

LANE COUNTY - FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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Eugene OR 97402-5451



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

COUNTY COMMITTEE

Harry McIntire, Chairperson
Pam Detering, Vice-Chairperson
Andy Petersen, Member

OFFICE STAFF

Jean A Larkin, CED X101
Patti S Anderson, PT X104
Phillip R Morton, PT X105

jean.larkin@or.usda.gov
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Farm Loan Manager, located in Tangent Service Center

Pat Joerger, 541.967.5925, X109

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Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

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COUNTY COMMITTEE (COC) ELECTION RESULTS

COC election ballots were counted at the December 6, 2007 Committee meeting with these results:

Re-Elected to COC: **Andy Petersen, Upper Camp Creek Rd, Springfield**
First Alternate: **Cindy Harrold, Davisson Rd, Creswell**

These people represent the agricultural producers from the **Coburg, Creswell, Springfield, and Hwy 58 areas** of Lane County. We thank them for running in the election and for the service they will provide during their three-year term.

USDA 2007 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

The USDA 2007 Census of Agriculture has been sent to all farmers and ranchers. This Census is conducted every five years by the USDA and is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. Producers can return their forms by mail, or for the first time, they have the option of filling out the Census online via a secure website. If producers have any questions regarding the 2007 Census of Agriculture, please contact the Oregon Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) at 1-800-338-2157 or visit www.agcensus.usda.gov online.

DAIRY DISASTER ASSISTANCE PAYMENT PROGRAM

This program will help dairy producers recover production losses resulting from a variety of adverse weather conditions in the last few years. The program provides \$16 million in benefits to dairy producers for production losses that occurred between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec 31, 2007, because of qualifying natural disasters. It compensates producers for production losses that resulted from lost herds or dumped milk when dairy plants closed or the natural disaster damaged containment equipment. Additionally, power outages, fuel shortages, and infrastructure damage that temporarily interrupted the flow of dairy products to markets may be qualifying events.

To be eligible for DDAP-III, dairy producers must have suffered losses in primary and contiguous counties declared or designated a natural disaster. Also, producers in counties receiving an FSA Administrator's Physical Loss Notice determination are eligible. Contact our office for a list of eligible disaster periods and events.

UPCOMING OBSERVANCES:

January 21	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Office Closed
February	Black History Month	
February 18	George Washington's Birthday	Office Closed

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: Special accommodations will be made upon request for those with disabilities, vision, or hearing impairments. If such accommodations are needed, please contact Jean Larkin at 541.465.6443 Ext 101 or jean.larkin@or.usda.gov.

2007 FSA Payments

During the last week of January, producers who received payments from FSA should receive a CCC-1099 in the mail from our Kansas City office. These are the amounts that are reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). This form is not intended to replace your responsibility to report your income to the IRS.

If you receive a CCC-1099, please compare the amount(s) shown with your records. If you find that the amount(s) are incorrect, or if you have a question concerning an amount, please contact us. If you choose to visit the office, please bring the CCC-1099 with you so that we may more readily identify the questionable item(s). If there is an error, FSA will furnish a corrected form to you.

eGov is available on-line: Producers have the ability to apply for program assistance, via their home computers. Interested producers must first obtain a Level 2 clearance before using this system. You can register online at www.egov.usda.gov or you can visit our office to obtain the required Level 2 authority. Once this is done, your ID verified by the FSA office, and your account activated, you can go on-line to do USDA business. Level 2 authority will allow you access to: LDP programs, DCP programs, Farm Loan Programs, Financial Services, and your personal Customer Payment Statements.

Foreign Investors Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

FSA SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Proper signatures on FSA contracts, applications and forms must be submitted before the document will be considered as filed. All entities, including trusts, corporations, partnership, estates, etc. must provide evidence of signature authority stipulating those individuals who are authorized to represent the entity.

Examples of acceptable evidence include trust agreements, corporate charters or resolutions, partnership agreements and court order of appointment. Spouses can sign for one another on most program documents unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office. An FSA-211. Power of Attorney, may be filed to delegate signature authority for FSA program purposes to another individual.

When signing for an entity, the person with signing authority should always sign "by" or "for" indicating their authority to sign.

Such as: ABC Farm Inc, by John Doe, Secretary
Jim Smith, partner for XYZ Ptn
Jane Doe, by John Doe, Spouse

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and were applicable, sex, martial status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (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 Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PAYMENT LIMITATION REMINDERS

Payment limitations include Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program, \$40,000 for direct payments and \$65,000 for counter-cyclical payments; Conservation Reserve Program, \$50,000; Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, \$100,000; and \$75,000 per crop year for Loan Deficiency Payments.

