



Service Center
U.S. Department
Of
Agriculture
Farm Service Agency

132-A N. Enright Ave.
Willows, CA 95988
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Fax (530) 934-8667
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

Hours

Monday – Friday
7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Peter Knight- Chairperson
Peter Ceccon Jr
Eric Larrabee
Muhammad Hussain Advisor

County Executive

Director
Donald Perez

Farm Loan Manager

Michele Larrick

Staff

Michele Clark
Gerri Edwards
Elaine Gallegos
Cynthia Jones
Mary O' Brien
Ray Philp
Judy Richter
Lon Tennant

**IMPORTANT DATES
TO REMEMBER**



Glenn County News

Farm Service Agency

July 2007
General #1

New Disaster Programs

As part of new legislation passed by Congress last month, a multi-program package to help farmers in California who have suffered losses over the past three years will soon be available.

Specific details are not yet available. As more information becomes available we will provide updates and information will soon be available online at: www.fsa.usda.gov. We anticipate that sign up will occur later this fall.

A few program specifics are:

Crop Disaster Program:

All crops are eligible. However, producers must have purchased crop insurance or coverage under the agency's Non-insured Assistance Program in order to qualify. Eligible losses are those that exceeded 35 percent and occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007 (2007 crops must have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007) as a result of a natural disaster. The producer will choose one year for benefits. Quality loss assistance will be available for some crops as well.

Emergency Conservation Program:

Nationwide, \$16 million has been made available for the cleanup and restoration of farm and agricultural production lands. It is too soon to tell how this will be implemented in California

Livestock Programs:

Producers choose for each livestock program one of three years for which they would receive benefits. Many California counties are eligible. For a complete list of eligible counties by year, visit www.fsa.usda.gov and select California from the state office menu at the top of the page.

The Livestock Compensation Program

provides benefits for producers in designated disaster counties for their added costs of procuring livestock feed in 2005, 2006 or 2007 (up to Feb. 28, 2007). Eligible livestock under are: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, swine, deer, and catfish.

The Livestock Indemnity Program makes payment available to producers that have incurred more than normal livestock losses between Jan.1, 2005 and Feb. 28, 2007, due to a disaster. A producer will select the losses in one year for benefits.

Dairy Programs:

The Dairy Assistance Program

compensates producers for reduced milk production due to a natural disaster in a declared disaster county. Nationwide, \$16 million is available.

Milk Income Loss Contract Program

This program extends the MILC program for one additional month, through Sept. 30, 2007.

Acreage Reporting

The timely filing of an acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a number of programs, including Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, as well as marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments.

To be timely, you must file an FSA-578 by July 15, 2007

To be considered timely, acreage reports for:

- prevented planted acreage must be filed no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the applicable crop
- failed acreage must be filed before the disposition of the crop.

FSA will accept crop certifications from farm operators, farm owners, persons authorized by power of attorney and tenants and sharecroppers, for which they have a share.

Crop acreage reports from producers are accepted for multiple future applications.

DCP Deadline.

The deadline to sign up for the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program – known as DCP-- has been extended to August 3, 2007. Those producers who have eligible crop acreage base farms and have not yet enrolled in the program have been given additional time to sign up their farms. This is an annual program that requires a new signed contract every year. Call today to make an appointment to enroll your farm.

Measurement Service

Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. Producers must file a

request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit to have stake and referencing done on the farm.

Incorrect acreage self-certification can result in reduced program payments, penalty, or loss of eligibility.

COC Election Nominations

From June 15 through Aug. 1, farmers and ranchers can nominate eligible peers as candidates for election to the Glenn County Farm Service Agency County Committee.

This is an important time for Local Administrative Area communities, because county committee members make decisions that have significant effects on you and the area's agricultural sector as a whole.

For example, committee members make decisions on applications for federal farm program and disaster payments. Committee members play a vital role by helping local farmers and ranchers manage tough financial times and natural disasters.

County committee members make many other important decisions that affect local farmers and ranchers, such as whether haying and grazing should be allowed on Conservation Reserve Program land. Talk to a county committee member or the County Executive Director for details on the types of decisions county committee members make.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet basic eligibility requirements. Contact the county office staff or visit

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections> for details about candidate eligibility. Nomination forms can be obtained at the county office or online at the above address.

Remember, the nomination period runs June 15 through

Aug. 1. Voting takes place in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by Nov. 2. Dec. 3 is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office Jan. 1, 2008.

Continuous CRP Sign-Up

Environmentally desirable land devoted to certain conservation practices may be enrolled in CRP at any time under continuous sign up provisions. Offers are automatically accepted provided the land and producer meet certain eligibility requirements. Continuous CRP enrollments are not subject to competitive bidding.

To be eligible for Continuous CRP, a producer must have owned or operated the land for at least 12 months prior to submitting the offer. Exceptions to the rule include:

- if the new owner acquired the land due to the previous owner's death;
- the ownership change occurred due to foreclosure where the owner exercised a timely right of redemption in accordance with state law; or
- the circumstances of the acquisition present adequate assurance to FSA that the new owner did not acquire the land for the purpose of placing it in CRP.

To be eligible for placement in CRP, land must be either cropland that has been planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity four of the previous six crop years from 1996 to 2001, and which is physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity; or certain marginal pastureland.

The following conservation practices are eligible for Continuous CRP sign up: riparian buffers; wildlife habitat buffers; wetland buffers; filter strips; wetland restoration; grass waterways; shelterbelts; living snow fences; contour grass strips; salt tolerant vegetation; and shallow water areas for wildlife.

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United States Department of Agriculture
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