



Ely FSA Office News



October 2010

**Ely USDA – FSA Service Center
Ely FSA Office**
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Hours
Monday – Friday
7:30 am – 4:30 pm

County Committee

Max Reid, Jr. Chairman
Lee Mathews Vice-Chair
Kelly Miller Member
Annette Harris Member
Hank Vogler Member

Staff

Clayre Moiola, CED Ext 100
Elko 738-6445 Ext 108
Vi Braden, PT Ext 101
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NRCS Office

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Staff

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Paper Check Conversion – Over the Counter (PCC –OTC)

FSA/CCC will begin moving toward an electronic method for processing producers' checks in the coming months. This will allow FSA/CCC to process collections faster. When producers present checks, either in person or through the mail, the checks will be converted into an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). The funds will be debited from the producer's account, usually within 24 hours of receipt. Please see the U.S. Department of Treasury legal notices posted in the Service Center or visit the following U.S. Department of Treasury Internet site for detailed information: <https://www.pccotc.gov/pccotc/pcc/usingpcc/Legal%20Notices/legalnotices.htm>

What is PCC - OTC?

PCC – OTC is a process for converting paper checks presented to FSA into electronic debits to the producer's bank account. It presents many benefits, such as reducing lost/misplaced checks and paper handling. This improves customer relations, speeds the check clearing process, and reduces the potential for human error.

How will my checks be handled?

If the check is presented in person, the check will be scanned into the system, voided, and stamped with the words, "Electronically Processed" or "Electronically Presented" and the voided check will be returned to the customer. If the check is mailed to FSA, the check will be scanned into the system and voided. The customer will not receive the check back from FSA. FSA will hold checks for up to 14 calendar days to ensure that the item was successfully processed, and then FSA will shred the check.

How quickly will funds be transferred from my account?

The transfer of funds from your account could

occur within 24 hours. Therefore, you should be sure that you have sufficient funds in your account to process the transaction. If you do **not** have sufficient funds, we may initiate the transaction again.

How will this transaction appear on my account statement?

The transfer of funds will be reflected on your account statement. The transaction may be recorded in a different place on your statement than where your checks normally appear, such as under "other withdrawals" or "other transactions".

What are my rights if there is a problem with the transaction?

You have protections under Federal law for an unauthorized electronic fund transfer from your account. You should contact your financial institution immediately if you believe that the transaction reported on your account statement was not properly authorized or is otherwise incorrect.

2010 DCP Final Payments

Final DCP payments for 2010 participants will be issued sometime after October 1, 2010. Producers who received an advance payment will be paid the balance they are due. Those who did not take an advance will be receiving their full payment amount. These payments will be deposited directly into personal bank accounts.

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.

County Committee Elections

Starting early next month, watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election bal-



lot. Mailing of ballots to all eligible voters starts on November 5, 2010. If, for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, contact the county FSA office to get one.

Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 6, 2010.

Disaster Program: Livestock Forage (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.

As authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill, the LFP provides recovery assistance to livestock producers suffering grazing losses that occur due to drought or fire up to October 1, 2011.



The LFP program is activated in drought areas when the National Drought Monitor records a drought of D2 or more severe for the area. Assistance levels increase with the severity of drought designation.

For 2010 and subsequent years, applications must be filed no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the grazing losses occurred.

Additional Information about LFP including eligible livestock and fire criteria is available at county FSA offices or on line at www.fsa.usda.gov.

NOTE: For LFP, the deadlines have passed for 2008 and 2009 loss filing.

Lincoln, Nye nor White Pine County met the required D2 drought during the 2010 grazing year.

Selected Interest Rates for October 2010	
Farm Operating - Direct	2.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.375%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Down Pmt	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility - 7 year	2.250%
Conservation Loan (New)	5.000%
Commodity Loans	1.250%
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%



NAP Coverage for 2011

October 31, 2010 – last day to purchase NAP coverage for **forage crops**.

