



## Douglas County FSA News

Douglas County FSA Office  
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### County Committee

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Paul Santos, Vice Chair  
Michael Ritchie, COC Member  
Marilyn Manfrina-Burke, Minority Advisor

### Staff

Andrew Schmidt, County Director– Ext 104  
Jim Jutson, Farm Loan Manager – Ext 108  
Tyree Koester, Program Technician – Ext 100  
Dana Mahlberg, Program Technician –Ext 117

**November 2008**

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### **LIVESTOCK FORAGE PROGRAM (LFP)**

LFP is now a permanent funded program with the new farm bill. It is available to eligible livestock producer who suffered GRAZING losses because of drought as defined by the USDA Drought Monitor on native or improved pastureland or land planted to a crop specifically providing grazing. If livestock are grazing federally managed land, losses to grazing by fire may be covered.

To be eligible for this program for 2009 you MUST purchase the Non-insured assistance insurance below for your grazing ground by **December 1, 2008**. Call the office for more details

### **FSA Non-Insured ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)**

The Farm Service Agency provides catastrophic coverage for crops that are not insurable through a private crop insurance company. The cost of insurance is \$250 per crop, maximum of \$750 for all your crops in the county. The coverage begins at the later of 30 days after purchasing the insurance or the date the crop is planted. The insurance covers 50% of losses due to weather related conditions. The loss level is determined on the individual producers past production history. The deadline to apply for **NAP** coverage on the following crops has been extended for the **2009 crop year ONLY**:

**The 2008 Farm Bill requires insurance coverage to participate in other supplemental disaster programs.**

December 1, 2008 (usually August 31): beets, cabbage, canola, carrots, Christmas trees, flowers, greens, herbs (except peppermint), onions and radish.

December 1, 2008 (usually October 1): Alfalfa, asparagus, barley, clover, garlic, grass, peppermint, hops, meadow foam, mixed forage, oats, rye, sugar beets, triticale, vetch, wheat

December 1, 2008 (usually November 20): Apples, apricots, blueberries, cane berries, chestnuts, cherries, cranberries, hazelnuts, honey, nectarine, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, strawberries, walnuts.

March 15, 2009: Beans, broccoli, cantaloupe, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, peas, potatoes, pumpkin, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon.

March 31, 2009: Buckwheat

Crops that are insurable with private insurance companies in Douglas County are: Wheat, Oats, Field Corn, Grapes, Apples, Nursery, Barley, and the Adjusted Gross Revenue-Lite Program. Contact your private insurance representative for information relating to these crops and their deadlines to apply.

### **LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)**

LIP is now a permanent funded program with the new farm bill. It is available to eligible livestock producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality, which will be defined at a later date. Losses must be caused by adverse weather such as floods, blizzards, disease (must be exacerbated by the weather event), wildfires, ice storms, lightning, earthquake, extreme heat and extreme cold. Producers are eligible for losses occurring since January 1, 2008. Payments will be made to producers with qualifying losses based on 75% of the market value of the specific livestock. The program will run on annual basis each year, you must report losses of livestock within 30 days of knowing the livestock died and you must apply for payment by January 30<sup>th</sup> following the calendar year of losses. If you have had losses this year please contact the FSA office so we can put you on a list to contact back once forms are available.

### **DOWNPAYMENT LOAN PROGRAM EXPANDED**

FSA's direct Down payment Loan Program for beginning farmers received a significant expansion in the new Farm Bill. In addition being available to help qualified beginning farmers and ranchers purchase farmland, this unique FSA loan program is now available to help women and minority farmers and ranchers as well. The maximum FSA loan possible under the program has been increased to \$225,000, and the previous purchase price limitation has been removed.

The interest rate under this expanded direct loan program can now be as low as 1.5 %, and the loan can have a term of up to 20 years. The loan can be secured with a second mortgage, behind the first mortgage of another lender willing to help in financing the purchase of the property, with or without an FSA loan guarantee. The minimum cash down payment required of the loan applicant under this expanded loan program is 5% of the purchase price. For more information on this expanded loan program, please call the FSA county office.

