



# NEWSLETTER



April 2012

**Lincoln County  
Farm Service Agency**

1310 W Morgan St.  
PO Box 47  
Davenport, WA 99122  
Phone – 509-725-4501  
Fax – 509-725-4515

**Office Hours**

Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**

Pete Carstensen, Chair  
Joseph Schultz, Vice-Chair  
Kathy Scrupps, Member

**Office Staff**

Melissa Michael, CED  
Debbie Sweet, PT  
Paula Reed, PT  
Aaron Landreth, PT  
Stephanie Fisher, PT

**Next COC Meeting**

April 24th

**Dates to Remember**

- May 1 NAP closing date for Value Loss Crops
- May 28<sup>th</sup> Office Closed for Memorial Day
- June 1<sup>st</sup> DCP/ ACRE/ 2010 SURE sign up deadline
- June 30<sup>th</sup> Acreage Reporting deadline
- July 15<sup>th</sup> ACRE Production Reporting deadline

**More Information may be found at**  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>.

## 2012 DCP/ACRE SIGNUP FAST APPROACHING!

We are currently taking appointments to sign up for the 2012 DCP/ACRE program. The deadline to sign up is **June 1, 2012**. Please call the office to set up an appointment. All producers with a crop share interest on DCP base acres must have a share in direct and counter-cyclical payments. Payment rates remain the same as last year, but producers earn payments on 85% of a farms established base acreage rather than 83.3% as in years past.

If you have a farm that is enrolled in ACRE, you will need to report your 2011 production on form FSA-658. It is a requirement to report production on all ACRE farms. Changes on the farm before or after enrolling in DCP/ACRE must be immediately reported to the local FSA office. Examples include ownership changes, producer changes (individuals and entities, and changes in crop share arrangements.

## SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE FOR 2010 LOSSES

The deadline for producers to submit applications for 2010 crop year Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) is **June 1, 2012**. The application and all required documentation must be on file and signed by close of business on that day.

The SURE program provides benefits for crop losses due to eligible weather related disaster conditions affecting crops grown from 2008 through 2011 crop years. A farmer or rancher is eligible for the program when a disaster designation has been made for their county or when actual production is less than half of the normal established production. Producers who suffer eligible losses must have crop insurance or a Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program policy for all crops of economic significance to be eligible for SURE benefits. Socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmers and ranchers are exempt from the insurance linkage requirement.

## NEW AGI FORMS REQUIRED FOR 2012

FSA and NRCS program participants, including all members of participating entities, must meet certain Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) requirements to qualify for benefits. Starting with the 2012 crop year, a new AGI form has been developed that reports whether an applicant or member meets the AGI requirements, and it also authorizes the IRS to confirm that information for FSA.

The new form also reflects an additional AGI limitation applicable only to 2012 direct payments. In addition to the \$500,000 average nonfarm AGI and the \$750,000 average farm AGI limitation, a \$1 million average AGI limitation will be applicable for 2012 direct payments.

New this year, most power-of-attorney authorizations will not work for this form. So the form will have to be signed by the participant or entity member themselves. IRS will not accept FSA power-of-attorney forms. These new AGI forms are available today from your county office or on the FSA internet site.

<http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/CCC931.PDF>

## ACREAGE REPORTING

Acreage reporting must be completed this year by **June 30, 2012** as in years past. Please call the office to make an appointment. Acreage reporting is the baseline for many FSA programs and it is imperative that all acres are reported as soon as planting is complete. Those with solely fall planted crops should make an appointment as soon as possible. Producers are reminded to bring their planting dates to their appointment.

## MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING CRP ACREAGE

This office wishes to remind producers with existing CRP acreage that controlling weeds and stand maintenance is a requirement of remaining in compliance with the CRP contract. Every year, FSA & NRCS personnel from this office conduct field visits to verify stand density and species requirements are being met, as well as to ensure that weed control measures are being conducted on CRP acreage. Please remember the following items;

1. The primary nesting season in Lincoln County is April 1 through July 1. Prior approval is needed from the FSA County Committee to conduct weed control measures such as spraying, mowing, or burning on CRP that has been certified as established. The nesting season requirements do not apply to those CRP contracts that have not been certified as established.
2. Mid-management activities are required on most CRP contracts. The most used mid-management activity is harrowing and/or mowing. Please review your conservation plans to see what year these operations must be completed. Cost share is available for these operations. Failure of CRP stands due to neglect of the CRP participant can lead to sizeable payment reductions, and in extreme cases, contract termination.

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT!

Lincoln County FSA Office is accepting applications for a permanent full time Program Technician.

**Vacancy #** ADZ630855-WA**Opens:** March 26, 2012**Closes:** April 24, 2012

**Series / Grade:** CO-1101-04/07**Duty Location:** Lincoln County FSA Office, Davenport, WA

**Area of consideration:** This position is open to all areas of consideration in Washington State only.

***The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is an exciting and rewarding place to start, build and/or continue your career. Be part of our team and support the well-being of American agriculture and the American public.***

The position is responsible for:

- Carrying out office activities and functions pertaining to one or more of the program areas administered in the county
- Interpreting and explaining procedure, program regulations and forms to producers and other agency personnel
- Utilizing computer skills to maintain producer data and process automated program forms
- Using a high degree of initiative and judgment in planning and carrying out assigned tasks and resolving problems encountered

Please visit [usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) at the link below to get details on qualifications and application requirements. Please ensure that all required information is provided as only complete applications will be accepted. <http://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/312435100>

If you have any questions please email or call Melissa Michael at [melissa.michael@wa.usda.gov](mailto:melissa.michael@wa.usda.gov), 509-725-4501.