December 1, 2010 – last day to purchase NAP coverage for **grazing crops**

Acresage Spot Check Determinations and Notification

Each year the Farm Service Agency completes spot checks of acresage reports. Acresage reports are an integral part of farm program participation. Acresage spot checks are completed to ensure accurate acresage reports are used in farm program computations.

FSA will conduct spot checks on a selected number of farms in each state. All acresage determinations will be completed using the FSA Geographic Information System official acresages.

After farms are spot checked, a Notice of Determined Acresage will be sent to the farm operator. Producer notifications will be issued by FSA as spot checks are completed. Questions concerning determined acres should be directed to your local FSA office for further explanation.

FSA Conservation Loan Program

The Farm Service Agency makes and guarantees conservation loans on farms and ranches to help conserve our natural resources. The Conservation Loan (CL) Program provides farmers with the credit necessary to implement conservation measures on their land.

The direct CL limit is \$300,000 and the guaranteed CL limit is \$1,119,000. Guaranteed loans are available through lenders working with FSA.

Applicants will work with Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) staff to develop a conservation plan. Conservation practices must be approved by NRCS before FSA can provide financing. Examples of conservation practices include installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; transitioning to organic production; manure management, including manure di-

gestion systems; and more.



Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

Provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather; including losses because of hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat, and extreme cold. The livestock death losses must have also occurred in the calendar year for which the benefits are being requested.

Producers who suffer livestock death losses must submit a notice of loss (30 days after death is apparent) and an application for payment (Jan.30, 2011-Final Date) to the local FSA service center that maintains the farm records for their business.

For more information visit your FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

REMEMBER: Apply by Oct. 29 for First Round Consideration of Funding for 2011 Conservation Programs

Nevada agricultural producers who apply by **Oct. 29** will be considered in the first round for funding for conservation programs. Applications are being accepted for Nevada's three most popular conservation programs: Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Agricultural Management Assistance and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary, technical and financial assistance program designed to help farmers improve irrigation efficiency; manage nutrient run-off and/or animal waste; improve the health of native plant communities; and reduce soil loss. In most instances, producers who participate in the program pay for roughly half of the costs of the conservation measures or practices.

Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) provides cost share assistance to producers to voluntarily address issues such as water management, water quality, and erosion control by incorporating conservation into their farming operations. Producers may construct

or improve water management structures or irrigation structures; plant trees for windbreaks or to improve water quality; and mitigate risk through production diversification or resource conservation practices, including soil erosion control, integrated pest management, or transition to organic farming.

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for conservation-minded landowners who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat on agricultural land, nonindustrial private forest land, and Indian land.

Eligible producers may receive a payment based on the statewide average cost of the installation of the conservation practice. Socially disadvantaged, limited resource, and beginning farmers and ranchers are eligible for a higher payment based on the statewide average cost of the installation of the conservation practice. In addition, socially disadvantaged, limited resource, and beginning farmers and ranchers can receive up to 30 percent advanced payment for purchasing materials or contracting.

Interested producers should visit their nearest USDA Service Center to determine eligibility. Individuals are not eligible until they have completed the Farm Bill eligibility requirements. Applicants who want to be considered for a fiscal year 2011 contract under these three programs will need to have a signed application on file by Oct. 29.

The Oct. 29 sign-up deadline is for Nevada's general EQIP funding. According to the NRCS, there may be additional ranking deadlines later in the year for some of the EQIP special initiatives such as sage-grouse, organic and possibly others.

Interested agricultural producers are encouraged to contact their local USDA service center office for assistance and complete details, or check the agency's web site at www.nrcs.usda.gov.





Dates to Remember	
Oct 11	Columbus Day - Office Closed
Oct 31	Last day to buy 2011 NAP forage coverage
Nov 11	Veterans Day – Office Closed
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Day – Office Closed
Dec 1	Last day to buy 2011 NAP grazing coverage
Dec 6	COC Election Ballots due
Dec 8	COC Election Ballots counted
Dec 24	Christmas Holiday – Office Closed
Dec 31	New Year’s Holiday – Office Closed

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