

# MALHEUR COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

<p><b>County Committee Members</b>  <b>Christie Amick</b>, Chairperson  <b>Roger Findley</b>, Vice Chairperson  <b>Scott Cruickshank</b>, Member  <b>Brian Kameshige</b>, Advisor</p>	 E-Mail <a href="mailto:wes.jennings@or.usda.gov">wes.jennings@or.usda.gov</a>	<p><b>Malheur County FSA Office</b>  <b>2925 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 3</b>  <b>Ontario, OR 97914</b></p>
<p><b>Phone: (541) 889-9689 Ext. 2</b></p>	<p><b>May 2008</b></p>	<p><b>FAX: (541) 889-4304</b></p>

OFFICE STAFF: Wes Jennings CED, Jon Mills FLM, Maria Lopez FLO, Kyle Pottola FLO, Denise Bishop PT, Darlene Brandt PT, Carla Dillon PT, Maria Lujan PT, Lori Yokom PT  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## NOTICE OF LOSS

Imperative to any producer with Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage: You must file a notice of loss (FSA-576) if you have incurred any crop damage for the 2008 crop year due to recent adverse weather. The Notice of Loss maintains the crop's eligibility for potential disaster payments through the NAP program. The notice must be filed with the FSA within 15 days of the loss occurring or becoming apparent.

Once a notice is filed, it is the producer's responsibility to inform FSA if the crop will be harvested. Unharvested acres require an appraisal (paid for by FSA) from a Crop Loss Adjuster. Please contact the Office for more information or any questions, 541-889-9689 ext 2.

## CROP DISASTER PROGRAM SIGN UP

The Farm Service Agency is currently accepting applications for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP). Producers may be eligible for benefits if they suffered quantity losses to their crops from natural disasters and related conditions that occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007. **Crops planted after February 28, 2007 are now eligible for disaster assistance.** Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to receive benefits.

**Producers must have had multi peril crop insurance or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of the loss to be eligible for CDP benefits.**

Producers must have suffered a 35% or greater loss in quantity to be eligible for CDP. Payment will be made at 42% of the established price for the crop.

FSA will accept applications for quality losses during a future sign up.

## ACREAGE REPORTING TIME

Producers are required to file an FSA-578, Report of Acreage, certification for the farm by **June 30, 2008**. All producers and/or landowners are responsible for filing an acreage report prior to receiving program benefits. 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.

## NRCS ANNOUNCES LOCAL EQIP APPLICATION CUTOFF

Local farmers and ranchers interested in financial and technical assistance for conservation measures on their working lands in Malheur County have until August 15, 2008 to apply for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding for federal fiscal year 2009.

Interested parties should contact the Ontario USDA-NRCS service center located at 2925 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Ontario or call 541-889-7637 to apply.

## DISASTER PROGRAMS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR PRODUCERS

With the passage of the 2008 Appropriations Act, livestock producers in Malheur County are now eligible for both Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

## LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM

LCP provides benefits to livestock producers who suffered feed losses directly resulting from a natural disaster.

## LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM

LIP provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths which resulted directly from a natural disaster.

To be eligible for either LCP or LIP, the livestock must have been physically located in Malheur County on the beginning date of the disaster and been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation. Producers must have either owned or cash-leased eligible livestock on the beginning date of the disaster and suffered an eligible loss from produced or purchased forage, or incurred additional feed costs as a result of the disaster and the feed lost or additional feed cost incurred were intended for the use of eligible livestock.

If you have any questions or would like to set up an appointment please call the office at (541) 889-9689 ext. 2.

## 2008 FARM RECORD CHANGES

If you have changes to your farming operation such as new owners, new operator or if you have increased or decreased acres, please update your records with the FSA Office as soon as possible. If you have changed your operation to an entity or have changed entity type, entity members, or member percentages, please notify the FSA office of these changes. If you are doing business with a new tax ID number please provide the new number to the FSA office.

## NAP PRODUCTION REPORTING

A production record for each individual crop needs to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. If you have participated in the NAP program in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yields up-to-date. If you are a first time participant in the NAP program, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. Records submitted must be reliable and verifiable. **All production records must be submitted by the following crop year's final acreage reporting date.**

## SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) programs are available to all eligible interested persons, including those with disabilities. Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for those individuals with disabilities, vision or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please contact Wes Jennings at (541) 889-9689 ext. 2.

**Malheur County FSA Office**  
**2925 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Suite 3**  
**Ontario, OR 97914**

**PRST STD**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PD**  
**PERMIT NO. 71**

### **2008 COC ELECTION INFORMATION**

One of FSA's responsibilities is to hold County Committee elections in an open manner that ensures accountability. County FSA Offices will provide local organizations representing socially disadvantaged groups with detailed information about the COC election process. FSA is reaching out to agricultural communities to get equitable representation on their county committees.

Groups representing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, will be actively solicited for COC election candidates, and encouraged to fill out a nomination form (**FSA-669A**). Under represented farmers and ranchers are encouraged to step up and participate in their county's COC election process. Producers will notice posters and announcements displayed in businesses, churches, and other public places. COC election fact sheets can be found online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA> under the News & Events tab on the FSA homepage.

### **FARM LOANS AVAILABLE**

Loan applications are being accepted for farm operating and ownership purposes from those having difficulty obtaining credit through private lenders. Operating loans include annual operating expenses, farm equipment and livestock purchases, and refinancing related debt. Ownership loans include the purchase or enlargement of a farm, or the construction and/or repair of buildings. A minimum qualification for **Farm Ownership** loans is 3 years involvement in the business operations of a farm. **Loan guarantees** are available to lenders where FSA provides up to a 95% guarantee of loss on the principal of a farm loan. The loan purposes are similar to direct loans, except refinancing real estate debt is also eligible.

FSA provides direct and guarantee loan assistance for beginning farmers as well. An applicant is considered a beginning farmer if they have not operated a farm for more than 10 years. **Youth loans** are available for 4-H and FFA members' age 10 through 20 who want to start any income producing enterprise recommended by their leader. For further information, please contact the farm loan staff at the office (541) 889-9689 ext. 2.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

<b>May 26<sup>th</sup></b>	OFFICE CLOSED Memorial Day
<b>June 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Acreage Reporting Deadline NAP producers – Last day to submit reliable and verifiable production history for 2007 crop year
<b>July 4<sup>th</sup></b>	OFFICE CLOSED Independence Day
<b>July 15<sup>th</sup></b>	End of Primary Nesting Season
<b>Ongoing...</b>	Disaster (LCP, LIP & CDP) Sign-ups, CREP, & CRP
<b>Within 15 days</b>	NAP Notice of Loss. <b><u>Must report damage within 15 days of damage or when damage is apparent.</u></b>

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