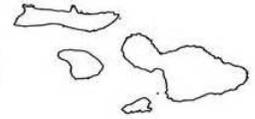


USDA FSA NEWS



June 2009

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 77 Ho'okele St., Ste. 201
 Kahului, Hawaii 96732
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Office Hours
 Monday through Friday
 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

County Committee
 Colleen T. Lopes,
 Chairperson
 Lynn P. DeCoite, Vice Chair-
 person
 Bryan T. Otani, Member

Staff
 James Robello,
 County Executive Director

Vance Christensen,
 Farm Loan Specialist

Rochelle Kaauamo,
 Program Technician

Faith Umetsu,
 Loan Analyst

We're on the Web! www.fsa.usda.gov

Inside This Issue:

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NAP Value Loss Crop Signup

County Committee Election

The annual election for the Farm Service Agency County Committee is coming up. Any person or group can nominate a qualified producer on the attached form FSA-669A. Producers can also nominate themselves. Nominees must be qualified to vote in the election.

This year, Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1 will be electing a representative to the Committee. LAA 1 consists of all ranches and farms located north, northwest, and northeast of Kiihelani Hwy., Hana Hwy., and Haleakala Hwy. It includes the communities of Hana, Keanae, Haiku, Makawao, Paia, Kahului, Wailuku, Kahakuloa, and Lahaina.

If your farm is located in this area you may be an eligible candidate or voter. Contact the Maui County FSA Office if you would like to be added to the slate of candidates, confirm your voting eligibility, or be added to the eligible voter list. Any eligible farmer or rancher may request a ballot from FSA if they don't receive one in the mail. If you would like to be added to the slate of nominees your nomination form (FSA-669A) must be received or postmarked by **August 3**.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by **November 6**. Ballots must be returned or post marked to the Maui County FSA Office by **December 7**. Ballots will be counted at the FSA office in Kahului by **December 14**. Please follow the voting instructions carefully. **Only signed ballots will be counted.**

The FSA County Committee is an important link between national USDA programs and local farmers. As part of the Committee, members will make important decisions on the needs of local farm programs. All farm owners, operators, tenants and sharecroppers of legal voting

age are eligible to serve on the County Committee and vote in the elections.

If you don't receive a ballot in the mail by mid-November, contact the FSA office and we will mail you a ballot or make arrangements to have you come in and complete a walk-in ballot.

Farm owners, operators, tenants and sharecroppers of legal voting age who are eligible to participate in FSA programs can vote for their County Committee.

Elections are open to all eligible candidates and voters without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, marital status or disability.

FSA is committed to diversity on County Committees and encourages the participation of minority, female and other under-represented and under-served producers.

To find out more about the FSA County Committee, call the Maui County FSA office at (808) 871-5500 extension 353. You may also visit our website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.



happy father's day!

FSA NEWS

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

The USDA, Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced today that the sales closing date for the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for value loss crops such as floriculture and aquaculture is September 1, 2009. The sales closing date for crops such as fruits, vegetables and forage is December 1, 2009.

NAP is a crop disaster assistance program administered by FSA. NAP provides financial assistance to producers of eligible crops and commodities affected by natural disasters. Unlike previous disaster assistance programs, producers must apply for coverage and pay a service fee, along with filing an acreage and production report. If acreage and production are not reported on time, producers may not be eligible for NAP assistance. A service fee of \$250 per crop, not to exceed \$750 per producer will be assessed.

For more information on NAP, please contact the USDA, Farm Service Agency at (808) 871-5500 extension 353 or visit our web site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> and click on "Disaster Assistance Programs" at the left side border.



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