



# Farm Service Agency

Box Elder County FSA Newsletter

July/August 2006

## County Information

### Address:

85 South First East  
Tremonton, Utah 84337

### Phone Numbers:

(435) 257-5402  
(435)257-1930 Fax

### Staff:

James R Hall, CED  
Scott Bown, FLM  
Julie Richins  
Sharon Bowen  
Marilyn Pali  
Barbie Madsen  
Jamie Vasa

### Office Hours:

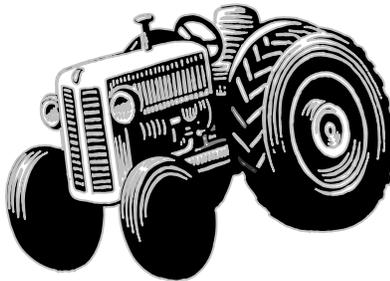
Monday – Friday  
7:00 am-4:30 pm

### County Committee:

Robert Adams  
Curtis Marble  
Kent McMurdie  
Tamara Wood

### Positions:

Chairperson  
Vice-Chairperson  
Member  
Committee Advisor



## Late Filed Acreage Reports

Anyone, whom has not filed a 2006 acreage report, needs to as soon as possible. Acreage Reports are required for eligibility for most programs such as the Farm Program (Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program), LDP's (Loan Deficiency Payments) and NAP (non-insurable crop insurance). Remember no payments can be made for your farm until your acreage report is done. The deadline to do this was June 30, 2006 so you will be charged a \$20 late file fee per farm. Please contact the FSA office to ensure that your crops have been reported.

## 2006 County Committee Elections

FSA's relationship with farmers and ranchers goes back to the 1930's. At that time, Congress set up a unique system under which Federal farm programs were to be administered locally. Farmers and ranchers who are eligible to participate in these programs elect a three – to – five person County Committee, which reviews county office operations and makes some of the decisions on how to apply the programs. This grassroots approach gives farmers and ranchers a much-needed say in how Federal actions affect their communities and their individual operations. After more then 60 years, it remains a cornerstone of FSA's efforts to preserve and promote American Agriculture.

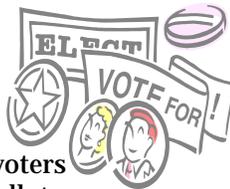
### Important Election Dates:

**August 1, 2006** Last day to file nomination

**August 4, 2006** Complete review of FSA-669A

**November 3, 2006** Ballots mailed to eligible voters

**December 4, 2006** Last day to return voted ballots



This year the area representative that we are electing will be for LAA2 which means the area west of the Bear River Valley. This includes, Howell, Snowville, Park Valley, Grouse Creek, Etc... If you have any questions, please call the FSA office.

## 2006 Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's)

Loan Deficiency Payments on commodities are made when the Posted County Price for the commodity falls below the loan rate. LDP payment rates can change each day with the market. As harvest progresses producers need to check with our office to check on the daily LDP rate. LDP rates can also be checked on the internet at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

If you will be selling your commodity directly from the field, make sure that you have signed a CCC-633EZ before harvest begins or you will be ineligible for an LDP. If you are going to store the commodity, you can request to take your LDP anytime.

## America's CRP Turns 20

On December 23, 1985 President Reagan signed the Food Security Act of 1985, which created the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). FSA conducted the first CRP sign-up in March of 1986, enrolling 753,668 acres under 9,407 CRP contracts.

Since then, CRP's goals and accomplishments have broadened considerably. Today, CRP is widely regarded as a key program achieving multiple environmental and societal benefits through voluntary, private-land stewardship and cooperative conservation. With nearly 36 million acres enrolled, CRP has become the largest public-private conservation partnership in America.

Although established in 1986 to deal primarily with the problem of soil erosion, CRP has helped farmers clean up surface water and provide habitat for wildlife. Prior to CRP the nation was losing an estimated 460 million tons of top soil each year. Of that, 230 million tons were lost due to wind erosion and 220 million tons due to water-driven erosion. Re-establishing grasses and planting buffers between fields and streams stopped both wind and water erosion as well as trapped sediment and agricultural chemicals before they could reach nearby water bodies making downstream watercreeks, rivers and lakes cleaner.

Planting fields to grasses and buffers not only stopped erosion, but also provided habitat for a variety of wildlife species; birds and small mammals gained areas conducive to breeding and rearing their young. We tend to think that CRP has evolved over the years, but perhaps it is not the program that has evolved, but our recognition of its value.

