

Having trouble getting financing? If so call Jon Wilson, Farm Loan Manager, at 509-545-8543.

July 23, 2007

GARFIELD/ASOTIN COUNTY FSA NEWS

DCP SIGNUP EXTENDED

Do not forget August 3, 2007 is the final deadline to sign up for the Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP). Producers failing to sign up by August 3 may still participate by enrolling before September 30th, but will pay a \$100 late-file fee.

NAP PRODUCERS - REPORT CROP LOSSES

With the current drought situation, especially in Asotin County, producers of Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) crops need to submit a timely notice of loss if they are aware that their crops have been affected by disaster conditions. The notice of loss must be filed within 15 days of when the disaster event occurred or within 15 days of when the disaster condition is apparent. At this point, the drought is very apparent in Asotin County. All NAP producers should file a notice of loss with our office as soon as possible. Failure to timely file a notice of loss will result in ineligibility for NAP benefits.

NOMINATIONS NEEDED FOR COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

August 1, 2007 is the final date to submit nominations for the County FSA Committee elections. Producers may nominate eligible candidates that farm in the Local Administrative Area that is up for election. Interested producers may also nominate themselves by submitting a nominating petition. The areas up for election are the Southern Area in Garfield County and the Anatone Area in Asotin County. Any interested candidates should contact the county office prior to August 1. FSA encourages the nomination of under-represented group candidates including minorities and women.

COMPLIANCE SPOT CHECKS

County FSA Offices perform a variety of compliance spot checks to ensure accuracy of program payments and integrity of programs. For 2007, compliance responsibilities for county offices have changed to increase program efficiency and reduce costs. Instead of selecting a percentage of individual program contracts, loans or applications at the county level, individual producers will be selected by the national office. Producers selected will have compliance checked for all programs in which they participate. This new procedure will reduce the number of spot checks required to be performed by county offices, but will result in a more extensive review of selected producers.

2007 PRICE SUPPORT PROVISIONS

2007 price support provisions include benefits through the use of Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs). Benefits are available on wheat, feed-grains, oilseeds, pulse crops (peas & lentils), honey, wool & mohair. With higher grain prices this season, it is unlikely that Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) will be available for most commodities. That is good news! Marketing Assistance Loans provide the opportunity to hold crops for sale later in the year while providing operating capital after harvest. The loan program may be a useful tool even in years with high grain prices. Using the loan program allows producers to obtain funds after harvest without delivering the grain from farm storage to the warehouse. While under loan, producers are allowed to contract their grain to lock in current prices, and deliver the grain later in the year as time permits. This works well for producers who normally do not deliver grain from farm storage until winter or next spring. One very important provision to remember – producers must maintain ownership and title to the grain while it is under loan. See beneficial interest requirements listed in the next section. Producers may also use the commodity loan program to obtain funds at lower interest rates than they may currently be paying on commercial loans. The savings in interest costs may justify using the loan program until proceeds of grain sales become available.

BENEFICIAL INTEREST REQUIREMENTS FOR LOANS AND LDPs

Producers who use CCC loan programs including LDPs, must retain beneficial interest and title to the commodity from harvest through the date an LDP is requested or the date of repayment for loans. To retain beneficial interest, producers must have title to the commodity, control over the commodity and risk of loss in the commodity. For commodities delivered to a warehouse for storage, a negotiable warehouse receipt must be able to be obtained.

Garfield County FSA

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Pomeroy, WA 99347-0018
(509) 843-1997
FAX (509) 843-1168

Asotin County FSA

720 6th St, Ste B
Clarkston, WA 99403-2012
(509) 758-7821
FAX (509) 758-7533

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Garfield County FSA Committee

Diane Koller, Chair
Max Scoggin, V-Chair
Chris Wolf, Member

Asotin County FSA Committee

Casey Hagenah, Chair
Brit Ausman, V-Chair
Keith Claassen, Member
Susie Appleford, Advisor

Office Staff

Nick Waldher, CED
Jon Wilson, Farm Loan Manager (Pasco Office)
Kathi Ledgerwood
Sherri Meacham
Emily Ruchert
Lorelei McNamee
Paul Ruark

Next FSA County Committee Meetings

Garfield County, Sept. 18
Asotin County, Sept. 12

2007 LOAN RATES

SWW Wheat	\$2.84/Bu
HRS Wheat	\$3.07/Bu
HRW Wheat	\$3.28/Bu
Barley	\$2.13/Bu or \$88.75/Ton

Contact the county office for loan rates for other crops or for other counties.

National FSA website:

www.fsa.usda.gov

Washington State FSA website:

www.fsa.usda.gov/wa

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Asotin County Office will be closed August 21-24.

Both the Asotin County Office and the Garfield County Office will be closed Sept. 3, 2007 for Labor Day.

"Return Service Requested"

LOAN & LDP REMINDERS

The final date to obtain a loan or LDP is March 31, 2008 for wheat, barley, oats, canola, crambe, flaxseed, rapeseed, sesame seed and honey; May 31, 2008 for dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas, corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, mustard seed, safflower seed and sunflower seed; and January 31, 2008 for wool and mohair. Loan rates vary between counties. Generally the loan rate is the rate from the county where the crop is delivered and stored. Grain acquired through purchase, trade, or substitution is not eligible for loan or LDP. To be eligible, crops must have been raised by an eligible producer (one who shares in the crop). Do not commingle grain from prior years in the same bin with 2007 production unless you have the old crop measured by FSA or request to commingle prior to doing so and weigh in the 2007 crop.

CCC LOAN PROVISIONS

Commodities stored in farm storage or warehouse storage are eligible for loans. Farm stored bins must protect the grain from rodents, weather, insects, etc. Producers are responsible for the quantity and quality of grain in the bin. Warehouse stored grain must be in an approved UGSA warehouse. Loan service fees are \$45 per loan plus \$3 for each bin or warehouse receipt in excess of one. Loans mature at the end of the ninth month following the month disbursed. The interest rate for loans is currently 6.0%. The interest rate is variable and applies when the loan is disbursed and then adjusts on January 1 to the rate in effect at that time.

For farm stored loans:

Bins must have ladders and access to the grain.

Certified loans are available based on producer measurements. FSA measurement service is available for a fee. Producers may obtain a loan for 100% of the quantity in the bin in either case.

A crop lien is filed by FSA on the 2007 crop and a bin seal must be placed on the bin for identification. Producers must have authorization to remove grain from the bin. Producers who remove grain without authorization or certify to incorrect quantities may be subject to liquidated damages.

For warehouse stored loans:

A negotiable warehouse receipt must be issued to the producer and presented to FSA to request a loan.

Storage must be provided for or paid from the date delivered to the warehouse through the maturity of the loan. If storage has not been provided for or prepaid, a deduction for storage will be withheld from the loan rate. Producers are responsible for storage during the loan period.

Repayments will be accepted only for whole warehouse receipts. Warehouse receipts may not be split for loan repayment purposes. Therefore, have receipts written in the specific quantities that you intend to sell and repay.

DISASTER LEGISLATION

Our office does not have any additional news on the new disaster programs that will be available. Regulations are still being written and signup dates have not been announced. Program details will be published when they become available.

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 3 – Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) signup deadline

August 1 – Deadline to request farm combinations and farm divisions

August 1 – Final date to submit nominating petitions for committee elections

HANDICAPPED ACCOMODATIONS

Special accommodations will be made for the physically handicapped, vision-, or hearing-impaired person upon request. If accommodation is required, please contact Nick Waldher at 509-843-1997.

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