

USDA



Farm Service Agency

Delta County FSA Office
690 Industrial Blvd, Delta, CO 81416-2812
(970) 874-5726 FAX (970) 874-7768

COC Members

Chairman: Fredrick 'Pete' Klaseen
Vice Chairman: Shane Atchley
Regular Member : Monty Todd
Minority Advisor: Cheryl Hines

Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed on all Federal Holidays

Staff

County Executive Director: Alan Bull
Program Technician: Linda J. Lowitz

September 2007

NEWSLETTER

Delta County FSA Office
690 Industrial Blvd.
Delta, CO 81416-2812

Dates To Remember

Friday, September 28, 2007

Deadline for DCP 2007 contract enrollment (late-file sign-up fee may apply)

Monday, October 1, 2007

2008 NAP closing date for Birdsfoot forage.

Monday, October 8, 2007

Columbus Day: Office Closed

Monday, October 15, 2007

CDP Sign-up begins for 2005—Feb. 2007 quantity losses from natural disaster (Quality loss sign-up to be announced)

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Ballots mailed for County Committee LAA#3 (North Fork Valley, Crawford-Fruitland Mesa areas)

2008 EQIP contract deadline. . . Contact NRCS for more information

MILCX deadline for submitting production evidence

Monday, November 12, 2007

Veterans Day: Office Closed

Tuesday, November 20, 2007

2008 NAP closing date for Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Grapes, Peaches, Pears, Plums, and Prunes

Thursday, November 22, 2007

Thanksgiving Day: Office Closed

Monday, December 3, 2007

Deadline to return COC LAA#3 ballots to office

2008 NAP Closing Dates for Alfalfa (forage & seed), Grass (forage & seed), Mixed Forage, and Honey.

Tuesday, December 25, 2007

Christmas Day: Office Closed

Tuesday, January 1, 2008

New Years Day: Office Closed

Monday, March 17, 2008

2008 NAP Closing Dates for Dry Beans, Green Beans, Broccoli, Cantaloupe, Cauliflower, Sweet Corn Seed, Cucumbers, Flaxseed, Gourds, Lettuce, Oats (forage & grain), Peppers, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Sorghum (forage), Squash, Sugar Beets, Tomatoes, and Watermelon.

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

2008 crop acreage reporting deadline

NAP 2007 production reporting deadline



MONTY TODD RUNNING FOR RE-ELECTION IN LAA#3

Ballots for the election of County Committee representative for North Fork Valley and Crawford-Fruitland Mesa areas will be mailed Thursday, November 1, 2007. Monty Todd is running for a second term. Producers are encouraged to vote. "Write-In" candidates are permitted for eligible farmers or ranchers in LAA#3. The deadline for returning ballots for LAA#3 to the Delta County FSA office is Monday, December 3, 2007.

NOTE: Voter signatures are subject to FSA signature requirements. An individual can only sign documents on behalf of an entity if acceptable evidence of authority is on file with FSA.

The Delta County Committee is composed of three elected members representing the local administrative areas. Each member serves a 3-year term. One-third of these seats are up for election each year. FSA County Committees operate within official regulations that are designed to carry out Federal Farm programs. Committee members apply their judgment, experience, and knowledge when making local decisions and are involved with FSA decisions on: Producer appeals; commodity price support loans and payments; yields; conservation programs; incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for commodities; and other farm disaster assistance.

For more information, visit our office or check on-line at www.fsa.usda.gov.



Additional Key Information

Continuous Sign-ups

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program applications taken through-out the year

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U. S agricultural land to report holdings within 90 days of closing.

Delta FSA is utilizing 2005 color Digital Ortho

Imagery to delineate fields and acreage in the county. FSA personnel has completed updates to farm records for 2007 program participants. If you have any questions about this process, please contact our office.

Acreage Report Reminder

Late-file acreage reports are accepted. There is a nominal fee of \$46 to verify existence of the crop.

