



FSA UPDATES

SERVICE CENTER

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Morrow County FSA
PO Box 786
Heppner, OR 97836
541-676-9011 x 2 (phone)

541-676-9624 (fax)

Hours

Monday—Friday
8:00 am—4:30 pm

County Committee

Chair: Todd Lindsay—LAA 2
Vice Chair: Tim Rust—LAA 1
Member: Anne Morter—LAA 3

Staff

Lorrie Fox
Adam Doherty
Bobbette Lovgren

Director

Darcy Vial

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2009 Payment Eligibility Requirements

New CCC-902 Farm Operating Plans (formerly CCC-502's) and CCC-926 Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) statements (formerly CCC-526's) will be required to be filled out by each individual and entity who wishes to receive FSA program benefits for the 2009 program year.

Most producers will file this paperwork during their DCP

sign up appointment. If you do not participate in DCP, contact the office and we will make arrangements for you.

*Note: DCP advance payments only require that a CCC-926 be on file before payment, but final DCP payments will not be made until both the CCC-926 and CCC-902 is on file and approved.



Make an appointment today to complete your 2009 Eligibility Paperwork!

2009 Direct Counter-Cyclical Payments (DCP)

Sign-Up Runs December 22, 2008 thru June 1, 2009

The Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) program was reauthorized in the Farm Bill for 2008 through 2012.

Sign-ups began in Morrow County on December 22, 2008. Due to the extra paperwork required for 2009, please make an appointment with the office.

The deadline to sign up for 2009 DCP is June 1, 2009. Late sign-ups will not be available in 2009.

The base acreage that was in effect on September 30, 2008 will remain in effect for 2009 DCP. DCP payments will be paid on 83.3% of base acres available.

Advance payment options will be available, with 22% of the total

payment available in advance. For 2009, advance payments will be made as soon as practical after the producer files their application. The remaining direct payment will be paid in October 2009.

Beginning with the 2009 DCP program, payments will not be made if the sum of the base acres on a farm is 10 acres or less. The following exceptions are:

1. If the producer is a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher
2. If the producer is a limited resource farmer or rancher.

Call the FSA office at 541-676-9011 ext. 2 to make your DCP appointment.

2009-2012 DCP Payment Rates

Wheat—\$0.52/bu
Corn—\$0.28/bu
Barley—\$0.24/bu
Oats—\$0.024/bu

Note: The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program Sign Up has not been announced for 2009 yet. Producers will receive more information about ACRE sign-up as it becomes available.

Before ACRE becomes available, producers can sign up for DCP, receive an advance payment, and elect to go into ACRE if the election is made by June 1st, 2009.



Note: The FSA office will have you certify your AGI when you sign up for DCP.

Foreign Investors

Note: Foreign investors who acquire, transfer, or hold interest in agricultural land must report these holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture within 90 days. This may be done by completing form FSA-153, available at any FSA office. The report is required by law and persons who fail to report, or who are late reporting, face possible fines.

ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME (AGI) RESTRICTIONS

To qualify for commodity and disaster programs under the new farm bill, producers must file a new AGI certification for 2009. You will be able to certify your AGI on the CCC-926 when you file your DCP contracts, acreage reports or if you request the form from the office.

The AGI ceiling limitation was reduced from \$2.5 million from all sources to a three-year average non-farm AGI of \$500,000. Also, under the new regulations, an individual or entity must have a 3 year average AGI of less than or equal to \$750,000 per year from farming income in order to qualify for direct payments issued under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP).

For conservation programs (contracts signed in 2009 and forward), the average non-farm AGI limitation is \$1 million or less for eligibility. However, an individual or entity who has non-farm AGI in excess of \$1 million remains eligible for conservation programs only if 66.66 percent or more of the total AGI is derived from farming, ranching and forestry operations. In addition, the AGI limitation for conservation programs may be waived on a case-by case basis if it is determined that environmentally sensitive land of special significance would be protected.

County Committee Election Results

County Committee (COC) elections were held this year for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2, covering the Heppner-Lexington area. Congratulations to Todd Lindsay, who was re-elected to serve the Morrow County producers in LAA #2 (Heppner, Lexington). This will be Todd's second three year term as a Morrow County Committee Member.