### **FARM OPERATING LOANS**

Eligible applicants may obtain direct loans for up to a maximum indebtedness of \$300,000, and guaranteed loans for up to a maximum indebtedness of \$949,000 (amount adjusted annually for inflation). The repayment term may vary, but typically it will not exceed 7 years for intermediate-term purposes. Annual operating loans are generally repaid within 12 months or when the commodities produced are sold. In general, loan funds may be used for normal operating expenses, machinery and equipment, real estate repairs, and refinancing debt. Please call the FSA county office for more information.

### **CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)**

Are you interested in getting the financial and technical assistance needed to implement certain conservation practices on your land? Do you have land next to a stream or wetland? We may be able to provide the technical and financial assistance you need through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).

CREP is a jointly funded program by the federal government and the State of Oregon. The program has several objectives to include, but not limited to, reducing sediment and nutrient pollution from agricultural lands, stabilize stream banks with adequate vegetation, reduce water temperatures, improve habitat for fish species, and to provide a mechanism for farmers to help them meet water quality requirements established by federal and state law.

Landowners who enroll in CREP plant long term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion and enhance wildlife habitat. In return, the Farm Service Agency provides participants with rental payments and financial assistance. There is also an incentive payments based on the costs of establishing the habitat.

The program targets the use of Riparian Buffers, Filter Strips, Wetland Restoration, Wildlife Habitat Buffers and Wetland Buffers to meet the objectives of the program

The program can be used on streams and properties both large and small. It is also a great way to participate in conservation because you will receive both financial and technical support. If you are interested in the CREP program or have any questions please contact the Douglas County Farm Service Agency at 541-673-6071 extension 2

### **PRICE SUPPORT FOR PRODUCERS OF WOOL AND MOHAIR**

The purpose of the loan deficiency program is to financially support producers when market prices fall below a set loan rate. The difference between the loan rate and the actual market price equals a payment rate available to farmers if they forgo a loan on the commodity. If you have sheared any wool or mohair since January 1, 2008 you may be eligible for a cash payment based on the pounds of wool or mohair. Rates are in effect for graded and non-graded wool. Mohair only has one rate. **Deadline to apply for 2008 wool and mohair is January 31, 2009**

Certain eligibility criteria apply; however, if you currently participate in other Farm Service Agency programs, you have already met most of the criteria. If you have never worked with FSA and you are a producer of wool or mohair please stop by our office or call us at 541-673-6071 extension 2.

### **OSU EXTENSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

November 17, 2008 - Community Supported Agriculture program  
Jackson Co./OSU Extension Auditorium - Central Point  
Contact Melissa Matthewson at or melissa.matthewson@oregonstate.edu  
See program announcement at  
<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sorec/farms/classes>

November 17 or 18 - OSU Beef Quality Assurance Program  
Polk County Livestock Association & OSU Extension Service  
Nov 17th in Dallas, OR (6-9 pm) or  
Nov 18th in Aurora, OR (9 am - noon)  
Pre-register - Polk County OSU Extension Service  
Phone: @ 503-623-8395 or  
E-mail: gene.pirelli@oregonstate.edu  
See program website, Western Regional BQA - [www.bqa.wsu.edu](http://www.bqa.wsu.edu)  
Printable announcement available at  
<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/lf/workshops>

December 4 - Weed Educational Program/Pesticide Recertification Class  
Lane County/OSU Extension Service, Eugene  
Mark Mellbye 541-967-3871x2394  
Printable announcement available later at  
<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/lf/workshops>

December 10 - Oregon BVD PI/ Biosecurity Program  
Douglas County Fairgrounds, Roseburg  
11:30 - 1:30 Luncheon  
Cost \$12.00  
Pre-register Douglas County OSU Extension Service  
Phone: 541-672-4461  
E-mail shelby.filley@oregonstate.edu  
Printable announcement available soon at  
<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/lf/workshops>  
Program website at <http://ans.oregonstate.edu/bvd/html/about.html>

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Do you wish to receive the newsletter by email? Please contact Andy at 541-673-6071 extension 104 or by email at [andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov](mailto:andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov) and you will be emailed the newsletter.

**Attention: Agricultural group members and leaders.** Do you want FSA to come to your meeting and talk about what FSA has to offer you? If so contact Andrew Schmidt at 541-673-6071 extension 104 or by email at [andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov](mailto:andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov)

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to visit the USDA Douglas County Service Center should contact Andy Schmidt, at 541-673-6071 extension 104, or email [andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov](mailto:andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov).

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