

Central Oregon FSA Office

Central Oregon FSA Staff

Cameron Kirsch, CED
Debby Carter, PT
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Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00a.m. – 4:30p.m.

County Committee Members

Adam Barney
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January 2008

County Committee (COC)

Election Results

County Committee (COC) elections were held this year for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1, covering The Confederative Tribes of Warm Springs in Jefferson County. The results of the election re-elected Brigette Whipple for another term as a COC member. Congratulations Brigette!

Farm Bill Updates

Our office has been receiving several calls from producers inquiring about signing up for 2008 programs. The last Farm Bill expired September 30, 2007. Currently, our office is waiting for direction as to what our programs will be for 2008. As soon as we receive information on the 2008 programs, we will pass the information on to you.

Report all Farm Changes

If there have been any changes in the operation of your farm, such as new owners, operators, changes in land, addresses, etc..., please notify our office as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in delayed, incorrect or denied payments.

Direct Deposit

Under Direct Deposit provisions, if you have changed your financial institution we must have a new direct deposit form (SF-1199A) completed along with a written statement directing us to terminate your old direct deposit on file. Failure to do so may result in delayed payments. If you have any

questions, please contact our office.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL)

Producers who can demonstrate a need for eligible commodity farm storage needs or upgrades may be interested in Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) Program. Eligible commodities include rice, soybeans, dry peas, lentil, small chickpeas, peanuts, sunflower seeds, canola, rapeseed, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, corn, grain sorghum, oats, wheat, and barley. Loan amounts are 85% of the net cost of storage and/or handling equipment not to exceed \$100,000. Loans will carry a maximum term of seven years.

Foreign Investors

Foreign investors who acquire, transfer, or hold interest in agricultural land must report these holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture within 90 days. This may be done by completing form FSA-153, available at any FSA office. The report is required by law and persons who fail to report, or who are late reporting, face possible fines.

Accessibility to Disabled Persons

FSA programs are available to all eligible interested persons including those with disabilities. Special accommodations will be made upon request for those with disabilities, vision, or hearing impairments. If such accommodations are needed please contact Cameron Kirsch at 541-923-4358 extension 2.

Attention Husbands & Wives

A husband and wife may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made with the County Office from either spouse. Husbands and wives who have an "official" joint ventures or partnerships must have power of attorney on file to sign for the entity

Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP)

Producers who have paid for NAP coverage and suffer a weather related crop loss must notify our office within 15 days of the date of the weather event or are aware of the crop damage. An inspection must be performed on any acreage for which the intended use has been changed or for any acreage that will not be taken to harvest prior to destroying or abandoning the crop acreage.

Wool & Mohair LDP/MAL Deadline

The deadline to submit production on wool Loan Deficiency Program (LDP's) or Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL's) is January 31, 2008 for all 2007 wool & mohair production. A CCC-633EZ page 1 must have been received in the county office prior to losing beneficial interest in order to be eligible to request 2007 LDP's. It is unknown on requirements or programs available for 2008 wool /mohair until the new Farm Bill.

USDA ANNOUNCES UPDATES ON THE CROP DISASTER PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced sign-up dates for the Crop Disaster Program. The disaster program provides benefits to farmers and ranchers who suffered losses caused by natural disasters in recent years. Eligible farmers can sign-up for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) beginning October 15, 2007. USDA will announce and conduct a CDP sign-up for quality losses as soon as possible.

The CDP provides benefits to producers who suffered in excess of 35% loss in quantity and quality losses resulting from natural disasters in 2005, 2006 or 2007. **The program plant date has been extended for 2007 CDP eligibility from 2/28/2007 to 12/31/2007.**

Any producer that had 2007 losses that were not considered due to the 2/28/07 plant date can now apply. **Only producers who obtained Federal Crop Insurance or Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for the year of loss are eligible.**

SIGN UP BEGINS Dec. 3rd 2007 FOR DAIRY DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM III

Dairy producers who suffered dairy production losses because of natural disasters can apply to receive benefits beginning Dec. 3, 2007, at local FSA service centers. A producers operation must be in a county designated a major disaster or emergency area between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007. Some of the eligibility requirements that producers must meet are...