2007 Commodity Loan Rates for Delta County

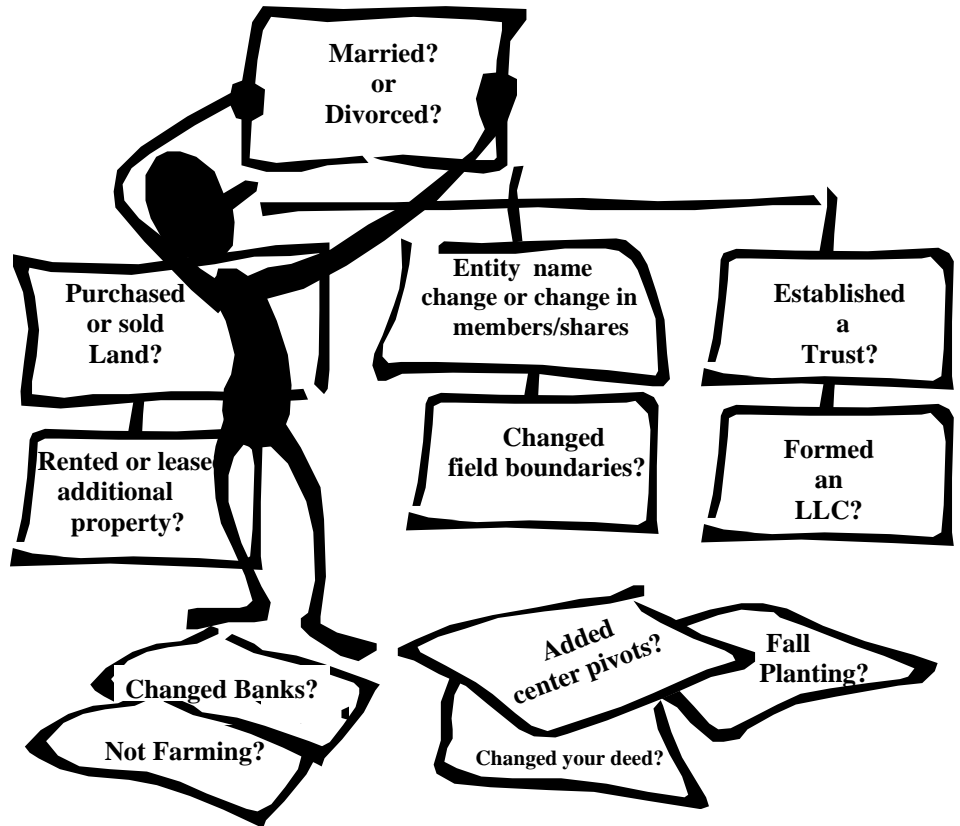
COMMODITY	LOAN RATE
Barley	\$2.03/bu
Corn	\$2.29/bu
Oats	\$1.37 bu
Grain Sorghum	\$3.87/cwt
Wheat, Hard Red Spring/Winter	\$2.78/bu
Wheat, Soft White	\$2.44/bu
Wool, Ungraded	\$.40/lb
Mohair	\$4.20/lb

For information on **America's 2007 Farm Bill** check out the link at FSA's website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.



NAP PROGRAM REMINDERS

Have you kept your farm records up to date?



COVERAGE PURCHASING DEADLINES

Deadlines for purchasing coverage for specific crops are detailed in the Calendar on page 2 of this newsletter.

NOTICE OF LOSS

A written notice of loss must be provided within 15 calendar days after the latter of the occurrence of prevented planting or end of the planting period or disaster occurrence or date damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent to the producer. Notice of loss must be filed timely on a CCC-576 form for each weather related event or natural occurrence that causes damage to or loss of the specific crop or commodity.

DISPOSITION OF NAP CROP ACREAGE

Producers who have reported crop acreage for NAP purposes who choose not to harvest the specific crop acreage must leave intact all eligible acreage and crop units for which the producer intends to make an application for payment until all units have been appraised or released by a loss adjuster or fully certified FSA employee. During any year that a notice of loss is filed, producers of hand harvested crops are required to notify their county office within 15 calendar days after harvest is complete and before destruction of the crop, so an appraisal of remaining production can be completed by a loss adjuster.

PRODUCTION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Producers are responsible for reporting total amount of 2007 production for the covered NAP crop no later than the subsequent crop year acreage reporting date for the crop following the year in which the loss occurred. Tuesday, July 15, 2008 is the production reporting deadline.

DON'T LOSE IMPORTANT BENEFITS BY MISSING CRITICAL DEADLINES!

