

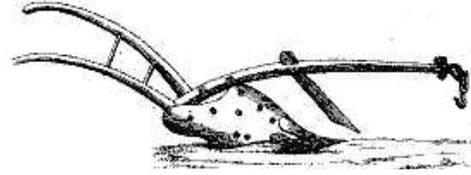


THE FSA PLOWSHARE *

News for People Interested in
Agriculture

Serving
Jackson & Josephine Counties

June 2009



USDA Service Center
573 Parsons Dr. Suite 101
Medford, OR 97501-3795

Phone: 541-776-4270 ext. 2
Fax: 541-776-4295

Hours: Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

County Committee:

LAA-1 Suzanne Ginet, Chair
LAA-2 Charlie Boyer, Member
LAA-3 Lori Mefford, Vice-Chair

County Office Staff:

Joe Hess, CED
Diane Rabbe, PT
Donna Finch, PT
Dorothy Scull, Farm Loan Officer
(Klamath Co. FSA Office,
541-883-6924 ext. 104)

www.fsa.usda.gov/or/jackson.html

www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill

* A plowshare is the leading or cutting edge of a plow which cuts the soil and turns it over.

2009 Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Signup April 27 – August 14

2009 ACRE signup will occur April 27-August 14, 2009. ACRE is an alternate to DCP participation. ACRE participants earn direct payments, but with a 20% reduction. Grain loan rates on ACRE-enrolled farms are reduced by 30%. The benefit of ACRE is potential revenue protection payments on planted crops when market prices, state yields, and/or farm yields are below established guarantees.

Producers must “elect” to place a FSA farm in ACRE for 2009-12, then “enroll” annually in an ACRE contract. The opportunity to elect ACRE will be offered each year 2009-12, but once elected the decision is irrevocable through 2012. All producers on a farm must agree to the election.

2009 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) Signup Ends August 14

DCP participants must enroll and submit the signature of all parties with a share of the crop, by August 14, 2009. Plan on signup taking significantly longer this year. 2008 Farm Bill provisions require all participants, including landowners, to submit new payment limitation forms.

2009 County Committee Elections

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties.

The 2009 County Committee election is for Local Administrative Area #1 - Southern Josephine County, including the communities of Grants Pass, Williams, Cave Junction and surrounding areas. The nomination period begins June 15, 2009. Please stop by or contact the Jackson/Josephine County FSA for nomination forms (FSA-699A) or use the form provided in this newsletter. The last day to turn in nominations is Aug. 3, 2009.



FSA-669A

(04-17-09)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

The County FSA Committee election will be held on the first Monday of December. Ballots will be mailed to voters not less than 4 weeks before the election.

This form allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate. If additional forms are needed, this one may be copied or may be obtained at the County FSA Office or obtained electronically at <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov>. Each form submitted must be:

- A. Limited to one nominee.
- B. Signed and dated by the nominee in Item 4. Nominee must sign if willing to have his/her name placed on the ballot and agrees to serve if elected.

Note: Name shown on ballot will appear exactly the same as in Agency records.

- C. Delivered to the County FSA Office or postmarked no later than August 3.

The County FSA Committee is responsible for reviewing each form to determine the eligibility of nominees. A person who files this form and is found ineligible will be so notified and have an opportunity to file a challenge.

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County FSA committee member if the producer resides in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) in which the election is to be held and is eligible to vote.

Federal regulations may prohibit County FSA Committee members from holding certain positions in some farm, commodity, and political organizations if such positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties. The positions include functional offices such as president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer; and positions on boards or executive committees. Conflict of interest restrictions also apply to employees, operators, managers, and majority owners of tobacco warehouses. Questions concerning eligibility should be directed to the County FSA Office.

A candidate has the option to request that all voted ballots for an individual county committee election be returned to the respective State Office in lieu of being returned to the county office. This request must be in writing and submitted to the local County Executive Director prior to the announced end of the nomination period.

The duties of County FSA Committee members include:

- A. Administering farm program activities conducted by the County FSA Office.
- B. Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of the FSA programs.
- C. Keeping the State FSA Committee informed of LAA conditions.
- D. Monitoring changes in farm programs.
- E. Participating in county meetings as necessary.
- F. Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee

FSA-669A (04-17-09)	U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency
<h2 style="margin: 0;">NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION</h2>	

1. NAME OF NOMINEE <i>(Type or print Nominee's Full Name)</i>	TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i>	5. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE <i>(MM-DD-YYYY)</i> 6A. COUNTY 6B. LAA NO. 7. STATE
4A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	4B. DATE <i>(MM-DD-YYYY)</i>
DATE OF ELECTION IS 1st MONDAY OF DECEMBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR	

8. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> America Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

- Complete the form as follows:
- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
 - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
 - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
 - C. Willing to serve if elected.
 - ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
 - ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
 - ITEM 4** The nominee must sign and date.
 - ITEM 8** Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 3.

NOTE: *The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 7 CFR Part 7. The information will be used to obtain nominees for County FSA Committee.*

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.

USDA-FARM SERVICE AGENCY
Jackson/Josephine County
573 Parsons Dr., Suite 101
Medford, OR 97501-3769

PRESORTED
STANDARD
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TUALATIN OR
PERMIT NO. 71

Return Service Requested

*******ACREAGE REPORTING*******

Certification for crop acreages is due June 30, 2009. Producers must report farm acreages, production and intended uses by this date. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. Producers, who wish to receive commodity loans or Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's), including wool, must also file on all cropland. Please remember, June 30, 2009 is the final date to report without a late filing fee.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER.....

June 30 – 2009 Crop Acreage Report Deadline
June 30 – 2008 NAP Production Reporting Deadline (APH)
July 4 - Independence Day Observed
July 15 - Primary Nesting Season End Date
Aug 3 – Last Day to submit COC Nominations
Aug 14 – DCP signup, ACRE enrollment deadline

Most Commonly Requested
Phone Numbers:

OSU Extension – 541-776-4270
541-476-6613

OR Dept of Ag – 503-986-4550

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA County Office staff, and we will be happy to make any arraignments that are necessary.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication and Compliance, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.