



USDA Service Center

**Yerington FSA Office**

215 W. Bridge St.,  
Suite 10A  
Yerington, NV 89447  
775-463-2855 ext.100  
775-463-3780(fax)

**Hours**

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**

Denise Hunewill-  
Chairperson  
Patricia Ellis-  
Vice-Chairperson  
David Giorgi-Member  
John Maurer-Member  
Louis Scatena- Member

**Staff**

Betty Hodik, Acting CED

COC meetings are scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, but are subject to change. The next COC meeting will be October 27, 2009 at 10:00AM at the Yerington Service Center.

We are currently short staffed-so please call ahead if you plan on coming into the office to ensure that someone will be here to assist you.



# Yerington FSA Office

## Lyon/Mineral/Esmeralda

### October 2009

**2009 DCP Final Direct Payment**

Enrolled producers can expect their final direct payment to be deposited directly into personal bank accounts sometime during October.

Producers who did not elect to receive an advance direct payment will receive their entire direct payment for the year in one lump sum after the end of the fiscal year (Sept. 30).

The direct payment for a crop equals 85 percent of the farm's base acreage times (x) the farm's direct payment yield times (x) the direct payment rate.

If there are any unearned payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the final Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments you are about to receive

**NAP**

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.**

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 your local FSA office.



**Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)**

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought conditions or fire on federally managed land.

Eligible livestock producers may receive assistance for eligible livestock grazing losses that occur due to drought or fire on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011, during the calendar year in which the loss occurs.

County committees can only accept applications after being notified by the National Office of qualifying drought as signified by a Drought Monitor level of D2 or higher, or if a Federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normally permitted livestock on Federal managed lands due to a qualifying fire.

Lyon, Mineral and Esmeralda counties **did not** qualify for any loss according to the eligibility requirements in 2008 or 2009. If you have farming interests in another county however, you may be eligible in that county.



### **COC ELECTION**

Be watching your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month.

Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters starting on November 6, 2009. If you don't receive a ballot, notify the county FSA office. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 7, 2009.

### **Rural Youth Loan-**

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 \$5,000. See your local FSA office for details

### **Farm Loan Update –Raised Limits on Guaranteed Loans**

The Farm Service Agency 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. 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. FSA also offers Guaranteed Loans in partnership with commercial lenders up to \$1,112,000 (new maximum as of October 1, 2009.) 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 details just contact the county office staff for an appointment with a farm loan officer.

### **Help for Stressed Farmers**

In the past year the economy, inclement weather, drought and other factors have hurt many farming operations around the country. These events pushed some farmers to the emotional breaking point. Watching their livelihood being threatened is difficult for farmers and ranchers and for those who care about them.

The **National Suicide Prevention Hotline** is available to help. If you know a farmer or rancher who is under stress and is reluctant to ask for help, or if you just need to talk to someone, call **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**.

Your call will be routed to the nearest crisis center, where trained staffers are available 24/7. This nationwide service is free and confidential. Help is just a phone call away. For more information visit:

<http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

*This service is not affiliated with the US Department of Agriculture.*

### **USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT Urges Farmers and Business Owners to Apply for Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG)**

Sarah Adler, State Director, USDA Rural Development, reminds agricultural producers of the opportunity to apply for a grant to assist in the development or promotion of their products to wider markets. Known as the Value Added Producer Grants (VAPG) program, its purpose is to help producers add profit to their operations by adding value to their products. The deadline for the grant application is November 30, 2009. Value-Added Producer Grants are designed to assist producers with planning activities, such as feasibility studies, to determine ways to increase the processing of their products and/or broaden the markets to which their products are sold. Alternatively, the grant application can be for working capital to pursue value-added plans that have already been determined to be feasible. Eligible applicants include independent producers, agriculture producer groups, farmer or rancher cooperatives, or majority-controlled producer-based business ventures. Applicants must provide matching funds equal to the amount of the grant requested.

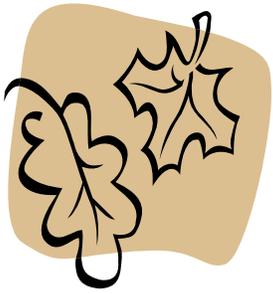
For more information on how to apply, producers should visit [www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm), or call Herb Shedd at USDA Rural Development, (775) 887-1222, Ext. 19.

