



March 2011

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 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Louis Scatena, Chairperson
Matt Johnson, Vice-Chair
David Giorgi, Member
Denise Hunewill, Member
Randy Emm, Member

Minden FSA Office

1702 County Rd, St
Suite A1
Minden, NV 89423
775-782-3661 ext. 100
775-782-3547 (fax)

Hours

Monday & Wednesday
8:30am-3:30pm
Or by appointment

County Committee

Dwain Chichester,
Chairperson
Todd Gansberg, Vice-Chair
Ted Borda, Member
Alonna Giacomini, Member
Linda White, Member

Staff:

Betty Hodik, CED
Jan Hrones, LPT
Staci Merkt, PT
Julie Thompson, PT

Farm Loan

Carolyn Persinger
Farm Loan Chief
(775) 784-5411 ext. 110
Dan Ferraro FLOT
(775)423-5124 ext. 106
Carly Brown, FLOT
(775)423-5124 ext. 107

DCP Signup by June 1

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will continue through **June 1, 2011**. FSA staff urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2011 DCP contract.

DCP Program payments are calculated 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 2011, eligible producers may request partial direct payments as an advance on the total amount.

Livestock Programs Available

FSA administers several programs that may be available to assist livestock producers dealing with problems caused by winter weather. To apply for assistance, producers need to document the number and kind of livestock that have died as a direct result of these winter storms. In situations where additional transport costs are being incurred to feed livestock, producers should document these additional costs.

Among the key programs are the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP). For livestock death losses to be eligible under LIP, producers must file a notice of loss with their local FSA office **within 30 calendar days from when the loss is apparent** to the producer. Contact your nearest FSA office for additional information.

NAP Enrollment

To maintain eligibility for several FSA disaster assistance programs, producers must obtain crop insurance or NAP coverage before a disaster strikes. Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) applications for coverage must be filed using Form CCC-471 and applicable service fees must be paid by the closing date. Application closing dates vary by crop. Churchill, Washoe, Storey & Northwest Nye County producers can contact the FSA Office for specific crop application sales closing dates at: 775-423-5124.

Producers must obtain NAP or crop insurance coverage on all crops in order to remain eligible for the agency's Disaster Assistance Programs such as SURE, TAP, and ELAP. Producers must purchase at least catastrophic (CAT) level of insurance for all insurable crops. LFP requires coverage only on grazed acres.

NAP provides coverage to producers for non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters. Crops eligible for NAP coverage are those for which crop insurance is not available, including fruits and vegetables, aquaculture, pecans, turf grass and forage crops just to name a few.

More information about NAP may be found on the FSA web site located at www.fsa.usda.gov.

NAP Closing Dates

March 15th
September 30th
October 31st
December 1st

Crop

Corn
Small grain crops – barely, millet, oats, rye, teff, triticale, wheat (all uses)
Forage Hay Crops – i.e. grass
Grazing crops

Monthly COC Meetings

Yerington: 3rd Thurs @ 10AM

Minden: 3rd Tues @ 1PM

NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS OR RANCHERS

COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: www.farmerclaims.gov

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Acreage Reports

Producers who participate in DCP, ACRE, NAP, SURE, LFP, Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP), or request a commodity loan or loan deficiency payment (LDP) will be required to report all crops planted or those growing on the participating farms annually. Any crop acreage for which NAP benefits will be requested must be reported to establish eligibility of the crop and producer. Producers who request *prevented planting* acreage credit must report the acreage *within 15 calendar days after the final planting date*. If a producer wants to request failed acreage credit, the acreage must be reported as failed acreage before the disposition of the crop. The COC will determine eligibility for failed acreage credit. The owner, operator, person authorized by power-of-attorney or tenant may report crop acreage for which they have a share. These acreage reports are required for program participation in 2011 and subsequent years.

Note: If the crop has NAP coverage, it must be reported 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acreage being reported.

Farm Bill Funds Available for Conservation Practices on Public Lands

For many years, Nevada's farmers and ranchers have received funding under the Farm Bill for conservation activities on their private land. Now with the passage of the newest Farm Bill, public land permittees are able to receive funding for conservation measures installed on public lands.

"Funding contracts on public lands is a relatively new opportunity for farmers and ranchers in Nevada," said Gary Roeder, assistant state conservationist for programs with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. "We work with the permittee and land managing agency, such as the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service, to identify projects and areas where natural resource and public benefits can be enhanced with the use of

Farm Bill funds on public lands", said Roeder.

