

May 2012



## Jackson-Josephine County FSA Updates

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### Jackson/Josephine County FSA Office

573 Parsons Dr. Ste.101  
Medford, OR 97501

541-776-4270 x 2 phone  
541-776-4295 fax

#### Hours

Monday - Friday  
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Jackson/Josephine County Staff

**Joe Hess,**  
County Executive  
Director  
[joe.hess@or.usda.gov](mailto:joe.hess@or.usda.gov)

**Diane Rabbe,**  
Program Technician

**Donna Finch,**  
Program Technician

**Chris Kirby,**  
Farm Loan Officer  
Klamath Falls Office  
541-883-6924 x 104

**Committee Members:**  
LAA#1, Suzanne Ginet  
LAA#2, Charles Boyer  
LAA#3, Lori Mefford  
**Website:**  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/OR](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/OR)

### DCP Sign-Up Deadline

Enrollment for the 2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) will continue through **June 1, 2012**. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign-up or visit any USDA Service Center to complete the 2012 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For more information on this or other programs, contact the nearest FSA office.

### Crop Reporting

The annual, timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans and Load Deficiency Payments.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) also must be reported.

Crop reports — form FSA-578, Report of Acreage — must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Producers need to file their acreage reports by **June 30, 2012**.

#### Prevented Planting:

Prevented planting needs to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

#### Failed Acreage:

Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

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## 2010 SURE Sign-Up Deadline

Sign-up for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment (SURE) program for the 2010 crop year began Nov. 14, 2011, and will end on June 1, 2012. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. A farm is eligible when either:

- A portion of the farm is located in a county, or a contiguous county, covered by a qualifying Secretarial disaster declaration.
- An overall loss greater than 50 percent of the actual production on the farm compared to expected production for the farm for that year.

For producers to be eligible for SURE, they must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for all crops through either the Federal Crop Insurance Act or FSA's Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). Producers must suffer a 10 percent production loss due to a natural disaster to at least one crop of economic significance on their farm in order to be eligible for SURE.

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## Natural Resources Day Camp



### Every day is a new adventure!

For kids with an interest in the natural world, the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District offers a week-long educational day camp for youth entering grades 5-7.

**When:** June 25-June 29, 2012.

**Where:** Local Farms/Ranches in Jackson County.

**What:** Outdoor education program focused on natural resource management.

**Who:** Students entering the 5th-7th grades in 2012-13.

**Why:** Campers will leave the camp with a sense of stewardship for our natural resources and acquire valuable skills and knowledge through hands-on learning and activities. Participants will learn to work as part of a team to investigate and discover the wonders of our world.

**How:** Come by our office (573 Parsons Drive, Medford, Suite 102) or visit our website ([www.jswcd.org](http://www.jswcd.org)) to register. It costs \$50.00 for five days of activities and fun! A required parent's meeting will be held at the district in order to attend.

The Natural Resources Day Camp is sponsored by the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District.

For more information contact:  
Paul Showalter, Natural Resource Conservationist  
Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District  
(541) 776-4270 ext 3  
[paul@jswcd.org](mailto:paul@jswcd.org)

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## Farm Reconstitutions

At FSA, farms are “constituted” to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. If an owner or operator cannot agree about program participation, like in the case of the new ACRE program, then producers should inquire about a reconstitution of the farm at the local FSA office.

The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by Aug. 1, 2012, for farms enrolled in specific programs.

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## Minority Farm Register – Now Open for Minority Farmers and Ranchers

Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages minority farmers and ranchers in Oregon to voluntarily join the USDA Minority Farm Register to receive information and opportunities from USDA agencies. The new Minority Farm Register is an outreach tool designed to reach underserved farmers and ranchers who are not currently enrolled in USDA loan, farm or conservation programs.”

By joining the Register, minority producers may receive outreach materials, newsletters, and program announcements from USDA agencies. They may also receive information and assistance from other USDA-approved outreach partners, such as community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and minority-serving educational institutions. USDA will carefully control access to and use of the Register.

Registration forms are available in Spanish (AD-2035SP) and English (AD-2035) on the FSA web site [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) under “Forms”.

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## Farm Loan Programs

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. Those producers who are having trouble getting credit for their farm or who regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask a lender about an FSA loan guarantee to help with a setback or if a lender has been reluctant to extend or renew a loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000. This makes the maximum combination of direct and guaranteed loan indebtedness \$1,514,000.

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan, for loans obligated after Oct. 1, 2011.

To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact Chris Kirby at (541) 883-6924 extension 104 or email him at [chris.kirby@or.usda.gov](mailto:chris.kirby@or.usda.gov).

**Selected Interest Rates for May 2012**

90-Day Treasury Bill - 0.125%

Farm Operating - Direct - 1.50%

Farm Ownership - Direct - 3.50%

Limited Resource - 5.00%

Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher - 1.50%

Emergency - 3.75%

Farm Storage Facility – 7 year - 1.500%

Farm Storage Facility – 10 year - 2.125%

Farm Storage Facility – 12 year - 2.375%

Sugar Storage Facility - 2.625%

Commodity Loans 1996-Present - 1.125%

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**Dates to Remember**

May 28 - Memorial Day, Federal Offices Closed

June 1 -2012 DCP Enrollment closes, Farm Record Changes Deadline,SURE Sign up ends

June 15 -COC Nomination Period Opens, AGI Form CCC 931 Due

June 30 -2012 Acreage Reporting Deadline in Jackson and Josephine counties

Aug. 1 -Last Day to file COC nomination form

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For more information on bulletin subjects or details regarding your GovDelivery subscription with the Jackson-Josephine County FSA Office, contact Joe Hess, County Executive Director at [joe.hess@or.usda.gov](mailto:joe.hess@or.usda.gov) or 541-776-4270 extension 2.

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).

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