

July 2007

# ADAMS FSA NEWS -n- VIEWS

## Adams County FSA

506 Weber Ave. Suite A  
Ritzville WA 99169  
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## Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

## County Committee

Randy Franz  
Greg Galbreath  
Leroy Watson Jr.  
Elizabeth Lyle

## COC Meetings

Thursday of the third full week  
of each month; next meeting  
date July 19, 2007

## Office Staff

Chris Holt, CED  
Rae Ann Telecky, PT  
Jullie Cain, PT  
Angela Melcher, PT  
Karin Talkington, PT  
Emily Kulm, temp PT

## Farm Loan Staff

Everett Purrington, FLM  
Libby Anderson FLO  
Nancy Segar FLO

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## County Committee Nominations Due

Nominations are currently being accepted for producers who wish to serve on the Adams County Farm Service Committee, representing Local Administrative Area (LAA) #3, for the upcoming three year term. LAA #3 is the South 1/3 of the County, containing all lands South of Providence Road, extended due East to the Whitman County line, and bounded on the East, South and West by Whitman, Franklin and Grant Counties. *The description contained on the nominating petitions mailed from our National office to all producers earlier correctly identified LAA #3 as the LAA holding election; however, the description of the LAA boundaries was incorrect!* We apologize for any confusion on the earlier boundary description. The one in this newsletter is correct.

The final date to submit a nominating petition is August 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. The petition only requires the signature of the person being nominated, to indicate that they would be willing to serve if elected. Eligible candidates would be any farmer or rancher, as landowner, operator, or other tenant who conducts their farming operation, or the majority of their farming operation in the LAA up for election, and lives within Adams County.

Committee service generally involves one morning a month for the regularly scheduled meeting, and members serving are compensated for their time, and mileage. Many members have commented over the years that committee service helps to enhance their understanding of USDA programs, and assists them in applying these programs to their operations. Please consider nominating a worthy neighbor, or yourself for that matter, to serve your fellow farmers and ranchers in this position.

## 2007 DCP Signup Extended

The final date for timely enrollment into the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program has been extended until August 3, 2007. The extension has been approved nationally to assist producers who were not able to timely schedule appointments due to FSA workload issues. Contracts may be enrolled from August 4<sup>th</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup> 2007 under late filing provisions; however, late filings are subject to a late filing fee of \$100.

## Acreage Reporting for 2007

Unfortunately, the acreage reporting deadline was not extended by the national office, and has now passed. Acreage reports may still be filed; however, they are now subject to a late filing fee to conduct a field visit. If you are required to file an acreage report to comply with programs in which you participate, to include DCP, NAP, CRP, and LDPs and marketing assistance loans, late filing provisions will apply at this point.

## Crop Disaster Program Update

Congress passed legislation in late May 2007, authorizing a crop disaster program for losses in 2005, 2006 and including certain 2007 crops, where planting was completed prior to February 28, 2007. Certain livestock related disaster programs were also authorized under this legislation. To date, we have received no word on the signup dates for these programs. The details known at this point are as follows.

- Crop losses in excess of 35% due to weather related conditions are eligible for assistance, at a payment rate of 42% of established price.
- Producers may select only one of the three years in which to receive benefits.
- Only crops where producers were carrying either multi-peril crop insurance, if available, or Noninsured Assistance Program coverage, in the event that crop insurance was not available, are eligible for assistance.
- Quality losses are included in the legislation as eligible for assistance. We have not yet received any criteria for how quality losses will be handled under this program.
- Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) for eligible feed losses in disaster designated counties, or contiguous counties, with losses between 1-1-2005 and 2-28-2007 is authorized through this legislation.
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) for eligible livestock losses is also authorized through this legislation. This program also requires disaster designation as a primary or contiguous county during the 1-1-2005 to 2-28-2007 time period.
- Dairy Disaster Assistance Program (DDAP) covers losses to dairy production due to disaster in designated counties.