PAYMENT LIMITATIONS AND DIRECT ATTRIBUTION

A new change with the Farm Bill is that program payments will be limited by direct attribution and payment totals will be attributed directly to an individual's social security number or indirectly to an individual's social security number through an entities tax ID #.

A legal entity is defined as an entity created under Federal or State law that owns land or an agricultural commodity, product or livestock. Ex. LLC, Corporation, Partnership. Through direct attribution, payment limitation is based on the total payments received by the entity and also the individual, both directly and indirectly as an officer, partner or shareholder in an entity. Qualifying spouses are eligible to be considered separate persons for payment limitation purposes, rather than being automatically combined with their spouse under one limitation.

Additionally, individuals, entities and members of entities must be "actively engaged in farming" with respect to a farming operation in order to be eligible for specified payments and benefits. To be "actively engaged in farming", the individual, entity, or member of an entity must make significant contributions to the farming operation of: 1) capital, equipment, land, or a combination; and 2) personal labor or active personal management, or a combination (this applies to all members of the entity).

ALL PRODUCERS: CCC-578 Revisions for 2008

The Supplemental Revenue (SURE) Crop Disaster is a permanent crop disaster program mandated by the new Farm Bill.

All Morrow County producers who suffered a 10% or greater crop loss per SURE calculations and had all economically significant crops insured for the 2008 crop year may be eligible for SURE benefits.

SURE requires that all land, cropland and farmland, be certified on the CCC-578.

While most Morrow County producers certify their cropland, there has rarely been a need to certify farmland (scabland, range, pasture, etc.).

The Morrow County FSA office is working to revise every 2008 CCC-578 to include

farmland certifications.

If you have not done so already, please make an appointment with the office to sign your revised CCC-578.

Your farm will not be eligible for SURE benefits without this certification.

Please call the office if you have any questions.



Did you know that you can buy FCIC protection against livestock?

FCIC Programs for Livestock—Livestock Risk Protection (LRP)

An LRP policy offers protection against a decline in fed cattle, feeder cattle and hog prices during the term of the Specific Coverage Endorsement (SCE). A separate LRP policy is available for feeder or slaughter lambs. Sales for 2009 crop year runs July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. LRP is available in all Oregon counties.

Applications for LRP are submitted through FCIC approved pri-

vate insurance providers. A producer activates coverage at any time by applying for an SCE. Insurance will attach immediately upon RMA confirmation of acceptance of the SCE. There are funding limitations for all livestock programs; therefore, RMA tracks total policy sales against available underwriting capacity using a real time web-based program. Applications for insurance will be rejected when the underwriting capacity has been reached.

A policy is due an indemnity if prices drop below a predetermined level and all terms and conditions of the policy have been met.

Fact sheets for each covered crop or livestock and a list of private crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers throughout Oregon or at: www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/

2008 Wool LDP Deadline

The deadline to submit production on wool Loan Deficiency Program (LDP's) or Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL's) is January 31, 2009 for all 2008 wool & mohair production. A CCC-633EZ page 1 must have been received in the county office prior to losing beneficial interest in order to be eligible to request 2008 LDP's. To file a request a CCC-633EZ page 4 must be completed along with

any production evidence. In addition to filing the CCC-633EZ forms a 2008 Acreage Report, Adjusted Gross Income form, and any other applicable eligibility forms not completed must be filed to be eligible for LDP's & MAL's. Late file fees may apply along with spot-check if late filing an acreage report.



**Wool LDP Deadline
January 31, 2009**

**USDA – FARM SERVICE AGENCY
MORROW COUNTY OFFICE
PO BOX 786
HEPPNER, OR 97836**

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PERMIT NO 71**

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Dates to Remember:

January 31	Last Day to Request LDP's for Wool or Mohair
February 19	Office Closed—President's Day
February 27	05-07 Crop Disaster Program Sign Up Deadline
March 15	NAP Deadline for spring planted grain crops
June 1	DCP Sign Up Deadline—No late filing provisions
TBA	SURE Disaster Program Sign-Ups



Have a Safe and Happy New Year!

*Within 15 Days of damage becoming apparent—File NAP Notice of Loss

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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.

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 is verified by the FSA office, and your account is activated, you can go on-line to do USDA business. Level 2 authority will allow you access to: Loan Deficiency Program, Direct & Counter Cyclical Payment Program, Farm Loan Program, Financial Services, and your personal Customer Payment Statements.