



COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

LAA 1- Suzanne Ginet - Chair
LAA 2 - Mel Morris
LAA 3 - Lori Mefford

OFFICE STAFF

Joe Hess, County Executive Director
Diane Rabbe, Program Technician
Donna Finch, Program Technician

JACKSON/JOSEPHINE COUNTY FSA

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Medford, OR 97501-3769
Phone: (541) 776-4270 ext.2
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OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM (Open during lunch hour)
Web site: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/or/jackson.html>

2008 Disaster Programs Require Crop Insurance and NAP

Eligibility “Buy-In” Deadline is September 16, 2008

The recently-enacted Farm Bill legislates 2008 disaster programs covering losses to crops, trees/vines/bushes, forage, and other losses due to adverse weather. These programs require the crops you planted, grew, produced or were prevented from planting to have been covered by federal crop insurance and/or FSA’s Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). All of your crops on all your acreage must be enrolled, not just the acreage that suffered the loss.

Due to the late passage of the Farm Bill, you will be given an opportunity to “buy-in” to the disaster program by paying a \$100/crop catastrophic crop insurance and or NAP service fee for any 2008 crops that are not already covered by crop insurance or NAP.

This eligibility “buy-in” **must be completed by September 16, 2008** at your FSA Office to satisfy the requirement for total CI/NAP coverage. Note that it **does not** provide you with crop insurance indemnities or NAP benefits. Once this requirement has been met, you may be eligible for one or more of the following programs:

- **Supplemental Revenue Program (SURE):** Covers crop revenue losses from quantity or quality deficiencies in disaster declared counties, contiguous counties, or in cases where the overall production loss exceeds 50%.
- **Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP):** Compensates livestock owners for forage losses due to drought. Additionally, losses due to wildlife will be covered on public lands.
- **Tree Assistance Program (TAP):** Provides for partial reimbursement for replanting, salvage, pruning, debris removal and land preparation for orchardists and nursery tree growers if losses exceed 15%.
- **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm Raised Fish (EALHF):** Emergency relief to producers of livestock (including horses), honey bees, and farm-raised fish. Covers losses from disasters such as adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires not adequately covered by any other disaster program. This program is authorized at the discretion of the Secretary.

- **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP):** For livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality. This is the only program that does not require crop insurance or NAP coverage.



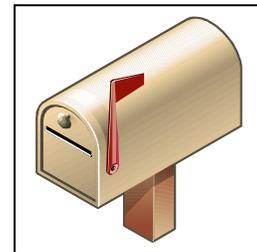
The bottom line is this:

To be eligible for Disaster Programs in 2008, you must pay fees for the eligibility buy-in at your FSA Office by September 16, 2008.

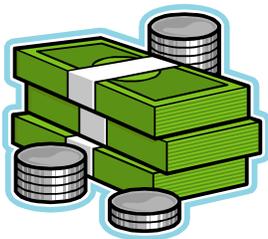
Address Corrections Requested

Our office staff has been updating and correcting land ownership in preparation for the upcoming committee election in district LAA-2.

Information is obtained from the county assessor's office for rural farmland and timberland. If you have recently sold your farm and no longer have farming interests, contact the office. We like to keep our rural property owners up to date with what's going on with the USDA Farm Bill and programs.



Banking Changes??



Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it is critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

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2008 Crop and CRP Acreage Reporting	Sign-up Deadline: August 15, 2008
2008 Disaster Assistance “Buy-In” Fee For 2008 Crops, producers must submit a “buy-in” fee to assure disaster program eligibility.	Buy-In Deadline: September 16, 2008
2008 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP)	Sign-up Deadline: September 30, 2008
2009 NAP Applications Extended deadline for crops with NAP deadlines prior to December 1.	Sign-up Deadline: December 1, 2008



PRODUCER MEETING SCHEDULED – August 27th, 1:00 pm & 6:00 pm

You are cordially invited to attend the producer’s meeting August 27th. This meeting will be held to discuss the new Farm Bill and how specifically the new disaster programs will apply to your farming operation. The meeting will be held at the USDA Service Center Conference Room. If you require special needs to participate please contact our office in advance.

<p>OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER.....</p> <p>Aug. 27, 2008 – 1pm & 6pm, Producer Meeting, Service Center Conference Room</p> <p>Sept. 1, 2008 – Labor Day (Federal Holiday) Office Closure</p> <p>Nov. 3, 2008 – Mailing of ballots for LAA-2 committee Member</p> <p>Dec. 1, 2008 – Election ballots due for LAA-2 Committee Member Election</p> <p>Jan. 31, 2009 – Last day to apply for 2008 Wool LDP payment requests</p>
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Extending 2009 NAP Application Closing Dates

Nap is available for all crops not covered under Federal Crop Insurance . NAP provides a catastrophic level of coverage (50% yield/55% price) to crops damaged by the eligible weather events that occur before or during harvest. The new Farm Bill increased the NAP fee to \$250/crop, maximum of \$750 per county, and a maximum of \$1,875 for multi county. Because of the late announcement about the 2009 risk management purchase requirement for these supplemental disaster programs, **an extension of the of 2009 NAP application closing dates has been authorized for crops with closing dates that fall before December 1, 2008.** Producers can purchase NAP coverage on crops that have a normal closing date of October 1 up until December 1, 2008. These crops are, but not limited to: alfalfa, barley, grass, mixed forage, oats, triticale. Fruit crops such as apples, apricots, peaches, caneberries, cherries, nectarines, and honey, will also have a closing date of December 1, 2008.



People in Partnership for a Healthy Land

Farm Service Agency (FSA) – 541-776-4270

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Jackson Co.
541-776-4267**

**Jackson County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)
541-734-3143**

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Josephine Co.
541-476-5856**

**Josephine County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)
541-476-5906**

**Illinois Valley Soil & Water Conservation District (IVSWCD)
541-592-3731**