As soon as we get word on signup dates, and more complete eligibility criteria, we will pass on additional information on each of the above programs. If you are a surfer, more details can be located at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) under the "Disaster Assistance Programs" tab. Otherwise, stay tuned!

### 2007 Price Support Program

Grain prices are very positive this season, meaning that LDPs likely will not be a part of your harvest duties this season. Marketing loans are another tool available to use however, so the following is a brief reminder on the loan and LDP programs in place for 2005.

#### *Adams County Loan Rates*

Soft White Wheats	\$ 2.82/bu.	Barley	\$ 2.13/bu.
H.R. Winter Wheat	\$ 3.24/bu.	Corn	\$ 2.38/bu.
H.R. Spring Wheat	\$ 3.07/bu.	Oats	\$ 1.30/bu.
Dry Peas	\$ 6.63/Cwt.	Canola	\$ 7.22/Cwt.
Mustard	\$ 8.45/Cwt.		

#### *Commodity Loans-*

9 month nonrecourse loans are available on all the above crops for commodities either stored on the farm, or in approved warehouse facilities. Commodities must meet minimum grade standards to be eligible for loan. Nonrecourse loans may be repaid at any time during their term at the lesser of principal plus interest accrued, or the posted county price in effect on the date of repayment. In addition, producers may utilize an option to "lock-in" a repayment rate, one time, for a 60 day period, during the loan period. The lock-in provisions provide the opportunity, but not an obligation to repay, so if the posted county price of your commodity lowers during the lock in period, you may choose to let the lock-in expire without penalty. Repayments made at less than the loan rate are considered market gains, and are counted against the payment limitation in effect of \$75,000 per "person" for market gains, and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs).

Loans may be obtained on up to 100% of the amount either certified, or measured for farm stored loans, or on 100% of quantity represented by warehouse receipt. Warehouse storage through the maturity of the loan must be prepaid, or deducted from the loan proceeds. Loan fees are \$45 per loan, with an additional \$3 per bin in excess of one, or warehouse receipt in excess of one. Current interest rate on loans is 6.00%, and is based on the month of loan approval, and adjusted in January to the loan rate applicable for that month. Measurement service is available to producers who wish to have bins measured, either for use in the commodity loan programs, or for proof of production for FCIC purposes. To schedule a measurement service, call our office to be scheduled. We plan to measure bins on a weekly basis, so please call a few days ahead of when you actually need to have the work completed. Thanks in advance.

#### *Loan Deficiency Payments-*

Producers who forego taking commodity loans have the ability to instead request LDPs. **As of the date of this publication, no crops have posted county prices below loan rate.**

#### *Beneficial Interest-*

The beneficial interest rules apply to both commodity loans and LDPs, meaning that you need to maintain risk of loss, title to, and control of commodities through either the later of repayment for loans, or through the date of request for benefits and delivery of the commodity for LDPs. Beneficial interest can be established through filing of CCC-633EZ at any time during the crop year, so if you believe LDPs will come into play later in the year, you may wish to file this form.

### Program Compliance Changes

Beginning in 2007, Farm Service Agency policy for conducting compliance reviews to ensure program compliance has been enhanced. The new policy means FSA will do fewer but more comprehensive reviews. Previously, reviews were done for a random sample of 15 percent of the acreage reported to the FSA office. The reviews were completed using high altitude photography to ensure acreage reports were filed correctly.

Producers will still be selected randomly for reviews, however the selection will be made at the national level. The selection will be made from participants in CRP, DCP, NAP, Marketing Assistance Loans and LDPs, and HEL/wetland compliance. FSA will look at acreage compliance, production records and compliance with program rules. Reviews may involve field visits. Depending on crops grown, multiple visits may be required.

Program compliance reviews are necessary to ensure the integrity of the farm programs, which is vital for continued public support. Your cooperation, if you are selected, is appreciated.