



May/June 2010 Yerington FSA News

Lyon, Mineral,
& Esmeralda
Counties

USDA

Yerington FSA Office

215 W. Bridge St, 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

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

The next COC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 25 at 10:00 am in the Yerington Service Center, however is subject to cancellation or rescheduling if needed.

Staff

Betty Hodik, CED
Julie Thompson, PT

Please call ahead if you plan on coming into the office, as we are presently short staffed.



Acreeage Reporting Deadline is Fast Approaching!

The acreage reporting deadline is fast approaching. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Acreeage reports are required for many FSA programs. If you have **grain crops you must complete a 2010 acreage report by June 15, 2010**. All other crops, **including grazing land**, must be reported **by July 15, 2010**.

If the producer has BLM and/or FS permits/leases, you are required to provide a copy of all the current permits when you complete the acreage report.

Census Counts Rural America

The USDA Farm Service Agency and the U.S. Census Bureau encourage all farmers and ranchers to complete the 2010 census. Census forms mailed in March to all residents in the U.S. and Puerto Rico contain only 10 questions. The census takes only 10 minutes to complete and mail back, postage-paid.

Counting everyone is critical to the security of rural communities. It ensures that more than \$400 billion in yearly federal funding is allocated to communities for schools, broadband initiatives, hospitals, emergency services and public works. The census also determines the state's number of seats in the House of Representatives and will affect a state's gain or loss in house seats.

Completing the census is not only the law, but a tool to improve your voice on rural issues. Make sure you are counted.

2010 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will continue through **June 1, 2010**. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

USDA 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, eligible producers may request advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

For more information on this or other programs, simply contact the nearest FSA office.

NAP Loss Filing

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. **The timely filing of a Notice of Loss is required for ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES.** For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, **you must file a CCC-576 (Notice of Loss) in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.**

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

| 2009 NAP GRAZING LOSSES | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------|
| COUNTY | IRRIGATED | NON-IRR. |
| Lyon | 35% | 35% |
| Esmeralda | 10% | 10% |
| Mineral | 40% | 40% |

Farm Reconstitutions

In program terminology, farms are *constituted* to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator 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.

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.

If payments have already been issued on a particular farm, the reconstitution will be effective for the next year, unless the payments are refunded. **Request for recons should be filed by June 1.**

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 current commercial 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 can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early.

FSA employees can help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required and where to find it. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Measurement Service

Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. Producers must file a request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit for GPS referencing of the farm. Measurement service is available using digital imagery. If data already exists in a certified database and an on-site visit is not required, there is no charge.

Incorrect acreage self-certification can result in reduced program payments, penalty, or loss of eligibility.

Producers can request ortho-imagery and CLU (common land unit) coordinates for their land (commonly referred to as a clip) at no charge. This service provides you with both acreages and field boundaries.



SURE

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that incurred in the crop years 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, producers are required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, for crops for which insurance is not available, producers must participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. However, crop insurance or NAP coverage is no longer required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage.

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
- producers in counties declared disaster counties by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties, or those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are eligible to receive SURE payments for crop producer or crop quality losses. Note also that 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: 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 background are also available online.

2010 FSA County Committee Election

The election of Ag producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, with large or small operations. County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA in that they help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties as well as help serve the needs of local producers.

Nominations:

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. This form is available at USDA Service Centers and online at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA>

under News and Events/County Committee Elections.

Nomination forms must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on August 2, 2010

Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer's farm records.

Election Period:

June 15, 2010 - Nomination period begins

Aug. 2, 2010 - Last day to file nomination forms FSA-669A at local USDA Service Center

Nov. 5, 2010 - Ballots mailed to eligible voters

Dec. 6, 2010 - Last day to return voted ballots to USDA Service Center

Jan. 1, 2011 - Newly elected county committee members take office.

Yerington FSA Office
 215 W. Bridge St., Ste 10A
 Yerington, NV 89447



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For information regarding USDA programs, go to the following website:

<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portallusdalusdahome?contendidonly=true&contendid=iwantto.xml>



| Dates to Remember | |
|---|--|
| June 1st | DCP Sign-up Deadline |
| Oct. 25th | Deadline to Apply for EM Loans; for physical and production loss |
| Crop Reporting Deadlines | |
| June 15th | Small Grains |
| July 15th | All crops except small grains |
| Selected Interest Rates for May 2010 | |
| 90-Day Treasury Bill | 0.125% |
| Farm Operating - Direct | 2.875% |
| Farm Ownership - Direct | 5.000% |
| Limited Resource | 5.000% |
| Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher | 1.500% |
| Emergency –Amount of Actual Loss | 3.750% |
| Farm Storage Facility- 7 Year Term | 3.125% |

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, audiotope, 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."