"We funded several public land contracts last year under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program of the 2008 Farm Bill," said Roeder. These contracts included a wide range of practices such as fencing, pinyon – juniper reduction, brush management, and site specific improvements for sage-grouse habitat restoration.

To qualify, applicants must be the permittee on the public land where the work is being done, and meet eligibility requirements of the 2008 Farm Bill for the program. The same payment rates apply for both the public and private land. Historically underserved, beginning and limited resource producers receive a higher percentage payment. Payments are determined by the estimated cost of the project practices. All environmental clearances must be completed on public land according to the agency's policies before practices can be contracted and installed. Program participants pay for the installation of the approved practices and are reimbursed once the practices are installed according to NRCS specifications.

Applications for participation in EQIP are taken on a continual basis at local USDA Service Centers. Projects are ranked and selected for funding based on the project benefits as related to other applicants. For more information, contact your local NRCS office or visit the Nevada NRCS Web site at <http://www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov>.

Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) Enrollment

Applications for GRP in FY 2011 must be submitted by **March 18, 2011**. Rental contracts can be for periods of 10, 15, or 20 years. Permanent easements are also available for producers interested in a long term conservation arrangement.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Producers interested in getting information on NRCS programs in Inyo and Southern Mono Counties may contact Robert Pearce, NRCS in Bishop @ (760)872-6111 and in Southern Washoe, Storey, Carson City, Douglas, Alpine and Northern Mono Counties may contact Jim Gifford, NRCS in Minden @ (775)782-3661 ext.3

Hay Net – Your No-Cost Online Buying and Selling Market

Hay Net is a free, online hay locator service on the FSA website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet>. Producers who want to buy or sell hay can post their ads at no charge to make connections. Hay Net is a popular site for farmers and ranchers who have an emergency need, such as the one caused by the current extreme winter conditions. Individual ads can be posted by producers after completing a simple online registration form.

Farm Storage Facility Structure Loans

Loans are available with FSA to construct grain storage bins, hay storage structures, and structures to store fruits and vegetables. Additionally, permanent handling equipment for the facility is also eligible for loan such as refrigeration, monitors, augers, etc. To be eligible for the loan you must be a producer of the commodity to be stored. Loan terms range from 7, 10, or 12 years depending on loan amounts. Maximum loan amount is \$500,000 per loan. Loan applications must be approved before construction begins. Interest rates depend on the loan term. Loans over \$50,000 must be secured by real estate equal to 100% of the loan amount.

FSA Payment Record

During the last week of January, producers who have received payments from FSA should have also received a CCC-1099-G from the Kansas City office. 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 a service to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participant's responsibility to report income to the IRS.

If you received a CCC-1099-G, we recommend you check the amounts shown with those in 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 eAuthentication user ID's and passwords can 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 a question concerning the 1099-G refund information, you may contact your nearest FSA office for assistance in locating the correct payment data. If you choose to visit the office, bring your CCC-1099-G with you.

Actively Engaged

USDA has amended the requirements of being '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).

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 when 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 by the legal entity and each of the members can't exceed \$40,000.

Adjusted Gross Income

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have 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.

This to ensure 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 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 FSA and NRCS offices or online at:

<http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainse/vet>.



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 215 W. Bridge St. Suite 10A
 Yerington, NV 89447
Minden FSA Office
 1702 County Rd. Suite A1
 Minden, NV 89423



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ATTENTION PRODUCERS - IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The following information is for those producers in our counties that received a Livestock Forage Compensation Program (LFP) payment:

The Yerington and Minden County offices processed payments for the 2008 and 2009 LFP program through a manual process. There is now software in place that the county offices used to migrate the manual applications and payments into an automated system. This migration has triggered a statement that producers will receive regarding payments they received for the above referenced years. This is an internal process and no action is required by producers. We apologize for any confusion.

Selected Interest Rates for March 2011	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	2.500%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.875%
Conservation Loan	4.875%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility – 7 Year	2.875%
Farm Storage Facility – 10 Year	3.500%
Farm Storage Facility – 12 Year	3.875%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.250%

Dates to Remember	
March 15	NAP Signup Deadline – Corn
March 18	Grassland Reserve Enrollment Ends
March 31	Honey Loans Close
June 1	2011 DCP Enrollment Ends
June 15	Acreage Report Deadline for small grains
July 15	Acreage Report Deadline for all other crops included Native Grass for grazing
July 29	Deadline to sign-up for 2009 SURE



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