



January 2010

KLICKITAT COUNTY



Farm Service Agency

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS – WE HAVE A NEW MEMBER

Congratulations to Neal Brown! Neal has been elected to represent farmers on the county committee from the east side, Bickleton area. We would like to thank Susan Powers for her years of service as the past county committee representative and we look forward to working with her as our county committee advisor. FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

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
Neal Brown, Member
Susan Powers, Advisor

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

January 27, 2009
9:00 AM

Dates to Remember

February 15- Office Closed-
Holiday

FSA Web Sites

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



SURE SIGNUP

Signup for the 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) began on January 4, 2010. This signup period is for those who suffered crop production losses during crop year 2008.

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

Producers with a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. Producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

If there is no Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

Klickitat County has been declared a disaster county for 2008. For more information on the new SURE program, please call the county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

USDA STREAMLINES PAYMENT LIMITS TO ENHANCE PROGRAM INTEGRITY

Beginning in January, 2010, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will provide producers with consent forms they voluntarily complete and submit to IRS. These forms authorize IRS to disclose a very limited amount of information to USDA for 2009 and 2010 average adjusted gross income (AGI) compliance purposes. Producers must submit the applicable form to IRS, authorizing the review, in order to retain 2009 and future payments subject to current AGI requirements. The form must be mailed to the IRS within 60 days of signing the form. FSA cannot accept the consent forms.

Two consent forms, one for individuals (CCC-927) and one for legal entities (CCC-928), will be used. Every individual or entity who was required to file form CCC-926, Average Adjusted Gross Income Statement, must file the applicable consent form.

IRS will provide FSA and NRCS with a report, indicating whether or not producers met the statutory AGI limits. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to USDA.

Producers whose average AGI appears to exceed statutory limitations will be notified by letter and provided an opportunity to submit a third party verification from a certified public accountant or attorney that demonstrates AGI limits have not been exceeded.

PAYMENTS AND TAX REPORTING - CHECK YOUR STATEMENT

As you may know, FSA experienced a number of software issues in disbursing 2009 CRP and DCP/ACRE payments. Near the end of January, our Kansas City office will be issuing your CCC-1099G form with the 2009 payment data that will be reported to the IRS. It is very important this year that you closely review this document to ensure it accurately reflects the payments you received in 2009. If it does not, or if you have any questions about the data, please contact our office. We will assist you to confirm the data or obtain a corrected CCC-1099G. Also keep in mind that this form does not include any refunds you may have made to FSA in 2009. That data must be obtained directly from our office. We appreciate your patience and understanding as the agency implements our new payment system. Please contact us with any questions about your payments or tax statement.

DCP/ACRE SIGNUP IS HERE FOR 2010

Applications are now being accepted for the Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) for 2010. To be eligible for program payments and benefits, producers must file a contract each year. Producers on farms that elected the ACRE program last year, remain in ACRE through 2012; however, producers must also file a contract each year. Producers who remained in DCP last year may remain in DCP or elect the ACRE program for 2010. Once ACRE is elected, the farm remains in ACRE through 2012.

DCP direct payment rates remain unchanged from last year: \$.52/Bu wheat, \$.24/bu barley. Advance payments are available at 22% of the total direct payment rate for the year. 22% of these payment rates are paid in advance for DCP. ACRE direct payments are reduced by 20%. Payments are earned on 83.3% of the farm's established base acreage times the farm's established yield times the producer's share. Producers are free to plant any crop on their base acreage with the exception of fruits & vegetables and wild rice.

Please call in advance for an appointment to signup for DCP or ACRE.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

WE ARE DONE REMODELING

Our office is now completed! Thanks to our landlords, we have a new and improved office. Thank all of you for your patience during this time.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities 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, audiotapes, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Ave. SW, Washington D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.