

Colfax County News

September 2008



Reporting Production

Please bring in your acceptable records of production as soon as you have finished harvesting your crops. Producers are responsible for reporting production on all NAP crops. If you do not report your production, your yields will be lowered and this will reflect on any applicable NAP payments. Continuity of records is required when calculating an approved yield. The records must be consecutive, without breaks. Records submitted must be reliable and verifiable. **Production records (contemporaneous diaries, calendars) should include practice (irrigated or non irrigated), crop irrigation dates, cutting dates, baling dates and number of bales and weight, and show crop disposition (sold or fed to own livestock).**

Reporting for NAP

Producers must file a notice of loss if you have losses on your grasslands. If there is a more than 50% loss of your grasslands, as determined by two independent assessments, and you have NAP coverage, you may be eligible for a payment. Losses must be reported within 15 days of the loss and no later than November 1 for native forage. **IT IS THE PRODUCERS RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT LOSSES . YOU WILL NOT BE PAID BASED ON THE COUNTY LOSS. YOU MUST FILE A NOTICE OF LOSS IF YOU HAVE A LOSS.** Please be advised that the NAP fees for 2009 have increased. Effective May 22, 2008 NAP coverage has increased from \$100 to \$250 per crop, from \$300 to \$750 per county and from \$900 to 1875 per producer for all counties.

County Committee Elections

November 3, 2008 ballots will be mailed to eligible producers to vote. December 1, 2008 is the last day to return your ballots. Elected committee members and alternates will take office on January 1, 2009. Mary Lou Kern is the sole candidate for LAA2. Please cast your votes as soon as possible. Your committee members apply their judgment, experience and knowledge in making local decisions regarding producer appeals, commodity price support loans, payments, conservation programs, employing of county executive directors, incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for commodities and other farm disaster assistance. A strong response to the entire committee election process gives landowners, farmers, and ranchers a better chance of having opinions and ideas expressed in the community throughout the nation.

Socially Disadvantaged or Limited Resource Producer

A socially disadvantaged group is a group whose members have been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is a farmer or rancher who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. These groups consist of American Indians, Alaskan natives, Asians, Blacks or African Americans, Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders or Hispanics. Gender is not a covered group under the 1990 farm bill definition. A limited resource farmer or rancher is a producer with a direct or indirect farm sale of not more than \$100,000 in both of the previous 2 years, and have a household income at or below the national poverty level in each of the previous 2 years.

Monthly County Committee Meetings

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month in the FSA Office. The office is located in the Federal Building on the second floor room 203. The meetings begin at 1:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to attend. Meetings are 1-2 hours long.

Office Holidays

This office will be closed on October 13, 2008 in observance of Columbus Day. The office will reopen on October 14, 2008. Have a safe holiday.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA, Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice or TDD).

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