

May 3, 2013



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Lane County Oregon FSA Updates

QUESTIONS? Please contact Jean A Larkin, County Executive Director, at 541.465.6443 Ext 101, jean.larkin@or.usda.gov. Or for Farm Loans, contact Donna Sprenkle, Farm Loan Manager, at 541.967.5925 Ext 105, donna.sprenkle@or.usda.gov

LANE CO FSA Office

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Hours M – F
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

DCP/ACRE Sign-Up Continues

The sign-up period for DCP and ACRE is still open. Producers must sign up for DCP before the August 2, 2013 deadline. Producers signing up for ACRE, have until June 3, 2013.

The 2013 DCP and ACRE program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that all eligible participants in 2013 may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. This means that eligible producers who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013 or may re-enroll in ACRE in 2013. Likewise producers who were enrolled in DCP may opt for ACRE enrollment.

[Read more about DCP and ACRE](#) and contact our office to make an **appointment** to enroll.

Farm Record Changes due soon

June 1, 2013 is the deadline to provide changes to your farm records at your local FSA office for the current crop year.

Producers who have bought or sold land, or added or dropped rented land from their operation must report those changes to the FSA office as soon as possible. A copy of the deed or recorded land contract for purchased property is needed to maintain accurate records with FSA. Failure to report changes can lead to possible program ineligibility and penalties. While making record updates, be sure to update signature authorizations. Farm and Entity updates are required before program enrollment.

2013 FSA County Committee Elections

The election of agricultural producers to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to all

farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, large or small operation. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

County Committee (COC) members are a critical component of FSA operations. The intent is to have the COC reflect the makeup of the producers and represent all constituents. This means wherever possible, minorities, women or lower income producers need to be on the committee to speak for these underrepresented groups.

County committees provide local input on:

- Commodity price support loans and payments
- Conservation programs
- Incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities
- Emergency programs
- Payment eligibility.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws and members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

Elections will be held for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2 which encompasses: Coburg, Creswell, Springfield, Hwy 58, Hwy 126 areas of Lane County.

Election Period

June 17, 2013 – The nomination period begins

Aug. 1, 2013 – This is the last day to file nomination forms (FSA-669A) at the FSA office

Nov. 4, 2013 – Ballots mailed to eligible voters

Dec. 2, 2013 – Last day to return completed ballots to the USDA Service Center

Jan. 1, 2014 – Newly elected county committee members take office

Who Can Hold Office

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria:

- Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
- Reside in the local administrative area (LAA) in which the person is a candidate.

Not have been:

- Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee
- Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony
- Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services.

Nominations

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. This form is available at USDA Service Centers and online.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer's farm records.

Who Can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm also may be eligible to vote. More information about voting eligibility requirements can be found in the FSA fact sheet titled "FSA County Committee Election – Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a County Committee Member." Producers may contact their local USDA Service Center for more information.

2013 Crop Reporting

After spring planting, producers should certify their 2013 acreage. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops enrolled in programs other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program), acreage reports are to be certified by July 15.

Acreage reports on crops covered by NAP are due in the county office the earlier of 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acreage being reported or July 15.

CALL OUR OFFICE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO REPORT ACRES ONCE YOUR SPRING CROPS HAVE BEEN PLANTED.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP is a federally funded program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed.

NAP Losses must be reported within 15 days of loss or when the loss becomes apparent.

CRP Sign-Up Starts May 20th

USDA will conduct a four-week general sign-up for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), **beginning May 20 and ending on June 14.** CRP protects the nation's natural resources through voluntary participation, while providing significant economic and environmental benefits to rural communities across the United States.

Producers accepted in the program can receive cost-share assistance to plant long-term, resource-conserving covers and receive an annual rental payment for the length of the contract which is 10-15 years.

For more information on CRP and other FSA programs, visit a local FSA service center or www.fsa.usda.gov

Celebrating in MAY - Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage

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20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).