



# NEWSLETTER



December 2013

## 2014 Acreage Reporting Dates

**Lake County  
Farm Service Agency  
17612 Hwy 395  
Lakeview, OR 97630  
(541) 947-2367 Ext 2  
FAX: (541) 947-2070  
www.fsa.usda.gov/OR**

**Hours  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

**County Committee  
Jim McNeley  
Martin Landa  
Alice Dinsdale**

**Next county  
committee meeting is  
scheduled for  
January 22, 2014 at  
10:00 a.m.**

**Office Staff  
Marti Hamilton**

Producers now have until January 15, 2014, to report crops that have a November 15, 2013, or December 15, 2013, reporting deadline without paying a late-file fee. Crops under this waiver include wheat and native and improved grasses intended for grazing or haying. The Risk Management Agency (RMA) did not grant a waiver so producers need to consult their crop insurance agent for deadlines for insured crops.

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the county office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Lake County:

December 15, 2013: Fall barley, perennial forage, fall wheat and all other fall seeded grains.

July 15, 2014: Spring seeded grains

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

- If the crop has not been planted by the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.

- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.
- If a perennial forage crop is reported with the intended use of “cover only,” “green manure,” “left standing,” or “seed,” then the acreage must be reported by July 15th.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

Additionally, producers can purchase both NAP and RMA coverage for 2014 annual forage crops. NAP coverage will not be available for 2015 annual forage crops.

Late file fees will be assessed for 2013 crops reported after September 15, 2013, and 2014 crops reported after January 15, 2014.

## **FSA Advises Producers to Anticipate Payment Reductions Due to Mandated Sequester**

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is reminding farmers and ranchers who participate in FSA programs to plan accordingly in fiscal year 2014 for automatic spending reductions known as sequestration. The Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA) mandates that federal agencies implement automatic, annual reductions to discretionary and mandatory spending limits. For mandatory programs, the sequestration rate for fiscal year 2014 is 7.2%. Accordingly, FSA is implementing sequestration for the following programs:

- Dairy Indemnity Payment Program;
- Marketing Assistance Loans;
- Loan Deficiency Payments;
- Sugar Loans;
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program;
- Tobacco Transition Payment Program;
- 2013 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments;
- 2013 Average Crop Revenue Election Program;
- 2011 and 2012 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program;
- Storage, handling; and Economic Adjustment Assistance for upland cotton

Conservation Reserve Program payments are specifically exempt by statute from sequestration, thus these payments will not be reduced.

These sequester percentages reflect current law estimates; however with the continuing budget uncertainty, Congress

still may adjust the exact percentage reduction. Today's announcement intends to help producers plan for the impact of sequestration cuts in fiscal year 2014.

At this time, FSA is required to implement the sequester reductions. Due to the expiration of the Farm Bill on September 30<sup>th</sup>, FSA does not have the flexibility to cover these payment reductions in the same manner as in fiscal year 2013. FSA will provide notification as early as practicable on the specific payment reductions.

For information about FSA programs, visit your county USDA Service Center or go to [www.fsa.usda.gov/](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/).

### **Beginning Farmer Loans**

FSA assists beginning farmers to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's median size.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/).

## Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches. While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of socially disadvantaged applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

<b>Selected Interest Rates for December 2013</b>	
90-Day Treasury Bill	.125%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	1.875%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	4.125%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Emergency Loans	2.875%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (7 years)	2.0%

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Office closed—employee on leave
Dec 25 <sup>th</sup>	Office closed for Christmas holiday
Dec 26 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup>	Office closed—employee on leave
Dec 30 <sup>th</sup>	Office closed—employee on leave
Jan 1 <sup>st</sup>	Office closed for New Year's holiday