

News Updates

BENEFICIAL INTEREST POLICY CHANGES Wheat, oats, corn silage, honey, wool, mohair, pelts, dry peas & barley

The policy on beneficial interest has been amended. Detailed information about the changes is available from the county Farm Service Agency. The following are some brief explanations:

Open Storage – Producers who deliver to a Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) approved warehouse, and the commodity is placed in open storage for a term of 15 calendar days or more, will lose beneficial interest in the commodity on the 16th calendar day of the physical delivery unless an approved warehouse receipt can be provided to the producer.

Unapproved Facilities – Producers who deliver commodities to a facility where the commodity is commingled with commodities from other producers are ineligible for a marketing assistance loan or loan deficiency payment, if the facility is not authorized by state or federal law to store such commodities for the benefit of producers. Therefore, delivery of commodities to a location that is not considered a CCC approved or state or federally licensed facility will result in the loss of beneficial interest in the commodity on the date of physical delivery. Deliveries of a commodity to entities such as a dairy, feedlot, pit, ethanol plant, wool pool, feed mill, or any other unapproved storage facility, will result in the loss of beneficial interest on the date of delivery, regardless of any other action or agreement between such an entity and the producer.

Seed & Hybrid Seed Contract Producers - Commodities produced under a contract in which the title to the seed remains with the entity and the entity provides the seed to the producer, including contracts for the production of hybrid seed and other specialty seeds, are eligible to be pledged as collateral for a MAL and/or LDP. Beneficial interest in the commodity will be considered lost the earlier of the date: a) a payment is received for the commodity b) the commodity is delivered to the contract company.

Purchased Commodity - A person who purchases or otherwise acquires a commodity from a producer under any circumstances does not have beneficial interest in the commodity regardless if the purchase or acquisition is made before or after the harvest of the commodity.

If you have any questions regarding beneficial interest please contact Diane or Trent.

2007 Non-Insured Assistance Program Deadlines

The Non-Insured Assistance Program is designed for all crops that can not be insured under federal crop insurance. NAP only provides catastrophic insurance coverage (50% yield, 55% price). The cost of an application is \$100 per crop/year and no producer will be required to pay more than \$300 per county/year, no matter how many crops are grown. Producers who acquired NAP coverage in 2005 must reapply for 2006 coverage. Below are the deadlines that apply. If you have any questions on when or how to apply for NAP coverage, contact Diane or Trent at 541-776-4670 x2

10/03/06	Grass (hay and seed), Alfalfa (hay and seed), Clover Seed, Small Grain Forage (fall and spring), Other Forage Crops, Grazing, Other perennials not mentioned
11/20/06	Berries, Fruit, Honey
03/15/07	All spring planted crops not mentioned
05/31/07	Buckwheat

- Producers who received 2003/2004 Crop Disaster Payments on a non-insurable crop that **was not** covered under the Non-Insured Assistance Program must obtain coverage in 2006 or face refunding the payment back at principal plus interest.

Farm Loan Program

Jackson and Josephine County's Farm loan office Chris Kirby has transferred to Hines Oregon. Dorothy Scull of Klamath Falls will be handling all of Jackson-Josephine Counties farm loan needs. If you have any question you can contact her at 541-883-6924 x2

CREP Cover Maintenance

Producers who have a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) contract are required to maintain your CREP acres according to the conservation plan you agreed to with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) technician. You need to make sure you: 1) Have adequate approved vegetative cover to control erosion for the contract period. 2) Control weeds and other types of undesirable vegetation. 3) Take control measures outside of the primary nesting season. Please keep in mind mowing for cosmetic purposes are prohibited. That is why it is important to review your conservation plan and talk to NRCS if you think undesirable plant species are invading your CREP land.

Jackson-Josephine County FSA

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More and more FSA program applications and individual customer data are being made available through electronic communication, referred to as eGOV. Customers who would like to conduct their USDA business online via the Internet need to complete the following steps:

- 1) Access the USDA Website at www.eauth.egov.usda.gov and read the information provided there. It explains what constitutes a Level 1 Account and a Level 2 Account, and how to use either of them.
- 2) To conduct business with USDA electronically using the Internet, you will need to have a Level 2 Account which has a higher level of security. Follow the instructions to create a user ID and password, provide an email address, and create a customer user information profile.
- 3) You will receive a confirmation email within a few days and must respond to the email.
- 4) To complete the sign-up for the Level 2 Account, the producer must visit a USDA Office with a photo ID to authenticate identity.

After these steps are completed, you may access, complete, and submit forms online at www.sc.egov.usda.gov.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Enrollment of riparian areas in the CREP program is continuous. If you have privately owned land through which a perennial stream or an intermittent stream flows and you want to create an improved riparian zone, the CREP program may be the instrument you need to accomplish this goal. The CREP contracts are for a 10-15 year period in which FSA will lease the riparian area on a per acre basis for the life of the contract provided you implement and follow a conservation plan for the area. Contact Donna or Trent for more information on the CREP program.

Security Guidelines

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has released a booklet entitled "Pre-Harvest Security Guidelines and Checklist 2006" to help agricultural producers enhance security at the farm level. The booklet contains practical measures help to protect against natural disasters, as well as the unintentional or intentional introduction of plant or animal diseases. To get a copy, stop by the county office. More information is available at <http://www.usda.gov/homelandsecurity>.

Dates to Remember

Sept. 4 Office closed for Labor Day
Sept. 30 Final date for 2006 DCP contract revisions

Selected Interest Rates for August 2006

90-Day Treasury Bill	4.875%
Farm Operating - Direct	5.500%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.750%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.000%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	5.125%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	6.250%

Crop losses for 2006

If you have suffered a crop loss due to weather related causes on any of your crops for the 2006 crop year you may want to get your information and paper work together while the information is fresh in your mind and records are readily available. There is always the potential that congress will pass legislation for a crop disaster program when national weather related disasters occur. The FSA office can help in letting you know what kind of information you will need to have. If you have any questions regarding crop disaster please feel free to call our office at any time.

Had A Change in your Farming Operation?

To remain eligible for FSA Programs, you are required to have a CCC-502 "Farm Operating Plan for Payment Limitation". This form MUST BE updated if you change your farming operation. Examples of changes include, but are not limited to:

- Change of Contract shares, reflecting land lease from cash to share rent (or vice versa)
- Modification of variable/fixed bushel rent arrangement
- Changes in the size of producer's farming operation (more OR less cropland)
- Change in the structure of the farming operation, including member's shares
- Change of contributions of farm inputs of capital, equipment, active personal labor, or active personal management
 - Acquisition of farming interests not previously disclosed; including those interests of a spouse or minor child

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 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."

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