

MARION COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY NEWS BITS

October 2006

Marion County FSA Committee:

Francis Wolf – Chairperson

Robert Koenig – Vice-Chairperson

Lori Pavlicek – Regular Member

Kirk Metteer – CED (kirk.metteer@or.usda.gov)

REGULAR MEETING DATE – 2nd Thursday of Each Month

Marion County FSA Office

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Important Dates:

October 2, 2006 – Sign-up begins for the 2007 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP)

October 2- 27, 2006- The office will be processing 2006 DCP final payments

October 12, 2006 – County Committee meeting

November 3, 2006 – Election ballots will be mailed

December 4, 2006 – Final date to return election ballots to the county office

NEW CED

Kirk Metteer has been selected to be the County Executive Director for Marion County. Kirk replaces Tom Brewster, who recently retired.

"I have come from a farming background, having been raised on a farm in Central Oregon. I started working for Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) in 1977 and have been a CED and Computer Specialist with USDA ever since. I live on a small acreage near Monitor and look forward to becoming more familiar and involved in the community where I live. Next time you are in the office, if you could spare a few moments to say hello, I would like to get acquainted with you."

Kirk

2007 NON INSURED CROP ASSISTANCE (NAP)

The Non-Insured Assistance Program is designed for all crops that cannot be insured under federal crop insurance. NAP only provides catastrophic insurance coverage (50% yield, 55% price). The cost of an application is \$100 per crop/year and no producer will be required to pay more than \$300 per county/year, no matter how many crops are grown. Here are the deadlines to apply. If you have any questions on when to apply for NAP coverage, please call the office.

Oct 2, 2006 - Alfalfa, asparagus, barley, clover, garlic, grass, herbs (peppermint), hops, meadowfoam, mixed forage, oats, rye, sugarbeet, triticale, vetch, wheat

Nov 21, 2006 – Apples, apricots, blueberries, caneberries, chestnuts, cherries, cranberries, grapes, hazelnuts, honey, nectarine, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, strawberries, walnuts.

Mar 15, 2007 – Beans, broccoli, cantaloupe, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, peas, potatoes, pumpkin, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon and all spring planted crops not mentioned under the November 21, 2006 Deadline above.

May 31, 2007 - Buckwheat

To find out more about Federal Crop Insurance you can pick up a fact sheet for your particular crop from our office.

FARM RECORD AND DIRECT DEPOSIT CHANGES

- If you have bought, sold or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to our office as soon as possible so farm records can be updated.
- For farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract.
- **Remember to file a new Direct Deposit form with our office if your bank routing number or personal account number has changed. The banks DO NOT notify us! Changes that you have made, but not reported to us, delay your payments.**
- **IF YOU NO LONGER OWN OR OPERATE AGRICULTURAL LAND, PLEASE LET US KNOW SO THAT YOUR NAME MAY BE REMOVED FROM OUR MAILING LIST.**

PAYMENT LIMITATION RULES - Certain FSA benefits may not be provided until payment eligibility determinations are made. Forms for this purpose must be filed before an application is approved or payment made. Any determination of person ineligibility or "not actively engaged in farming" results in the applicant's ineligibility to receive program payments.

Providing Information Statutory provisions require that all entities--individuals, partnerships, joint operations, corporations, trusts, etc.-- provide the names, addresses and ID numbers of the entity's members to the county committee. Also, entities must inform their members of the requirement for designating "permitted entities" for payment purposes. Spouses may be considered separate "persons" for payment limitation purposes if this determination is requested and all the applicable requirements to be determined a "person" are met.

Programs and Payment Limits The following programs are subject to payment limitation.

- DCP: Direct Payment - \$40,000 per crop year
- LDP's: \$75,000 per crop year
- Emergency Conservation Prog - \$200,000
- Conservation Reserve Prog - \$50,000 per fiscal year
- Environmental Quality Incentive Payments - \$450,000 through the life of the farm bill
- Counter-Cyclical Payment - \$65,000 per crop year
- Market Gains: \$75,000 per crop year
- Noninsured Assistance Prog - \$100,000 per crop year

FSA FARM LOAN PROGRAM

FSA makes direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operating loans (OL) to family-size farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank, Farm Credit System institution, or other lender. FSA loans can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed, and supplies. Our loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements. FSA loan funds are also set aside each year for loans to minority applicants and beginning farmers. For further information contact the loan staff at the Marion County FSA Office or find further information online at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=fmlp&topic=landing>.

2007 DIRECT AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROGRAM

Beginning October 2, 2006 you can begin completing your contracts for the 2007 program year and elect to receive 22% of your total payment as early as December. We will be busy processing the final payments for 2006 during the first couple of weeks of October, but we will gladly get you started on your 2007 contracts. When visiting our office, regardless of the program you're enrolled in, remember to inform us if you could answer "yes" to any of these:

1. Did you sell land, buy land, lease land or let leases expire? Bring copies of your new leases, proof of new ownership if recently purchased, etc.
2. Did you change your farming operation from one type of entity to another? Example: from a general partnership to a corporation. If so we need federal tax identification number, and official documents from the corporation identifying who has authority to conduct business on behalf of the operation.
3. Did you change banks or accounts since the last time we paid you? If so bring in a voided check so we can update your deposit information. If you have a computer and an internet connection you can do this online. Go to www.fsa.usda.gov and select "Get a login" under FSA eGov. Give us a call if you have questions or need help.

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.

