



# Coos-Curry FSA October Newsletter

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## Coos & Curry County FSA Updates

The modern USDA Farm Service Agency is taking another step toward a paperless operation. Producers now have the option to enroll in the new GovDelivery system using email to provide instant notices, newsletters and electronic reminders instead at absolutely no charge to producers.

FSA, like many other organizations, is working smarter and more efficiently. Moving to electronic notifications via email helps conserve resources, speeds up the delivery of important information and saves taxpayer dollars.

County Committee ballots will continue to be mailed to all eligible producers. Producers and others can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates from any County FSA office by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>.

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### **Coos/Curry FSA Office**

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**County Executive Director:**  
Bret A. Harris

**Program Technicians:**  
Vacant

**Farm Loan Manager:**  
Jim Jutson  
Phone: 541-673-6071

**Next County Committee Meeting:**

December 5th, 2013 at 10:00 AM

## **County Committee Elections**

Watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on Nov. 4, 2013. If for some reason you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office.

Completed and signed ballots must be returned to the county office by close of business on Dec. 2, 2013.

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## **2013 DCP Final Payments**

DCP payments for 2013 will be issued after Oct. 1, 2013. These payments will be deposited directly into participating producers' bank accounts.

If there are any unearned payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the October Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program payments.

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## **Reporting Perennial Forage and Fall Seeded Crops**

All producers in Oregon with a Risk Management Agency insurance policy for Apiculture or Pasture/Range/Forage are required to report their acreage for these crops to FSA by November 15. December 15 is the deadline for all producers of fall planted and existing stands of Alfalfa Seed, Fall Canola, Perennial Forage (except forage seed crops), Fall Mint, Fall Onions (planted 8/15 – 9/15), and Fall-Seeded

Small Grains (including Wheat). Please call for an appointment to certify these crops.

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## Increased Guaranteed Loan Limit

The Farm Service Agency has announced that the loan limit for the Guaranteed Loan Program increased to \$1,355,000 on Oct. 1, 2013. The limit is adjusted annually based on an inflation index compiled by the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The maximum combined guaranteed and direct farm loan indebtedness now increases to \$1,655,000.

As a reminder, the one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed Farm Ownership and Operating loans is 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan.

Producers should contact their local FSA County Offices with questions about farm loans.

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## Microloan Program

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the Microloan 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 interested in applying for a microloan or would like to discuss other farm loan programs available, should contact the local FSA office to setup an appointment with a Loan Approval Official

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## Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H Clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated

with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

For more information you can stop by your FSA county office. Our staff can help with preparing and processing the application forms.

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## Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Farm operating loans are available as well as loans to purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of socially disadvantaged applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities.

For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African-Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders.

FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

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## Dates to Remember

- November 4 - COC Ballots mailed to eligible voters
- Nov. 11 - Office Closed for Veterans Day
- Nov. 20 - Last Day to purchase NAP or Crop Insurance for perennial fruits, nuts & honey
- November 28 - Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov. 30 - Last Day to purchase NAP on forage & grazing crops (except oats) & grasses & legumes for seed
- December 2 - Last day to return COC ballots
- December 5 - Coos/Curry COC meeting & ballot count
- December 15 - Acreage Reporting deadline for perennial forage & fall seeded wheat & small grains

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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).

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