MILCX PROGRAM UPDATE

The final rate for Milk Income Loss Contract Extension Program benefits for September 2007 was zero. Milk payments were available for the months of October 2006 through February 2007. The deadline for submitting production evidence is Thursday, November 1, 2007.

REMINDER

The designation by landowner method is the division of base acres in the manner agreed to by the owner and purchaser or transferee.

All sellers and buyers must sign FSA-155 'Request for Farm Reconstitution' indicating the division of base as condition of the sale.



Environmental Quality incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program for landowners offering incentive payments for irrigation system improvements, range land and grazing management improvements and wildlife habitat improvements.

EQIP promotes agricultural production, environmental quality, and wildlife and wetland habitat enhancement.

The deadline for accepting this year's applications is Thursday, November 1, 2007.

For more information, contact NRCS in Delta at 874-5726 ext 3 or stop by the office at 690 Industrial Blvd., Delta, CO 81416.

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Hot!

NEW CROP DISASTER AND LIVESTOCK PROGRAMS ANNOUNCED

USDA has announced the starting sign-up dates for the new Crop Disaster Program (CDP), Livestock Compensation Program (LCP), and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). The three ad hoc disaster programs provide benefits to farmers and ranchers who suffered losses caused by natural disasters in recent years. FSA is charged with administering the programs.

Eligible farmers can sign-up for the Crop Disaster Program beginning Monday, October 15, 2007 if they suffered quantity losses to their crops. USDA will announce and conduct CDP sign-up for quality losses as soon as possible.

September 10, 2007, was the starting sign-up date for eligible ranchers and other livestock producers to apply for benefits under the Livestock Compensation Program and Livestock Indemnity Program.

CDP provides benefits to farmers who

suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops from natural disasters if the crop was planted before February 28, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before February 28, 2007.

Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006, or 2007 must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Producers may apply to benefits for losses to multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Program (NAP) for the year of the loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.

LCP compensates livestock producers for feed losses occurring between

January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007, due to a natural disaster, this can include producers who suffered losses resulting from blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into January 2007. Livestock producers may elect to receive compensation for calendar year 2007 grazing season losses that are attributable to wildfire natural disasters occurring during the applicable period as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

LIP compensates livestock producers for livestock losses between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007, that resulted from natural disasters, including losses due to blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into January 2007.

For up to date information on these programs check out the FSA's website, <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> and click on Disaster Assistance Programs or contact the Delta FSA office at (970)874-5726.

EMERGENCY LOANS AVAILABLE

Producers in Delta, Mesa, Montrose, and Gunnison Counties could be eligible for emergency loans based on damages and losses caused from freeze damage that occurred on April 11, through April 19, 2007.

The emergency loans help cover production losses in counties declared disaster areas by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. The loan funds may be used to pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year, pay essential family living expenses, reorganize the farming operations and refinance debts.

The low interest loans are available to operators of family size farms/ranches who are unable to obtain credit elsewhere. Loans are based on physical and production losses.

Producers must file an application for an emergency loan through the Farm Service Agency (FSA) by April 21, 2008. Each applicant will be considered on its own merit, taking into account the extent of losses, security available, repayment ability, and other eligibility re-

quirements.

For more information on emergency loan applications, contact Laurie B Neilson, Farm Loan Manager, with the Mesa County FSA Office in Grand Junction, Colorado at 2738 Crossroads Blvd., Suite 101. The phone number is (970)242-4511 ext. 2.

Delta County Receives Disaster Designation

SECRETARIAL NATURAL DISASTER DETERMINATION S-2577

On July 9, 2007, Governor Bill Ritter, Jr of Colorado requested a disaster designation for Delta County due to losses caused by freeze on April 11 through April 19, 2007.

In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act Gunnison, Mesa, and Montrose counties are named as contiguous disaster areas.

Additional information is available at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

DOES YOUR FFA OR 4H PARTICIPANT NEED FINANCIAL HELP?

FSA makes operating loans to individual rural youths age 10 through 20 to establish and operate income producing projects.

These projects must be of modest size and be initialed, developed, cared out by rural youths participating in 4-H Clubs, FFA, or a similar organization or with a vocational teacher or county extension agent.

The project must be an organized and supervised program of work. It must be planned and operated with the assistance of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.

Contact your local FSA office for more details.

