



June 2010

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, Chair
Wes Underwood, Vice Chair
Mark Barrett, Member
Carol Hull, Advisor
Sergio Marquez, Advisor

Office Staff

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

Next COC Meeting

June 29, 2010
9:00 AM

Dates to Remember

- June 30- Acreage reporting deadline
- July 5- Office closed in observance of Independence Day
- July 7- Emergency Loan Deadline
- July 15- EQIP application deadline
- August 2- COC election nomination deadline
- August 31- NAP application 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 ELECTIONS

Nominating petitions for the FSA County Committee elections are now being accepted. The elections are being held in Local Administrative Area #3 this year. This area consists of farms located in the lower valley (south of the Rattlesnake Ridge), that are south and west of the Yakima River, plus the land situated south of Ahtanum Creek. Producers in this area will be electing a County Committee person to serve a three-year term.

Farm owners, operators and tenants of legal voting age, in LAA #3 can run for a committee position and vote if they are eligible to take part in any FSA program. Spouses are generally eligible to participate in committee elections. Any producer who feels that they may not have received an election ballot in the past should contact our office to ensure that they are on the list of eligible voters. Nominations from minority, female, and producers from under-represented groups are encouraged. A petition form signed by the nominee is needed to nominate a farmer-candidate. The petition includes a certification that the candidate agrees to serve if elected.

The deadline to file a nominating petition for the FSA County Committee election is August 2, 2010.

ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE

Producers who wish to maintain eligibility for the following programs need to file an acreage report with our office by June 30:

- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants
- Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) & Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) participants
- Wheat, feed grain, honey & wool producers who wish to maintain eligibility for price support loans and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's)
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) participants

- FSA disaster programs including the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program for **2010 crop losses**.

Planting dates are needed for the crops being reported. Please make note of your planting dates, and have them with you when you come in to file your acreage report. Late-file acreage reports require a fee for a farm visit.

NONINSURED CROP LOSSES?

Producers who purchased crop loss coverage for noninsurable 2010 crops, under the *Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)*, need to remember the reporting requirements for crop losses. NAP participants must file a written notice of loss within 15 days after the disaster event occurred, or damage to the crop became evident. Also, if you do not intend to harvest the crop, you must request an appraisal by an FSA representative prior to destruction or abandonment of the crop. **Failure to adhere to these timelines will result in ineligibility for NAP benefits.**

EMERGENCY LOANS

Producers in Yakima County may be eligible for emergency loans under the following disaster declaration. The declaration covers damages and losses caused by the following conditions:

- Drought which occurred January 1 through the 2009 crop year; (*July 7, 2010 application deadline*).

For more information on emergency loans please contact our office.

2010 GRAIN LOANS AND LDP'S

All wheat, corn, barley, oats and grain sorghum are eligible for price support benefits for 2010. Producers have a choice between taking out a regular 9-month Price Support Loan or receiving a Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP).

Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) are not a loan, they are a price support payment. LDP's can be made when the Posted County Price (PCP) falls below the county loan rate. Producers can check the LDP rates daily on the Internet from the link on the FSA home page: www.usda.gov/fsa.

Producers must make an application for LDPs on form CCC-633EZ. The CCC-633EZ is a two-part form. By signing **page 1** of the form before losing beneficial interest in the crop, you maintain your eligibility for LDP benefits.

Regular 9 month loans on warehouse or farm stored grain at a reasonable interest rate (currently 1.375 %) can provide an excellent marketing tool for producers who wish to hold their grain for sale at a later date. The loan can be repaid at any time, and the repayment will be the lesser of the Posted County Price (PCP) or principal plus interest.

TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Tree Assistance Program (TAP) provides help to orchardists and nursery tree growers who produce trees, bushes and vines for commercial purposes, to replant or rehabilitate trees, bushes and vines damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. The 2008 Farm Bill expanded eligibility to include Christmas tree and nursery tree growers that were ineligible under prior legislation. Trees grown for pulp or timber or not grown for commercial purposes are not eligible. To be eligible for TAP, producers must have suffered more than a 15 percent death loss due to the natural disaster after adjustment for normal mortality. TAP is a cost-reimbursement program, with payments covering up to 70 percent of replant costs and 50 percent of pruning, removal and other salvaging costs for replacing or salvaging damaged trees.

Producers can receive assistance for up to 500 acres of trees, bushes or vines. Producers must also have purchased a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, or for 2008, obtained a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through the buy-in provision. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011.

EQIP SIGNUP DEADLINE

The application deadline and ranking cut-off date for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

is **August 13, 2010**. The August application ranking cut-off date represents an on-going agency effort to provide landowners and NRCS adequate time to develop comprehensive conservation plans for implementing the various practices and activities funded through the program for the 2011 year. The program is intended to address resource problems by providing financial incentives for landowners to solve them by implementing the appropriate conservation practices. Funds are divided into several different funding pools to allow all land uses opportunity for the program in Benton, Yakima and Klickitat Counties. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact their local NRCS office as soon as possible to ensure eligibility and to begin the application process.

NAP APPLICATION DEADLINE

Producers may now purchase catastrophic crop loss coverage under *Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)*. Upcoming application deadlines are as follows:

- August 31 - Canola and rapeseed; radishes, carrots, and cabbage; value loss crops; artichokes and any fall planted crops not listed below.
- September 30 - Perennial grazing crops; perennial forage crops; forage seed crops; and garlic.

The cost of the coverage is \$250 per crop, not to exceed \$750 per producer, per County. Producers interested in this program should call our office.

Remember, all current and future disaster assistance eligibility, except for LIP, is subject to producers obtaining at least a CAT level of crop insurance, or NAP coverage for uninsurable crops, for all crops on all farms.

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.