

July 2014



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Clackamas/Multnomah County FSA - Dates to Remember

August 1 - ELAP, LFP and LIP applications must be filed for 2012 & 2013.

August 31 - Sales Closing date under NAP for beets, cabbage, carrots, Christmas trees, flowers (including seed), greens, herbs, onions and radish. See article below.

September 1 - USDA offices closed for Labor Day

September 13 - Hands-on Workshop on Sprayer Calibration & Application Assessment through OSU (contact Jan Egli- 503-678-1264 for registration and more information)

September 14 - OSU Smart Sprayer Demonstration - contact Jan Egli 503-678-1264 for more information

September 30 - Sales Closing date under Federal Crop Insurance for wheat

September 30 - Acreage reporting date for 2015 NAP covered aquaculture, Christmas trees, Ginseng, turfgrass sod, mushrooms, floriculture (including seed). See article below.

October 1 - Sales Closing date under NAP for asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadowfoam, sugarbeets & triticale grain.

Clackamas/Multnomah County **USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY FSA Office ANNOUNCES TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP) SIGN-UP**

221 Molalla Ave, Ste. 120
Oregon City, OR 97045-3072

Office Only Staffed:
Tuesdays 8:00 - 4:00

Phone: 503-655-3144 x2
Fax: 877-885-8382

County Executive Director:
Darca Glasgow: 503-472-1474 x2
darca.glasgow@or.usda.gov

Farm Loan Officer:
Suzanne Hayes - 503-648-3174 x 105
suzanne.hayes@or.usda.gov

As of Tuesday, April 15, 2014, orchardists and nursery tree growers who experienced losses from natural disasters that occurred on or after Oct. 1, 2011, can sign up for the Tree Assistance Program (TAP). TAP was authorized by the Agricultural Act of 2014 as a permanent disaster program. TAP provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes and vines damaged by natural disasters.

Eligible tree types include trees, bushes or vines that produce an annual crop for commercial purposes. Nursery trees include ornamental, fruit, nut and Christmas trees that are produced for commercial sale. Trees used for pulp or timber are ineligible.

Other FSA Offices in the Area:

Marion County FSA Office
650 Hawthorne Ave SE, Ste 130
Salem, OR 97301-5894
503-399-5741 x2

Washington County FSA Office
1080 SW Baseline Rd, Ste B-3
Hillsboro, OR 97123-3838
503-648-3174 X2

Yamhill County FSA Office
2200 SW 2nd ST
McMinnville, OR 97128
503-472-1474 x2

To qualify for TAP, orchardists must suffer a qualifying tree, bush or vine loss in excess of 15 percent mortality above the 3 percent (Oregon) normal mortality from an eligible natural disaster. The eligible trees, bushes or vines must have been owned when the natural disaster occurred; however, eligible growers are not required to own the land on which the eligible trees, bushes and vines were planted.

If the TAP application is approved, the eligible trees, bushes and vines must be replaced within 12 months from the date the application is approved. The cumulative total quantity of acres planted to trees, bushes or vines, for which a producer can receive TAP payments, cannot exceed 500 acres annually.

For more information [click here](#).

Next County Committee Meeting:

Sept. 2, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. if needed.

NON-INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occur due to a natural disaster.

An eligible producer is a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop and is entitled to an ownership share of that crop. As authorized by The Agricultural Act of 2014 (the 2014 Farm Bill), an individual's or entity's average adjusted gross income (AGI) limitation cannot exceed \$900,000 to be eligible for NAP.

Eligible crops must be commercially produced agricultural commodity crops for which the catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance is not available and be any of the following:

- Crops grown for food;
- Crops planted and grown for livestock consumption, including, but not limited to grain and forage crops, including native forage;
- Crops grown for fiber, such as cotton and flax (except for trees);
- Crops grown in a controlled environment, such as mushrooms and floriculture;
- Specialty crops, such as honey and maple sap;
- Value loss crops, such as aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng, ornamental nursery and turfgrass sod;
- Sea oats and sea grass and;
- Seed crops where the propagation stock is produced for sale as seed stock for other eligible NAP crop production.

Producers must contact a crop insurance agent for questions regarding insurability of a crop in their county.

For further information on whether a crop is eligible for NAP coverage, producers must contact the FSA county office where their farm records are maintained. [Click here for the fact sheet.](#)

Eligible producers must apply for coverage of noninsurable crops using Form CCC-471, "Application for Coverage," and pay the applicable service fee at the FSA office where their farm records are maintained. The application and service fee must be filed by the application closing date as established by the FSA State Committee.

The service fee is the lesser of \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties. This fee is authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill.

Limited resource producers, socially disadvantaged producer and beginning farmers or ranchers may request a waiver of the service fee. To qualify for an administrative service fee waiver, the producer must complete a CCC-860. (http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eFormsAdmin/CCC0860_140402V01.pdf)

The following crops have **closing dates** coming up within the next two months:

August 31: Beets, cabbage, canola, carrots, Christmas trees, flowers, greens, herbs, onions and radish (including for seed)

September 30: **CROP INSURANCE ONLY** – wheat – see your local insurance agent

October 1: Asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadowfoam, sugarbeets & triticale grain.

Please think ahead on some of these crops as there are no late filed provisions, even if you pay \$750 to cover everything, they must be chosen before the closing date for the crop.

The program has been expanded to include protection at higher coverage levels for 2015 but this option will not be available if you don't have at least the basic coverage. Keep reading your newsletters or bulletins for timing on the newest options.

FILING FOR NAP LOSSES

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

FARM RECONSTITUTIONS

When changes in farm ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation.

The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon.

Estate Method — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

Designation of Landowner Method — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

DCP Cropland Method — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

Default Method — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

MICROLOAN PROGRAM

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the Microloan (ML) program to better serve the unique financial operating needs of beginning, niche and small family farm operations.

FSA offers applicants a Microloan designed to help farmers with credit needs of \$35,000 or less. The loan features a streamlined application process built to fit the needs of new and smaller producers. This loan program will also be useful to specialty crop producers and operators of community supported agriculture (CSA).

Eligible applicants can apply for a maximum amount of \$35,000 to pay for initial start-up expenses such as hoop houses to extend the growing season, essential tools, irrigation and annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing, and distribution expenses. As financing needs increase, applicants can apply for a regular operating loan up to the maximum amount of \$300,000 or obtain financing from a commercial lender under FSA's Guaranteed Loan Program.

Individuals who are interested in applying for a microloan or would like to discuss other farm loan programs available should contact Suzanne Hayes at the number list above to set up an appointment.

For general information please [click here](#).

KNOW YOUR FARMER, KNOW YOUR FOOD

The Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food (KYF2) initiative is a USDA-wide effort focused on strengthening local and regional food systems.

In recent years, consumers have shown an increased interest in purchasing locally-produced foods and many farmers and ranchers followed the trend and offer fresh foods through local markets.

USDA followed suit, developing KYF2, which helps connect consumers with producers in their community. USDA offers a wide range of programs that can assist farmers, ranchers, businesses, communities and individuals. To learn more about grants, loans and support that is available, visit http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=KYF_GRANTS.

These USDA programs stimulate economic development in agricultural communities, foster new opportunities for farmers and ranchers, promote locally and regionally grown and processed foods, cultivate healthy eating habits and educated consumers, expand access to affordable fresh and local food and develop a connection between food, agriculture, community and the environment.

For more information on KYF2, visit

<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/knowyourfarmer?navid=KNOWYOURFARMER>

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).