



February 2008

# *Juab County FSA News*

**Juab County Farm Service Agency**  
635 North Main  
Nephi, UT 84648

435-623-0342 (phone)  
435-623-2368 (fax)  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/ut](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ut)

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**County Committee**  
Gordon Young  
Gordon Kenison  
Reid Jarrett  
Ellen Jenkins  
Jeff Banks, ES

County Committee  
meets last Tuesday of  
each month at 10:00 am

**Staff**  
Kevin Stanley, CED  
Lois Shepherd, PT  
Steve Bartholomew  
FLM

**NOTICE:**

Starting with this Issue,  
we are having a Vendor  
mail out our newsletters.

If you receive this news-  
letter in error, please  
call our office so we can  
remove you from this  
mailing list. 435-623-  
0342.

## ***Crop Disaster Program (CDP)***

Farmers who suffered crop losses because of natural disasters may be eligible to receive benefits through the Crop Disaster Program.

You may be eligible if you suffered losses from natural disasters that occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007. The Crop Disaster Program has been amended to include all crops planted for the 2007 crop year. This would include all spring planted crops. Producers must have suffered losses in excess of 35 percent of their expected production to qualify.

**Note: Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of the loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.**

Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year for which to receive benefits. They may receive benefits for multiple crop losses if all losses were in the same crop year.

Eligible damaging conditions would include drought, excessive moisture, hail, excessive wind and freeze. Don't miss this opportunity to receive benefits for crop losses you may have suffered between 2005-2007.

## ***Deadline For Insuring Spring Planted Crops***

The FCIC sign up deadline for spring planted crops is March 15. This would include Corn, Barley and Oats. March 15 is also the deadline for NAP coverage on spring seeded crops such as oats hay, barley hay, alfalfa small grain mixed hay, etc.

## ***Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)***

On August 21, 2007 the Secretary of Agriculture designated Juab County and all counties in the state Disaster Areas because of drought, wildfires, etc. Therefore, all livestock producers in Juab County who suffered grazing losses or increased feed cost due to drought and wildfires in 2007 may be eligible for benefits under this program.

Eligible livestock include beef cattle, dairy cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats, equine, swine, elk, and poultry. To be eligible, livestock must have been located in an eligible county on January 1, 2007 and must have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation.

Please provide our office with the following information when you come in to apply:

**Animal numbers on January 1, 2007.** For beef and dairy cattle there are two categories, adult cattle and non-adult cattle. Adult cows are those that have had at least 1 offspring. Adult bulls are bulls at least 2 years old. Non-adult cattle are those that weighted at least 500 pounds or more on Jan. 1, 2007.

**Acreage used for grazing livestock in 2007.** Producers who participated in the NAP program in 2007 have already reported this acreage. All other livestock producers will need to report their grazing acreage. Producers who run on BLM, Forest Service or State Lands must bring in their billing statements or permit if not already on file so that we can determine how many AUM's you are allotted during the grazing season.



All applications will be reviewed by the County Committee and some applications will be selected for spotcheck. Animal numbers need to be very accurate. If you are selected for spotcheck and are currently running fewer animals than certified to, you will be required to provide sales documentation/ or other documentation showing what happened to the animals.

Please call or visit the office for more information about the program.

### ***Livestock Indemnity Program***

The Livestock Indemnity Program provides monetary assistance to eligible livestock owners for livestock deaths that occurred in 2007 because of wildfires. If you had livestock deaths in 2007 because of wildfire, please contact the office.

### ***County Committee Election Results***

Reid Jarrett was elected to a three year term on the County Committee representing the Nephi area. We appreciate each of our committee members and their willingness to spend time and effort on behalf of the agricultural producers in Juab County.

### ***Controlled Substance***

Any person who is convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium, poppies and other drug producing plants.

### ***USDA streamlines forms & rules for farm loan programs***

Bruce Richeson, Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Utah, reports that the forms and rules for USDA's Farm Loan Programs will be modernized by Jan. 1, 2008, to make it easier for America's farmers, ranchers, and producers to apply for loans.

