



March 2009

# KLICKITAT COUNTY



Farm Service Agency

## 2009 DIRECT AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROGRAM SIGNUP

We are taking appointments for the 2009 DCP program. Eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. 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. Deadline to sign up for DCP is June 1, 2009. FSA will not accept any late filed applications. For those of you, who have received a DCP contract in the mail, please review the contract to insure the information is correct, then sign, date and return it as soon as possible.

## CRP MAINTENANCE

The primary nesting season for Washington is April 1 through August 1. During this time period, prior approval by the County Committee is required to treat weeds by mowing, burning, or spraying on contracts that have been established. Treatment must be limited to areas that have weed problems or need enhancement. Outside the nesting period, you are allowed to perform treatment without prior approval from FSA. Weed control is required on CRP land. While prior approval may be required during certain times, FSA will grant it for any legitimate weed problems. Also, activities such as harrowing or chopping of dried up mustards and Russian thistle after the nesting period has ended can be a valuable tool to keep these weeds from getting on your neighbor's property. These activities help maintain grass vigor and ensure that you have a viable cover for the entire contract period. Failure of your stand due to lack of weed control may lead to payment reductions or contract termination. CRP contracts may be revised to include certain maintenance practices in mid-contract to maintain stand vigor and diversity. Fifty percent cost-sharing is available if these activities are approved by FSA before work begins. Examples of practices include: mowing, herbicide application, inter-seeding or fertilization.

## KLICKITAT COUNTY RECEIVES DISASTER DECLARATION

Farmers and ranchers who suffered crop damages due to freezing temperatures or drought in 2008 may be eligible for low-interest, federal loans to help recoup losses. A recently announced Secretary of Agriculture disaster designation triggered the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency Emergency Loan Program. Agricultural producers who suffered losses may qualify for Farm Service Agency emergency loans with 3.75% interest and payment terms up to 40 years with real estate security. FSA is accepting loan applications in county offices until October 13, 2009. Because the federal government does not intend to compete with private business, applicants must be unable to obtain credit elsewhere to finance their needs at reasonable rates and terms. Applicants must be United States citizens or non-citizens that have been legally admitted for permanent residence, must be established farmers and must have suffered an agricultural loss due to the disaster named in the designation. An applicant's farm must be family-sized. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

## ACREAGE REPORTING TIME

If you have completed planting for 2009, please call to make an appointment to report your crops. Producers are required to file an acreage report if they participate in CRP, NAP, and DCP or prior to requesting Loan Deficiency payments (LDPs) and Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL). The deadline to report is June 30, 2009. Failure to report crops prior to June 30 will result in late filing fee.

### Klickitat County FSA

1107 S Columbus Avenue  
Goldendale, WA 98620-9296  
(509) 773-5822  
Fax (509) 773-6046

### Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

### County Committee

Kelly Kreps, Chair  
Karl Enyeart, Vice-Chair  
Susan Powers, Member

### Office Staff

Virginia Klein, CED  
Betty Fahlenkamp, PT  
Norene Bartkowski, PT

### Farm Loan Staff

Lisa Ruff, FLM  
Crispin Garza, SCL  
Scott Smith, FLO  
Sandy Christensen, FLT

1606 Perry Street, Suite A  
Yakima, WA 98902-5769  
(509)454-5746

### Next COC Meeting

March 25, 2009  
9:00 AM

### Dates to Remember

- March 17-NAP Deadline
- June 1- DCP Deadline
- June 30-Acreage Report Deadline

### FSA Web Sites

State- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>  
National- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>  
USDA- <http://www.usda.gov>



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### **FARM FINANCING AVAILABLE FROM THE FARM SERVICE AGENCY**

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The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides direct and guaranteed loan assistance to farmers and ranchers at all stages in their operation. It doesn't matter if you are just starting out or an established business looking to grow, change direction, or just get back on your feet. FSA provides financial assistance that helps sustain and grow American agriculture.

FSA has loans available to assist with purchase and development of farm ground, purchase of livestock and equipment, and to provide financing for annual crop/livestock production costs. FSA also has a rural youth loan program for kids between 10-21 who are involved with an organization like 4-H or FFA. Emergency loans to assist with recovery from losses due to a natural disaster are available when a county has been declared a disaster.

To be eligible for a FSA loan you must not be able to obtain credit from a traditional lender, have needed training and experience, be an operator of a family farm, and be a US citizen or legal resident.

If you have any questions about the loan programs available, please contact the Yakima FSA office at (509) 454-5746 ext. 2 and ask for Lisa, Scott, or Crispin.

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### **NAP DEADLINE NEWS**

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March 16, 2009 is the deadline for numerous spring seeded crops for Federal Crop Insurance. It is also the deadline for NAP coverage on spring seeded crops and small grain forage. The new fee for NAP is \$250 per crop not to exceed \$750 per county. For more information on NAP basic provisions, CCC-471 NAP BP is now available through the FSA web site located at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

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### **2008 PRODUCTION**

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Producers with 2009 NAP policies need to report to FSA no later than 15 days after it becomes apparent that they have suffered a loss due to weather related conditions such as drought or frost.

June 30 is the final reporting day for 2008 production for NAP. It is important to report your production in order to maintain your yield history in the event there is a disaster in the future.

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### **REPORTING CHANGES TO FARMING OPERATIONS**

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Producers are required to notify FSA of any changes in their farming operations or entity status throughout the year, especially ownership or leased land changes. We are also updating all eligibility forms for the 2009 crop year so please call ahead and let us know you are coming so we can be prepared. For an appointment call (509) 773-5822 ext 2.

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### **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

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Employment opportunities for the USDA Farm Service Agency and located within Washington State are listed on the FSA website <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>. Vacancies are posted on the home page and from the "Search for Job Openings Link" on the same page. Anyone interested is encouraged to frequently monitor these websites. FSA is dedicated to serving farmers and ranchers.

