

# Farm Service Agency

United States Department of  
Agriculture

Farm Service Agency

Humboldt/Del Norte County



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## Disaster Program Sign-up Announced

Sign-up dates for the new Livestock Compensation Program, Livestock Indemnity Program and Crop Disaster Program have been announced. Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive benefits under the Livestock Compensation Program (**LCP**) and Livestock Indemnity Program (**LIP**) starting **September 10, 2007**. Eligible farmers can sign-up for the Crop Disaster Program (**CDP**) beginning **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.

LCP compensates livestock producers for feed losses and LIP for livestock losses occurring between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, due to a natural disaster. Producers in primary counties declared secretarial disaster areas or certain counties declared presidential disaster areas between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, are eligible as are producers located in counties contiguous to those counties. Producers in a primary (or contiguous) county that received an Administrator's Physical Loss Notice directly associated with a disaster declaration will also be eligible. Humboldt and del Norte County producers will be eligible for year 2006.

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 Feb. 28, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP.

For program information or to sign-up contact the Humboldt/Del Norte FSA office at (707) 442-6058 X 2.

## Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Deadlines Approaching

Deadlines for 2008 Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage are fast approaching. The NAP program is designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic, or "CAT" insurance. The cost for insurance is \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 (producers can elect more than 3 crops for coverage, but are only required to pay for up to 3 crops). In Lake and Mendocino County NAP deadlines are:

- ◆ November 15, 2007- Grazing and Forage crops
- ◆ December 1, 2007-Honey
- ◆ December 15, 2007- Strawberries, olives and grapes
- ◆ March 1, 2008- 2008 Annuals such as row crops

Future disaster legislation may require NAP coverage to be eligible for livestock disaster programs. NAP coverage is currently a program requirement for participation in the Crop Disaster Program (CDP).

## County Committee Elections

Nominations for the county committee election were due in the county office by August 1, 2007. The next step in the election process is the mailing out of the ballots, which will begin on November 2, 2007. Voters have until December 3, 2007, to return their properly completed ballots to the county office. Elected committee members and alternates take office on Jan. 1, 2008.

**Prospective Voter Requirements** - Anyone who meets the requirements in either, 1 or 2, as well as item number 3, is eligible to vote for county committee members.

1. Voter is of legal voting age and participates or cooperates in any FSA program, or
2. The voter is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm.
3. The voter must also be eligible to participate in any FSA program provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

**Discrimination Prohibited** - No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

If you have any questions about your voter eligibility, please contact your county office staff.



## Youth Loans Available

The school year has started and many young people are planning their 4-H, FFA or other organized youth group projects... Consider FSA youth loans for financing these endeavors.

Why...because there is no better time than the present to teach financial responsibility and establish a good credit history.

Eligibility for a rural youth loan requires that the applicant be between the ages of 10 and 20 and a US citizen. Applicants must live in a town of less than 10,000 people and prove they are unable to secure a loan elsewhere to conduct a modest income-producing project. An advisor must be identified who will provide technical supervision and assistance, typically a High School Ag Science teacher or 4-H leader, and a letter of recommendation from a parent or guardian must be submitted.

FSA loans cannot exceed \$5000 and are available to sponsor different types of projects in livestock, crop production, lawn and garden services, repair shops and roadside stands.

For more information on youth loans, contact Farm Loan Officer Trainee, Stacey Moyles at (707) 468-9225 x 2.

## Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP)

Loans or LDPs are available for producers who share in the risk of producing crops. To be eligible, you must maintain beneficial interest (maintain title, control of the crop) in the crop through the time of application.

Producers who have contracted the commodity, sold directly off the field, or immediately fed the commodity should have filed a CCC-633EZ page 1 to maintain eligibility for an LDP. The CCC-633EZ page 1 needs to be signed prior to harvest or sale. Producers who deliver grain under a delayed pricing contract lose beneficial interest upon delivery in most cases. Honey, wool, mohair and unshorn pelts are also eligible crops for MAL's and LDP's.

Commodities harvested for other than grain (such as hay or silage) are also eligible for LDPs. Applications should be made prior to feeding or selling. The maximum eligible quantity is based on actual production of grain for the farm. Producers that want to ensure the use of their own yield should request measurement service for farm stored commodities prior to feeding. If actual production is not available, the county committee will assign a yield based on three similar farms in your area. Yield for crops that sustained weather damage will be based on the insurance appraisal.

Interest rates vary monthly and are based on the month of approval. Rates are subject to change January 1.

Electronic Loan Deficiency Payments (eLDP) are available to producers who have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account. The eLDP is an internet based service allowing producers to request certified LDPs online and, in most cases receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours.

eLDP services provide greater flexibility to producers allowing them to minimize travel to and from county FSA offices. eLDPs are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, except during routine backup and maintenance periods.

Loan repayment options, include:

1. repay the loan, principal plus interest
2. repay the loan at the market repayment rate
3. deliver the outstanding quantity to a designated warehouse

When commodities are under loan and used as collateral, they may not be moved without prior written consent from the county office.

## Reporting Crop Losses

If you had any failed crop acres, give serious thought to report them before destroying crop evidence.

If Congress authorizes a crop disaster program in the future, proof of failed acreage may be required for your participation.

It's important to report failed acreage not brought to harvest to the county office staff prior to destruction. Ensuring that failed acres are documented could be the determining factor in whether you are eligible for future crop disaster program payments.

If you are experiencing low crop yields, you should keep good production records, but you don't need to report this acreage right now.

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), you must contact the FSA county office staff within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. Producers with crop insurance should contact their local agent when losses occur and before destroying the crop.

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**Humboldt/Del Norte County Committee Members**

Gary Nicholson	Chairperson
James O'Neil	Vice-Chairperson
Robert Vevoda	Member
Robert Tedsen	Member
Joey Borges	Member
Kara Miller	Advisor

**Humboldt/Del Norte County FSA Office Staff**

<b>County Executive Director</b>	<b>Farm Loan Manger</b>
Katherine Delbar	Belle Davis
<b>Program Technician</b>	<b>Farm Loan Officer Trainee</b>
Dolores Mayorga	Stacey Moyles
	<b>Farm Loan Technician</b>
	Karri Bartolomei

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