### **Acreage Spot Check**

Each year FSA completes spot checks of acreage reports. Acreage reports are an integral part of farm program participation. Acreage spot checks are completed to ensure accurate acreage reports in farm program computations.

FSA will conduct spot checks on a selected number of farms in each state. All acreage determinations use the FSA Geographic Information System official acreages.

After farms are spot checked, a Notice of Determined Acreage will be sent to the farm operator. Questions concerning determined acres should be directed to your local FSA office for further explanation.



**PRODUCERS IN  
LAA 2 AND LAA3  
DO NOT FORGET TO  
VOTE FOR YOUR  
FAVORITE COC  
CANDIDATE.**



### **Local Farms Offer Winter Produce**

Consumer demand for local food continues to rise, and Nevada farmers are finding innovative ways to supply fresh produce year-round, after farmers markets have ended.

Local farmers will be selling during the winter with on-farm sales, buying programs and through retail outlets. Customers can buy produce such as potatoes, onions, garlic, winter squash and apples that can be stored safely for weeks or months in a cool garage or basement. Some summer crops such as tomatoes and peppers are still available to freeze or can for the winter.

Farmers now are using hoopouses that protect crops from the weather and allow them to grow greens and cool-weather crops all winter long. Beets, carrots, spinach and greens will be available for most of the winter.

Ray and Virginia Johnson, owners of Custom Gardens Organic Farm in Silver Springs, announced they will have on-farm sales throughout the winter. The certified organic farm has a variety of crops for sale, summer and winter varieties.

The Johnsons are known for growing crops not typically grown in Northern Nevada. Their sweet potatoes are a customer favorite, and they'll offer fresh ginger for the first time this winter. They have four hoopouses planted with winter produce.

"We encourage our customers to call and find out what's available," Ray Johnson said. "Winter weather makes harvest dates unpredictable compared to summer. We know it's growing, sometimes just faster or slower than we planned."

Community Supported Agriculture(CSA) is another option. Customers prepay the farmer for a season and receive a weekly box of locally-grown produce for a certain number of weeks.

The Great Basin Basket CSA offers a winter program with fresh produce through mid-December. Five Northern Nevada farmers grow for the CSA, ensuring a variety of produce.

Reno's only community-owned grocery store, the Great Basin Community Food Co-op, 542 1/2 Plumas St, is the most abundant retail source of local food during the winter. The Co-op offers local produce, bulk food, health and beauty items, and special orders.

More information on these and other sources of local food can be found at:

- Custom Gardens Organic Farm, (775) 577-2069, <http://customgardens.home.mindspring.com/>
- Great Basin Basket CSA, (775)843-6402, [www.greatbasinbasket.com](http://www.greatbasinbasket.com)
- Great Basin Community Food Co-op, (775) 324-6133, [www.greatbasinfood.coop](http://www.greatbasinfood.coop)
- NevadaGrown, (775) 351-2551, [www.nevadagrown.com](http://www.nevadagrown.com)
- Local Harvest, [www.localharvest.org](http://www.localharvest.org)

Ann Louhela  
PO Box 2108, Sparks, NV 89432  
(775)351-2551 (phone & fax)  
[www.NevadaGrown.com](http://www.NevadaGrown.com)



### **Electronic Services Available**

Producers with Internet access can access many services from home 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours.

To participate in these services, you must meet all program eligibility requirements. Online services have stringent security measures to protect your private information.

To utilize electronic service, a producer needs an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account and an e-mail address. You can visit [www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/](http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/) to complete the online registration form. Note that you must also visit your FSA county office for identity verification.



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

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
10/12/2009	Office Closed – Federal Holiday
<b>10/31/2009</b>	<b>Nap Application for Coverage Deadline</b> —All other Hay Crops (HY)
11/06/2009	COC Ballots mailed to eligible voters
11/11/2009	Office Closed – Federal Holiday
<b>12/01/2009</b>	<b>NAP Application for Coverage Deadline</b> for Perennial (grass) Grazing crops
12/07/2009	Last day to return voted ballots to USDA Service Center
<b>Selected Interest Rates for October 2009</b>	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	3.125%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans — Down Payment	1.500%
Emergency Loans	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loans	3.000%



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