreage report is filed.**

## FSA Payment Record 1099-G

Producers who have received payments from FSA should have received a CCC-1099-G. A CCC-1099-G is a report to the Internal Revenue Service about FSA payments made to producers during the previous calendar year. The CCC-1099-G is to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participant's responsibility to report income to the IRS.

When the CCC-1099-G is received, it should be checked with your records to see that the amounts are correct. Refunds will no longer be reported on the 1099-G, but will be available online from the FSA Financial Inquiries (FSA-FI) web-based database. Program participants with an eAuthentication user ID and password may access their refund information at FSA-FI and select "Inquiry Type 1099/Refund Reports". Refund amounts are displayed on the Producer's Year-to-Date Activity web page.

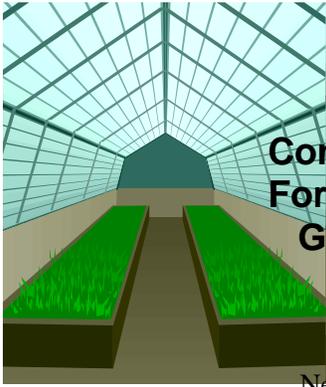
If you have questions concerning the 1099-G refund information, contact your local FSA office for assistance.



## NRCS NEWS

### Almost \$400,000 in Conservation Funds Available For Organic and Transitioning Growers and High Tunnels

Apply by March 19



Nevada agricultural producers who are certified organic or transitioning to organic production may qualify for technical and financial assistance through a special initiative administered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. Approximately \$400,000 in financial assistance will be available to eligible producers in Nevada as part of the agency's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Producers must submit applications by March 19<sup>th</sup> to be considered for funding during fiscal year 2010. The NRCS is also offering the high tunnel pilot project under this Organic Initiative. Agricultural producers can apply for one or more high tunnels, up to 2,178 square feet, to be installed on land that has been cultivated for the past two years. The High Tunnel Pilot Project is being offered in selected states to help NRCS test the conservation benefits of high tunnels for three years. Producers can receive about 75 to 90 percent of the cost of a high tunnel and related conservation practices. Other requirements and restrictions apply. Under the Organic Initiative, producers can receive up to \$20,000 per year or \$80,000 over six years through this initiative. The Organic Initiative targets conservation practices such as cover crops, nutrient and pest management, and prescribed grazing. There are more than a dozen practices that can qualify for funding. The Organic Initiative is a nationwide special initiative to provide financial assistance to certified organic producers as well as producers transitioning to organic production. The initiative is part of our agency's commitment to improving and expanding organic acres nationally. It helps producers transition to organic by removing some of the risk. Applicants must either have an organic system plan or certify that they are working toward one. Organic producers may also apply for assistance under general EQIP. Producers who receive NRCS contracts under the initiative are paid 75 per-

cent of the cost of the organic conservation measures they implement. Beginning, limited resource and socially disadvantaged producers are paid up to 90 percent. Producers interested in the Organic Initiative or the High Tunnel Pilot Project should contact Craig Plummer at the USDA Service Center in Winnemucca or telephone (775) 623-5025 ext. 101 for more information.



### NRCS Snow - Precipitation Update

#### Humboldt and Lander Counties, NV

Data Site Name	Total Precipitation Percent of Average		Snow Depth (in.)	Data Site Elevation (ft.)
	3/9/2010	3/9/2009		
Disaster Peak	91	112	22	6,500
Big Creek Summit	91	95	60	8,685
Buckskin Lower	78	95	34	6,915
Granite Peak	78	78	47	8,543
Lamance Creek	74	78	28	6,000

Humboldt/Lander County FSA Office  
 1200 E. Winnemucca Blvd.  
 Winnemucca, NV 89445



**PRESORTED STANDARD  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 DAVIS, CA  
 PERMIT #22**

<b>Selected Interest Rates for March 2010</b>	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	3.000%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.125%
Farm Ownership - Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (7 yr.)	3.125%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.375%

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
April 13	Tentative COC Meeting
May 20	Final planting date for spring grains
June 1	2010 DCP sign-up deadline
June 15	Final date to submit CCC-927/CCC928 to IRS
June 15	Deadline for filing acreage report on all grain crops
June 15	Final planting date for corn
July 15	Deadline for filing acreage report on all other crops

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."