



September Edition

BAKER COUNTY COW CHIP

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NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP) STILL AVAILABLE IN BAKER COUNTY

The NAP program is available in Baker County for forage crops such as grass hay for forage and grazing and Alfalfa. To be covered for the 2008 crop year you must purchase coverage by the deadline of October 1st. There has been some recent confusion with the availability of NAP due to the Pasture, Forage and rangeland (PRF) insurance pilot program being offered in Baker County. PRF doesn't insure forage and grazing crops at the catastrophic level like NAP does. This is why NAP is available for an insurable crop. NAP coverage is only available for crops that are not insured under Federal Crop Insurance at the catastrophic level.

The NAP program is designed to cover losses due to damaging weather conditions and is available in Baker County. The program covers losses in excess of a 50% loss of normal yields or the farms yield calculated using actual production history. Payments for production lost in excess of the 50% are paid at 55% of the values established for the crop. The cost per policy is \$100/crop/producer with a \$300 cap per county. NAP coverage does not begin until 30 days after your application is filed and the \$100 administrative fee has been paid. The \$100 administrative fee is non refundable.

Producers who have NAP coverage currently or who are interested in coverage need to keep accurate records of their production, report acreage of the crops to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) annually, and promptly notify FSA when ever losses occur. A report of actual yields is key in maintaining a yield that reflects the producers operation.

Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office to obtain NAP coverage or for additional information on the NAP before the October 1st, 2007 deadline.

10/01/06	Grass (hay and seed), Alfalfa (hay and seed), Clover Seed, Small Grain Forage (fall and spring), Other Forage Crops, Grazing, Other perennials not mentioned
11/20/06	Berries, Fruit, Honey
03/15/07	All spring planted crops not mentioned
05/31/07	Buckwheat

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM

The Secretary of Agriculture has announced that sign up for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) will begin on October 15th. Crop losses must be due to a natural disaster and must exceed 35% to be eligible for CDP. This program is available to producers for crop years 2005, 2006 and crops planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers may receive benefits for one crop year only.

To be eligible for CDP you must have either FCIC Insurance or NAP (Non-Insurable Assistance Program) for the crops you are claiming a loss on. Additional details will be announced as they become available.

NEW INSURANCE PRODUCT FOR PASTURE, RANGELAND AND HAYLAND

Producers in Union County and eight other Oregon counties have the ability to insure their pasture, rangeland, and/or hayland for the 2008 crop year. The following are a few highlights of this new insurance product:

- Producers have the option of insuring all or part of their acreage.
- Insurance period is April 1st through March 31st of the following year. Producers can select between 4, 3 month insurance intervals when determining the timing of coverage for the selected acreage.

-Loss benefits are based on the vegetation index factor for the selected acreage, not the insured's individual production. Producers can select either 70%, 75%, 80%, 85% or 90% of the vegetation index factor.

- The insured producer is covering a dollar amount per acre which is based on the county established base value for the crop, productivity factor for the selected crop and the producer buy-up coverage level.

- Sales closing date is November 30, 2007 for coverage in the 2008 crop year. For further information or to purchase a policy, contact your local crop insurance agent.

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.

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notices of loss for the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) crops must be filed in this office within 15 days of the disaster event or whenever the loss becomes apparent to the producer. If you abandon, destroy, or change your harvest intentions without requesting a crop appraisal, the acreage will be considered to have produced ½ the Actual Production History (APH) yield guarantee. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION AND INDEMNITY PROGRAMS

The Livestock Compensation Program 2005-2007 (LCP) provides benefits to livestock and catfish producers who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs **directly resulting from natural disasters** occurring between Jan.1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007. Producers in primary or contiguous counties declared secretarial disaster areas or counties declared presidential disaster areas between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, are eligible

The Livestock Indemnity Program 2005-2007 (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths caused by natural disasters that occurred between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007.

If you think either one of these programs applies to you, then contact the Baker County FSA office immediately. Keep in mind the disaster condition has to have directly caused your loss. No deadline has been set to sign-up for this program, but don't wait to hear about one.

COUNTY COMMITTEE (COC) ELECTION

This years election will be held in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1, covering the Baker City, Haines area. Ballots will be mailed no later than **November 2, 2007**. Please don't forget to sign your ballot return envelope. Ballots must be received by our office no later than 4:30 p.m. on **December 3, 2007**. The following nominees have expressed that he/she is willing to serve if elected:

Biographies of Candidates-

Kate Rohner: Lives on Pocahontas and produces milk, corn, barley, alfalfa and grass hay

Eugene Hawes: Lives on Pocahontas and produces alfalfa

Craig Ward: Lives on Hughes lane and produces wheat, potatoes, mint, alfalfa, grass hay and grass seed.

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