



Ely FSA Office News

December 2009

**Ely USDA – FSA
Service Center
Ely FSA Office**

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Hours
Monday – Friday
7:30 am – 4:30 pm

County Committee

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Lee Mathews Vice-Chair
Gordon Eldridge Member
Annette Harris Member
Kelly Miller Member

Staff

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Livestock Forage Program

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffer grazing losses for eligible livestock due to drought conditions. The U.S. Drought Monitor qualifies the level of drought severity for this program, with payments increasing as drought severity levels increase. Fire on federally managed land can also qualify for those whose grazing has been affected.

Eligible livestock producers may receive assistance for eligible livestock grazing losses that occur on or after **January 1, 2008**, and before **October 1, 2011**, during the calendar year in which the loss occurs. FSA began accepting 2008 calendar year applications on September 14, 2009. These applications must be filed by **December 10, 2009**. Late filed applications for LFP cannot be approved.

For 2009 and subsequent years, sign-up applications must be filed no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the grazing losses occurred.

LDP Deadline on Unshorn Lamb Pelts

Eligible producers have until Jan. 29, 2010, to apply for Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) for unshorn pelts produced during the 2009 crop year. Eligible producers must have beneficial interest in the pelts, owned the lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter and sell the unshorn lamb for immediate slaughter. Producers must also comply with wetland conservation and highly erodible land conservation provisions on all lands they operate or have interest in.

To qualify for payment, pelts must have been produced by an eligible producer from live un-

shorn lambs of domestic origin in the United States.

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 to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 1, 2009. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

Biomass Crop Assistance

FSA is still accepting applications for certification from biomass facilities interested in participating in the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP). BCAP provides financial assistance for producers or collectors who own and deliver eligible biomass material to certified biomass conversion facilities for use as heat, power, bio-based products or bio-fuels.

Producers or collectors who deliver and sell these materials to qualified biomass conversion facilities can apply for matching payments under the collection, harvest, storage and transportation (CHST) component of BCAP. Matching payment can not exceed \$45 per dry ton. Bio-

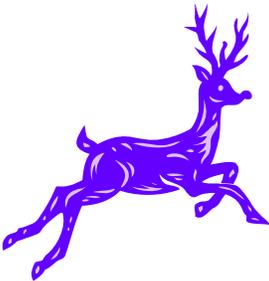


mass material collectors are eligible to receive payments for two years.

Eligible material owners or producers, who market eligible material to a qualified biomass conversion facility should contact their FSA county office regarding application. Note that some areas may announce sign-up periods.

An application must be submitted before the eligible material is sold and delivered to a qualified biomass conversion facility. Once an agreement is signed between FSA and a conversion facility, the facilities can begin accepting materials. After the product is delivered, a producer 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.

Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs



The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create five new disaster programs, collectively referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. These programs include:

- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)**
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)**
- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program**
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.



In the 2008 Farm Bill; in general, the term "farm" means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer. In the case of aquaculture, the term "farm" means all fish being produced in all counties that are intended to be harvested for sale by the eligible producer. In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers, who meet the definition of a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher, do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement.

Spousal Signatures

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

There are exceptions to the rule, where spouses may not sign on behalf of each other for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities. Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents. For more clarification on spousal signature authority, feel free to contact your local FSA office.

Selected Interest Rates for December 2009	
Farm Operating - Direct	2.875%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.625%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Down Pmt	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility - 7 year	3.00%
Commodity Loans	1.375%
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%

Nevada Private – Public Cooperative Grazing Lands Initiative

Farmers and ranchers holding leases and allotments on public lands can apply for EQIP on public lands. NRCS will dedicate funds to this effort in FY 2010.

All criteria have not been finalized. Some of the criteria an applicant must meet in order to be considered include:

- Land is under private control for the contract period and included in participant's operating unit
- Installation of conservation practices



- will contribute to improvement in identified natural resource concern(s); and
- Participant has written authorization and permits from the public land manager, i.e. BLM or Forest Service, to install the conservation practice when applying for EQIP

Funding qualifications for proposed conservation treatments must address a resource concern such as:

- Air Quality
- Domestic Livestock Health
- Fish and Wildlife
- Soil Erosion/Quality
- Plant Health (Plant Condition)
- Water Quality/Quantity
- Energy

Some practices that can be funded include but are not limited to: Brush management, critical area planting, fence, fire and fuel breaks, grade stabilization structure, heavy use area protection, irrigation practices, irrigation storage reservoir, obstruction removal, pest management, pipeline, prescribed burning and grazing, pumping plant for water control, range planting, restoration and management of declining habitats, riparian forest buffer, spring development, stream channel stabilization/habitat improvement and management, stream bank and shoreline protection, structure for water control, use exclusion, water well, watering facility, water spreading, wetland wildlife habitat management, wildlife watering facility.

For more information about EQIP, please call your local NRCS field office, or go online to <http://www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov>.

IRS Form 1099-G - New Procedures

Producers annually receive CCC-1099Gs detailing payments producers have received from FSA. This year, the 2009 Advance payments producers received from the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) Program were processed as overpayments and offset from the 2009 Final payments. The 2009 Advance payments will not be reflected on the CCC-1099G's producers receive. The CCC-1099G's will reflect only the 2009 DCP direct entitlement.

Producers who have repaid a market gain on a Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) loan

with cash or commodity certificates in exchange for outstanding loan collateral will have their market gains reported to the IRS on Form 1099-G.

FSA is required to report to the IRS all market gains associated with the repayment of a CCC loan.

A market gain is the difference between the repayment rate, determined by the CCC, and the original loan rate. If the repayment rate drops below the original loan rate then the difference is considered a market gain. Producers will receive, by mail, the amount reported by FSA to the IRS on Form 1099-G.



*Wishing you a Merry Christmas
and a Prosperous New Year*
Clayre & Vi



Dates to Remember	
Dec. 1	Deadline to purchase 2010 NAP coverage for grazing
Dec. 7	Deadline to Return of COC Ballot
Dec. 9	COC Ballots Counted
Dec. 10	Last day to signup for 2008 Live-stock Forage Program (LFP)
Dec. 25	Office Closed - Christmas
Jan. 1	Office Closed – New Year's Day

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www.fsa.usda.gov/nv

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