



January 13, 2009

YAKIMA COUNTY FSA NEWS

Yakima County FSA

1606 Perry Street, Suite A
Yakima, WA 98902-5769
Phone- (509) 454-5746, Ext. #2
Fax- (509) 454-5682

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Nadeen Boyle
Daniel T. Martinez
Wes Underwood
Gilbert Gonzalez, Jr., Advisor
Carol Hull, Advisor

Office Staff

Sandy Christensen, PT
Maria De La Mora, PT
Jennifer DeWeese, PT
Sherry Fadden, PT
Crispin Garza, SCL
Brian Miller, CED
Kim Miller, PT
Todd Munson, FA
Lisa Ruff, FLM
Scott Smith, FLO

Next COC Meeting

January 27, 2009
9:00 AM

Dates to Remember

- January 19- Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
- January 23- Marshal's farm sale
- March 15- NAP application deadline
- June 1- DCP signup deadline

FSA Web Sites

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



United States
Department of
Agriculture

FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

Wes Underwood was elected to serve on the County Committee for a 3-year term. *Wes* will serve with current members *Nadeen Boyle* and *Daniel Martinez* on the Committee. *David R. Murray* was elected as first alternate, and *Lino Guerra* was elected as second alternate to the Committee. We would like to thank the candidates in this year's election for their willingness to run, and also everyone who took time to vote. We would also like to thank retiring Committee Member *Linda North-Spaulding* for her years of dedicated service. The County Committee is your link to USDA, making local control possible in implementing FSA programs.

2009 DCP PROGRAM SIGNUP

Producers operating farms with crop acreage bases established under the Direct and Counter Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) may signup now for the 2009 program at this time. The signup period ends on June 1, 2009, for enrolling farms in the 2009 DCP program. Late-filed applications can not be accepted.

There are currently two types of payments available for producers who participate in the DCP program:

Direct Payments- Regardless of the price of commodities, direct payments will be issued annually on 83.3% of the crop acreage base times the payment yield. Direct payment rates include 52 cents/bu for wheat, 28 cents/bu for corn, 24 cents/bu for barley and 2.4 cents/bu for oats. 22% of the direct payments can be requested at signup.

Counter-Cyclical Payments- Will be paid if market prices fall below certain levels during the 12-month marketing periods for each commodity. Depending on the comparison between national average market levels and target prices, it is possible that counter-cyclical payments could be paid 2 times during the crop year.

ACRE- Producers who are eligible for the DCP Program will also be eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. The enrollment period for the ACRE Pro-

gram will begin in the spring. Producers may first enroll in the DCP Program, elect to receive advance direct payments and then later modify their enrollment to include the ACRE program or they may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time in Spring 2009.

MILC PROGRAM SIGNUP

The signup for the Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC) has begun and will continue through the program's expiration date, September 30, 2012.

The 2008 Farm Bill reauthorizes the MILC Program, which operates similarly to the counter-cyclical payment program for crops, and makes three key changes in program operation. Under the 2008 Act, the MILC payment rate and the per-operation poundage limit are modified, depending on when the milk is produced. In addition, a "feed cost adjuster," is introduced over the life of the 2008 Act, which adjusts the \$16.94 per hundredweight (cwt.) benchmark price upward depending on the cost of feed rations. When available, MILC payments are based on a payment rate percentage that is multiplied by the difference between a now-flexible target (\$16.94 per cwt. or higher) and the specific month's Boston Class I price of milk.

MILC payments are issued on an operation-by-operation basis up to a maximum of 2.985 million pounds of milk produced and marketed for each fiscal year through Aug. 31, 2012. The production limitation reverts back to the original limit of 2.4 million pounds per fiscal year in Sept. 2012.

During the signup application period, participating dairy operations must select the month of the fiscal year to start receiving payments for eligible production. Producers submitting a contract application within 30 days of the beginning of the application period can select any preceding month as the start month. Producers submitting contract applications after January 21, 2009, will not have the option of selecting an earlier month as the payment start month for the dairy operation for a fiscal year; and will be limited to applicable start month selection rules. Interested producers should contact our office to submit a MILC contract.

SPOUSAL SIGNATURE AUTHORITY

A husband and wife can sign most documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office. There are limited exceptions to the spousal signature provisions for specific programs and for farm loans.

REPORT OF PAYMENTS

All producers who received FSA program payments during calendar year 2008 should receive a Form CCC-1099-G, in the latter part of January. This form indicates the amount of payments that you received during the calendar year 2008. The amounts listed on this form have been reported to the Internal Revenue Service.

In addition, producers who had a farm credit loan with the Farm Service Agency in 2008 should receive Form FSA-2065 at the end of January. This is an Annual Statement of Loan Account and provides useful income tax information such as interest paid in calendar year 2008.

FOREIGN INVESTORS NEED TO REPORT

The Agricultural Foreign Investor Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires foreign investors who acquire, transfer, or hold interest in agricultural land to report that transaction within 90 days. This requirement also pertains to leases in excess of ten years. Failure to report may result in a penalty of 25 percent of the fair market value of the land.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing loss. If accommodations are required, please contact Brian Miller at (509) 454-5746 Ext. 101.

LOANS AVAILABLE

FSA has direct and guaranteed loan programs available for family-sized farm businesses. FSA's loan

programs are designed to help farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.

The loan limits for direct operating and farm ownership loans are \$300,000 each. The loan limit for guaranteed operating and farm ownership loans is a combined total of \$1,094,000. Funding is allocated for these programs after October 1 of each year.

Depending on the type of loan, funds can be used to purchase farms, livestock, and equipment, operate the farm, build or repair farm buildings, pay for water development for conservation practices and in some cases refinance debts. For additional information contact our office.

NOTICE OF FARM SALE

The U.S. Marshal will be conducting a sale of the property described as follows on January 23, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. at the Yakima County Courthouse in Yakima Washington:

USA v. Pritchett Farms, Inc., ET AL., No. CV-07-3090-FVS

The property will be sold January 23, 2009, to the highest bid for cash. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) will enter one bid only of \$205,150.00.

If you have any questions, please contact our office by calling (509) 454-5746, Extension #2.

BANK CHANGES?

If you have a direct deposit request on file with our office, please remember to let us know if you change banks or account numbers. Sending funds to a closed account will delay your payments.

Se habla español en esta oficina de FSA. Si quiere información tocante a los programas de crédito, conservación y otros programas que suministra esta oficina, por favor visite o llame la oficina de FSA. El número de teléfono es (509) 454-5746. La dirección se encontra encima.