"This streamlining initiative is part of a historic transformation in agriculture farm lending programs," said Richeson. "By making our processes simpler and more straightforward, we will more effectively serve America's farmers and ranchers. We incorporated about 1,500 comments from nearly 600 members of the public in making these changes."

Over the past few years, USDA's Farm Service Agency has streamlined specific areas of its farm loan programs, such as the Guaranteed and Emergency Loan Programs, by revising loan making and servicing requirements and procedures to better serve applicants and borrowers. Direct Loans Programs streamlining includes:

- Reducing the number of pages in the Code of Federal Regulations necessary to administer the Farm Loan Programs by more than 80 percent;
- Modifying requirements to more closely conform to those used by other lenders;
- Ensuring all forms are available online;
- Cutting nearly in half the number of forms required; and
- Making guidance more manageable by replacing nearly 40 instruction manuals with 6 handbooks.

The program rules and forms will officially change on Dec. 31, 2007. This will allow employees of the Farm Service Agency (FSA), which administers the program, time for nationwide training on the new forms and rules. Until then, FSA will follow current procedures.

The streamlining rule, which incorporated inputs from more than 1,500 members of the public during its proposed stage, can be viewed via the *Federal Register* at [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/fedreg/frcont07.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/frcont07.html).

More information about FSA can be found by contacting a local FSA office or online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; click on "Farm Loan Programs" for more information

### ***Juab County Eligible for USDA Emergency Loans***

The Disaster Declaration Juab County received made producers eligible for Farm



Service Agency emergency loans due to physical and production losses. Farmer and Ranchers in Juab County can apply for an emergency loan to cover part of their actual losses and must apply by April 21, 2008. To be eligible, producers must have suffered a 30% loss of normal production, be able to repay the loan and other existing debt, be unable to get credit elsewhere, have adequate security, and must have obtained multi-peril crop insurance or have signed an insurance waiver. Each application will be considered on its own merit.

Applications can be picked up at the Juab County FSA Office. For more information, contact our Farm Loan Manager, Steve Bartholomew, at 801-377-5296 extension 29.

### ***Foreign Buyers Notification***

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

### ***Power of Attorney***

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office or any Farm Service Agency office near you for more information.



### ***Bank Account Changes***

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA County office staff if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

### ***Appeal Process***

After an FSA official makes a decision on your request for USDA services or application, you will be sent a letter informing you of the decision and options you can pursue if you disagree. Generally, program participants have three choices — an informal review with the original agency decision-maker, an opportunity for mediation and finally an appeal to the next level of authority within the agency.

### ***Spousal Signatures***

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

### ***Faxed Signatures***

Most FSA program applications and forms that require a producer's signature may be accepted by facsimile (fax) machine. This does not include electronic signatures (e-mail or computer generated.) Certain forms require additional authorization forms be filed or original signatures. Check with your County Office for applicability.

### ***Special Accommodations***

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

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### ***Ag Census Forms Due Feb 4<sup>th</sup>***

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) began distribution of the 2007 Census of Agriculture last month and completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the convenient option of filling out the Census online via a secure website at <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.

Conducted every 5 years by the U.S.D.A., the Census is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. According to NASS, the Census of Agriculture provides information that is not available elsewhere. The last AG Census was conducted in 2002.

The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation.

Policy-makers use Census data for decisions concerning agricultural and rural programs. Community planners use Census information to target delivery of local services. Companies rely on Census data when determining where to locate their operations. And farmers themselves look at Census data when deciding to make changes in their production strategies.

### ***Customer Statement***

January signals the beginning of a new year, and a time to gather financial records and starting thinking about filling out a 1040. Producers who have signed up for a USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account will be able to access their farm data via their Customer Statement. The Customer Statement puts a range of USDA services and programs into a single report that's at your fingertips and available online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

It allows USDA customers to view their participation, application and payment status in various commodity and conservation programs; information on farm loans; and conservation plan and land unit information.

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