For more information related to CRP please contact the FSA County Office or visit us online at the FSA Public Website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

## Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Producers who have their crops or grazing land insured under NAP are reminded that a **Notice of Loss, form CCC 576, should be filed within 15 days of the disaster occurrence or date damage to the crop is apparent**



### DCP Late Fees

#### Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program

It is now past time for the DCP Program. It will now cost you \$100.00 per contract to sign up for the program. Contact the office to see if you have signed up. The last day to sign up for DCP with paying the late fee is September 30, 2006

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status. (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, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



## Maintenance Practice and Weed Control on CRP Acreage

Remember, all contracts except the most recent contracts require the participant to determine when a maintenance practice is needed. Under all contracts, weed control in the responsibility of the contract holder. Maintenance is always done outside of the nesting season (April 1st to July 15th). Weed control is generally done outside of the nesting season. Spot control of weeds can be done during the nesting season with County Committee approval. CRP compliance reviews are being conducted and much of the CRP could use a Maintenance practice. There are several ways to maintain your acreage, here are a few: Harrowing, Clipping, or mowing. The CRP program now allows managed haying and grazing of CRP acreage every third year. You must apply for these in our office to see if fields are eligible and obtain a modified conservation plan from NRCS. Haying can begin on July 15th and Grazing can occur between September 1 and December 28th. A 25% reduction in your annual payment will apply. Failure to obtain approval before haying or grazing will be treated as a contract violation and penalties or contract termination will result. Remember, If the cover has not been established as successful on your CRP acreage, the nesting season restrictions do not apply. Follow your Conservation Plan of Operations to timely perform required actions on the acreage.



### Dates to Remember

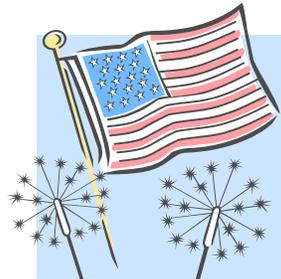
August 1, 2006	Final Date to File a COC Nominating Petition
September 30, 2006	Last day to sign up for DCP with paying late fee
November 3, 2006	COC Election Ballots mailed out to eligible voters in LAA#2
December 4, 2006	Completed Ballots to be returned or post-marked

## Commodity Loans

Commodity Loans are available to all farmers growing eligible commodities. These loans provide capital to farmers enabling them to hold their crop off the market and benefit from price increases that may come after harvest. Commodity Loans mature in 9 months. Loan rates are as follows:

Hard Red Winter	\$2.93
Hard Red Spring	\$2.80
Soft White Winter	\$2.81
Barley	\$2.10
Corn	\$2.28
Oats	\$1.38

Interest Rate on Commodity Loans  
For July is 6.125%



Producers are reminded that they are responsible for maintaining the quality of commodities in farm storage. They will also be subject to penalties applicable to unauthorized removal or disposition if CCC loan collateral is moved or disposed of with prior approval from the FSA county office.

## Farm Loans

### Loans for Socially Disadvantaged

The Farm Service Agency can make and guarantee loans to socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family size farms and ranches. Funds specifically for these loans are reserved each year. A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

### Beginning Farmers

The Farm Service Agency provides direct and guaranteed loans to beginning farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain financing from commercial credit sources. Each Fiscal Year, the Agency targets a portion of its direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operating loan (OL) funds to beginning farmers and ranchers. A beginning farmer or rancher is an individual or entity who (1) has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years; (2) meets the loan eligibility criteria requirements of the program to which he/she is applying; (3) substantially participates in the operation; and, (4) for FO purposes, does not own a farm greater than 25 percent of the average size farm in the county. All applicants for direct FO loans must have operated a farm for at least 3 years.

Contact this office for a loan packet. If you would like more information on loans contact Ross Ballard at 801-629-0575 or Scott Bown at 435-257-5402.

## Toll free number

Farm loan borrowers can now check the status of their accounts around the clock using a new toll-free telephone number. The toll free number is 1-888-518-4983 and is available in both English and Spanish. The system delivers information on active FSA loans 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The telephone system provides FSA direct loan borrowers with the following Information:

- Loan Number
- Original loan amount
- If the borrower is delinquent and the amount of the delinquency
- Due date of next installment
- Date last payment was received
- And more

During the first call, borrowers will enter their tax id number (TIN) or the social security number associated with the loan. They also will need to enter their zip code.

Borrowers will create a personal ID Number (PIN) for security, and enter this number in every time they use the system.

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STANDARD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
TREMONTON, UT 84337  
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USDA - Farm Service Agency  
Box Elder county FSA Office  
85 S 100 E  
Tremonton, UT 84337-1605

