



Farm Service Agency

Cache County News

December/January 2007

Cache County FSA
1860 North 100 East
North Logan, UT 84341
435 753-5480 Phone
435 755-2117 Fax

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

County Committee
Larry B. Roundy
B. Jon White
D. Kent Buttars
Mellree P. Andersen

Staff
Dixie Beesley
Marcene Bennett
Jackie Clark
Kristi Cravalho

Farm Loan Manager
Scott Bown

Farm Loan Officer
Marc Henrie

County Executive Director
Bruce K. Lundquist

County Committee Election Results

Thank you to all who mailed in their ballots for the COC election this year. Congratulations to Mervin Thompson for his election to the County Committee. We would like to thank all who ran on the ballot and appreciate their willingness to participate. Mervin will represent Cache County Local Administrative Area 1 (Clarkston, Trenton, Newton, Cornish, Amalga, Benson and Mendon areas).

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on the county committee help to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

We appreciate each of those who serve on the committee and their willingness to spend time and effort on behalf of all the agricultural producers in the county. Thank You!

County Committeeman Larry Roundy Recognized

The Cache County Farm Service Agency County Committee and office staff would like to publicly thank Larry B. Roundy for his 20 plus years of service on the County Committee. Larry has served the farmers and ranchers of this county well and has given many hours to help implement various programs. He has been a great asset on the committee with his dedication to helping farmers and ranchers in the county. We will miss Larry's expertise and his concern for agricultural producers in Cache County. We wish him well in the future.

Farm Loan Program Payments

For income tax purposes, if you plan to deduct interest for farm loan program payments made in 2006, your payment must be received in our office by **close of business (4:30 p.m.) December 29, 2006.**



Happy Holidays from Your Farm Service Agency Staff!

Office Eligibility Reviews

Our office is currently conducting in-depth reviews of documents used to support producer eligibility. The review is the agency's effort to ensure the accuracy of all payments made to producers. This process takes great attention to detail and more time, and must be completed before any 2007 crop-year program payments can be made.

You can assist with this process by contacting us to make an appointment before coming in to sign-up for programs or request program payments.

Report Bank Account Changes

All payments issued by this office will be by direct deposit (electronic funds transfer) into your bank account. To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical you 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.

Deadline for Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) on Unshorn Lamb Pelts and Wool

If you are interested in a loan deficiency payment (LDP) for unshorn pelts and wool produced during the 2006 crop year, you need to apply by January 31, 2007. Eligible producers must have beneficial interest in the unshorn lamb pelts, owned the lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter, and sell the unshorn lamb for immediate slaughter. Make sure you contact us for complete qualifying details.

Measurement Service Rate Change

The following rates are now in effect statewide:

Basic Farm Fee	-	\$30
Hourly Rate	-	\$16 for 1 st hour/\$8 every 30 minutes after first hour (minimum of 1 hour).

Measurement service rates will apply to, but not limited to, the following services:

- measuring crops after planting
- staking and referencing acreages to be planted
- measure acreage that has been adjusted
- verify crops and disaster acreage
- appraisals
- re-measuring any acreage that had been measured previously
- measuring or sampling farm-stored commodities
- late-filed fees. (crop reporting after June 30th)



Measurement service rates for performing measurement service with no farm visit or when using digital imagery in office and no on-site visit is required:

Basic Farm Fee	-	\$15.00 + \$8/for every 30 minutes (minimum of 30 minutes)
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Notice of Payment Limitations and Eligibility

Producers are reminded that no program benefits may be provided until all the necessary payment limitation and payment eligibility determinations have been made. A producer will remain ineligible until all required forms for the specific farming operation are provided to the county office staff.

Any determination already made for your farming operation as a result of previously filing a CCC-502 will remain in effect for the current and subsequent years.

Determinations are based on the facts as submitted by the producer. As a program participant, you are responsible for promptly notifying the county office staff of any change in your operation.

Changes that may affect a determination include, but are not limited to, change(s) to cash rent or share rent land lease, a change in the size of the producer's farming operation by the addition or deletion of a farm; a change in the structure of the farming operation, including any change in the member's shares; a change in the contributions of farm inputs of capital, equipment, active personal labor, or active personal management; or a change of farming interest not previously disclosed on CCC-502 or update, including the farming interests of a spouse or minor child.

Spouses may be considered as separate "persons" for payment limitation purposes if they request to be separate by the April 1st status date, and they meet the requirements to be considered separate "persons."

The determinations may be initiated by the FSA County Committee (COC) or requested by the producer. If requested by the producer, the request may be filed anytime before the final date for submitting the CCC-502 (Farm Operating Plan for Payment Eligibility Review). COCs shall require adequate documentation to make proper "actively engaged in farming," "person" determinations and the determinations of average adjusted gross income compliance.

Any entity (individual, partnership, joint operation, corporation, trust, etc.) earning program benefits must provide to the county committee the names, addresses, shares, and ID numbers of the entity's members. Furthermore, entities earning payments must inform their members of the requirements for designating "permitted entities."

All Payment Eligibility forms (CCC-501, Member's Information and CCC-502, Farm Operating Plan for Payment Eligibility Review) submitted by a producer are subject to spot check through the end-of-year review process. If selected, producers will be required to submit documents to verify contributions of capital, land, equipment, labor, and management.

Producers determined as "not actively engaged in farming" will be ineligible for Direct and Counter Cyclical (DCP) payments, Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs), Marketing Loan Gains, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) payments, disaster assistance, emergency payments, and any other applicable payment or benefit.

The following FSA programs are subject to the stated payment limitation:

DCP: Direct Payment - \$40,000 per crop year

DCP: Counter-Cyclical Payment - \$65,000 per crop year

Combined LDP/Market Loan Gains: \$75,000 per crop year (wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, soybeans, oilseeds)

Combined LDP/Market Loan Gains: \$75,000 per crop year (pelts, wool, mohair, and honey)

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP): \$50,000 per fiscal year

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP): \$200,000

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP): \$100,000 per crop year

Environmental Quality Incentive Payments (EQIP): \$450,000 through the life of the farm bill (FY 2002 through 2007, regardless of the number of contracts).



Cache County FSA Office
1860 North 100 East
North Logan, UT 84341

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Bruce's Comments

Another crop season has passed and winter is here. It's great to work with individuals who work and care for the land. There is always change and hope for a better future. Here at FSA we are dealing with changes that will affect many of you in updating your farm records. We will be asking all farm operators to verify the current status of land ownership, farm leases, eligibility questions and any changes for 2007. Please be patient with us as we do your full eligibility review for the 2007 year.



Many of you have email access; we would like to share information and digital maps of your farming interests via email. If you're interested please stop by the office or send an email to the address below.

Our FSA office makes every effort to give you the best service possible. Please let us know if we're not meeting your needs.

For information from your computer on current FSA programs log on to www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/default.asp
For answers to your questions, please call me at (435) 753-5480 Ext. 17 or contact me by email at bruce.lundquist@ut.usda.gov

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