“Person” Determinations A “person” for payment limitation purposes may be many things, including an individual; a limited liability partnership; a limited liability company; a corporation; a joint stock company; an association; a limited stock company; a limited partnership; an irrevocable trust; a revocable trust together with the grantor of the trust; an estate; a charitable organization; and a state, political subdivision or agency thereof. For an individual or entity to be considered a separate “person,” the individual or entity must have a separate and distinct interest in the land or crop involved, exercise separate responsibility for this interest and maintain funds or accounts separate from that of any other individual or entity for this interest.

Status Date The status of an individual or entity on April 1 of the applicable program year is the basis for determining the number of “persons” for payment limitation purposes for that year. Actions taken by an individual or entity after that date to increase the number of “persons” will not be recognized for the current program.

Actively Engaged in Farming A producer must be considered “actively engaged in farming” to be eligible for payments and benefits under some programs. Generally, in order to be considered “actively engaged in farming,” the producer must provide significant contributions to the farming operation, which are commensurate to the claimed share of the farming operation and the contributions must be at risk.

General Rules A producer must make a significant contribution of capital, land, and/or equipment to the farming operation as well as a significant contribution of active personal labor and/or active personal management. “Active personal labor” and “active personal management” are labor and management that are actually performed by the individual in question. The contribution of active personal management must be critical to the profitability of the farming operation, taking into consideration the individual or entity’s commensurate share in the farming operation.

Cash-Rent Tenant Rule A cash-rent tenant will be ineligible to receive payment on the cash-rented land unless the tenant makes a significant contribution of active personal labor, or, if labor is not provided, a significant contribution of management together with a significant contribution of equipment to the farming operation.

Permitted Entities No person may receive payments subject to these rules from more than three entities in which the person holds substantial beneficial interest, generally 10 percent or more. If an individual receives payments as an individual, the individual may not also receive payment from more than two entities that receive payment as a separate “person.” If an individual does not receive payment as an individual, the individual may not receive payment from more than three entities that receive payment as a separate “person.”

Notification All entities earning payment subject to these rules must report to their local FSA committee the name, address and Social Security number of each individual who owns, either directly or indirectly, any interest in such entity. The entity also is required to inform all members of the entity of the rules regarding payment eligibility and permitted entities. A contract to participate in the applicable programs will not be considered complete until this information is provided.

Adjusted Gross Income An individual or entity shall not be eligible to receive certain program benefits during a crop, program or fiscal year if **both** of the following apply:

- the average adjusted gross income (AGI) for the three tax years immediately preceding the year for which benefits are requested exceeds \$ 2.5 million
- less than 75% of the average AGI is derived from farming, ranching or forestry operations

Farm Service Agency program benefits subject to limitation will not be disbursed until: 1. all required forms for the specific situation are provided; 2. necessary payment limitation and payment eligibility determinations are made.

Producers are responsible for keeping the Farm Service Agency timely informed of any changes in their farming operation that may affect the payment limitation determinations.

LDP DEADLINE: FILE FOR WOOL & PELTS

January 31, 2008 is the deadline to request loans or Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) on 2007-crop shorn wool, unshorn pelts, and mohair.

Crop year is based on the calendar year in which the wool/mohair is shorn. For unshorn pelts it is the calendar year in which the unshorn lamb is slaughtered.

**USDA – FARM SERVICE AGENCY
LANE COUNTY OFFICE
780 BAILEY HILL RD STE 5
EUGENE OR 97402-5451**

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STANDARD
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PERMIT NO 71**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM (CDP)

CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops from natural disasters. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in those years must select only one year for payment. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. **Only producers who obtained Federal crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.** Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. Maximum benefit available is \$80,000. No enrollment deadline has been announced. FSA will conduct CDP sign-up for quality losses soon.

LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM (LCP)

LCP compensates livestock producers for grazing or stored feed losses resulting from natural disasters occurring between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007. Producers in primary or contiguous counties declared secretarial disaster areas or counties declared Presidential disaster areas between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007 are eligible. Contact our office for qualifying loss time periods and eligible loss reasons (i.e. excess moisture).

LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

LIP provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths caused by natural disasters that occurred between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007. Producers in primary or contiguous counties declared secretarial disaster areas or counties declared Presidential disaster areas between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007 are eligible. Contact our office for qualifying loss time periods and eligible loss reasons (i.e. excess moisture).

To be eligible for LIP an owner’s livestock must have died in an eligible county as a direct result of an eligible disaster after January 1, 2005 and before December 31, 2007, no later than 60 calendar days from the ending date of the disaster period and in the calendar year for which benefits are requested.

Details regarding both LCP and LIP: Contact our office for a list of qualifying livestock. Producers incurring a loss in more than one of the 2005, 2006 or 2007 calendar years must choose only one year for which they want to receive benefits. No enrollment deadline has been announced.