- producers must have produced and marketed milk any time between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007;
- producers must have suffered dairy production losses attributed to the declared natural disaster during the eligible period in an approved area; and
- producers must provide proof of monthly milk production commercially marketed by all persons in the eligible dairy operation during the applicable milk marketing calendar year and claim period (Jan. 2, 2005 - Feb. 27, 2007).

FSA will calculate payments by multiplying a producer's total production losses in whole pounds of milk by the payment rate. The payment rate is a state's annual average mailbox milk price for the marketing order, as reported by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service that applies to the state of the disaster county during the relevant year. FSA will base payment rates for states not regulated under a milk order on a contiguous or nearby state's mailbox price.

FSA will calculate a producer's total dairy production losses using the base year production minus commercially marketed production during the disaster period. FSA will calculate base year production by multiplying the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) average of milk produced per cow in a state by the number of cows in a producer's operation. If NASS data is unavailable for the state where the eligible disaster occurred, the FSA deputy administrator for farm programs may develop an alternative method.

Additional information regarding this and other USDA programs is available from Farm Service Agency at 541-923-4358 ext 2.

Internet users may access program fact sheets and forms at the following web address:

www.fsa.usda.gov.

FARM LOANS TARGETING SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED GROUPS

FSA offers farm loan programs that are designed to help socially disadvantaged farmers purchase and operate family farms. FSA reserves a portion of its loan funds each year to assist in this goal. For purposes of this program, the groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Direct loans are made to applicants by FSA and include both farm operating and farm ownership loans.

Guaranteed loans are also made for these purposes, and may be made by any lending institution subject to Federal or State supervision and guaranteed by FSA. Typically, FSA guarantees 90 or 95 percent of a loan against any loss that might be incurred if the loan fails.



FARM LOANS AVAILABLE

If you have need for farm credit that a conventional lender cannot assist you with, now is the time to apply. If you are working with a lender on your credit needs and have a narrow cash flow margin, it may be beneficial to discuss the FSA guaranteed loan program with the lender. The guarantee program is one of the financial tools we have that might help.

**A Loan Officer will be in the Redmond FSA Office on the 4th
Tuesday of each month from 8:30am to 3:00pm.**

**Call (503) 399-5741 for more information or to make an
appointment to see a loan officer:**

Sharilyn Millette - Ext. #115

Kathey Naegeli - Ext. #113

Payment Limitation Provisions

Payments & benefits under certain programs are subject to some or all of the following: *payment limitation, cash-rent tenant rule, foreign person rule, actively engaged in farming requirements, permitted entity, average adjusted gross income limitation.*

Applicable programs and payment limitations are:

Payment Type	Limitation (In Dollar)
CRP/CREP Annual Rental & One time Incentive	\$50,000
Total of the following for all loan commodities except wool, mohair & honey	
• Marketing Loan Gains	\$75,000
• Loan Deficiency Program (LDP's)	\$75,000
Total of: Wool, Mohair & Honey	\$75,000
Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)	\$100,000
Crop Disaster Program (CDP)	\$80,000

AG CENSUS FORMS DUE FEB 4TH

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) began distribution of the 2007 Census of Agriculture last month and completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the convenient option of filling out the Census online via a secure web site at <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>. Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Census is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. According to NASS, the Census of Agriculture provides information that is not available elsewhere. The last Ag Census was conducted in 2002. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation. Policy-makers use Census data for decisions concerning agricultural and rural programs. Community planners use Census information to target delivery of local services. Companies rely on Census data when determining where to locate their operations. And farmers themselves look at Census data when deciding to make changes in their production strategies.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape 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, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (Voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.