

November 2006

## PIERCE COUNTY FSA NEWS

### FSA County Committee Election

VOTE for the candidate of your choice! Ballots were sent out on November 3<sup>rd</sup> to eligible voters in LAA# 3 & 4. If you didn't get one and you think you should have please contact us and we will check the eligible voters list for you.

To have your vote count all instructions on the ballot must be followed exactly as prescribed. Do not send two or more ballots back in one envelope. And, don't forget to sign your ballot. All ballots must be received in the Pierce County Office by December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

### Come Visit Our New Office

The South Puget Sound FSA Office has moved its location in the Puyallup Executive Park building. We were in room 406 now we are located in room 107; same building just different floor.

The move allowed us to be right next door to the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) giving customers access to both our agencies; one stop shopping. This move also allows our two agencies to pool our resources, saving money and equipment.

We cordially invite producers to come visit our new office and let us show you our workplace. Note, it is always appreciated when you call before coming so we can be here to assist you.

### DAIRY INDEMNITY PAYMENT PROGRAM (DIPP)

Under DIPP dairy producers are eligible for payments for losses caused by pesticides, chemical and toxic substances, and nuclear radiation or fallout if the producer was not responsible for the cause of loss. December 31<sup>st</sup> is the final date to apply for compensation for 2006 losses.

### ANNUAL REMINDERS

**Continuous Forms:** The forms for determining payment eligibility (including adjusted gross income certifications) and for certifying compliance with "Sodbuster-Swampbuster" provisions are continuous forms – meaning if nothing changes, updates are not necessary. However, if there are any changes, updates will need to be filed. Changes requiring updates include addition/deletion of land; draining, dredging, filling, or clearing land; changing the status of the participant (i.e. forming/dissolving a partnership/entity or adding new members); or a change in income status. In short, if there is any type of change, FSA should be notified and we will determine if an update is needed.

**Direct Deposit:** Every year we issue several payments to bank accounts that have been terminated or changed. This often occurs when banks restructure, causing account numbers or routing numbers to change. Please keep us posted on these changes so your payment goes to your account.

**Tax Implications:** Many of our producers are new to FSA and may not be aware of their Federal Tax responsibilities. Consequently, they may not realize that all FSA payments are reported to the IRS. You are encouraged to consult a tax adviser if you have any questions.

The IRS does provide Publication 225, Farmers Tax Guide, which can be accessed at the following site: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p225.pdf>. It is 123 pages long, but there is a section specifically on federal program payments.

**eGovernment E-File:** E-File is part of USDA's effort to better serve its customers through the use of computer technology and the Internet. Customers must first register with USDA's E-File system by filling out and submitting form AD-2014 "USDA Registration Form to Request Electronic Access Code" at [www.sc.egov.usda.gov](http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov). The form also can be obtained from a local USDA Service Center. After providing proof of identification and completing the registration process, customers receive an ID and password, which serve as an electronic legal signature.

**2006 Producer Earnings Statements:** Form CCC-1099G; Report of Producer Payments will be mailed in January to all producers earning a program payment from FSA. This information is also mailed to the Internal Revenue Service. Should you find a discrepancy, or if you do not receive a form, please contract your local FSA office.

#### Pierce County FSA

1011 E. Main #107  
Puyallup, WA. 98372-6798  
(253) 845 9272  
Fax (253) 445 9934

#### Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

#### County Committee

Rob Cerqui, Chair  
Marlene Hampton, V-Chair  
John Albert, Member  
John Kingsbury, Member  
Faith Sasaki, Advisor

#### Office Staff

George Jaquish, CED  
Kathy Modin, PT

#### Farm Loan Staff

Mark Turner, FLM  
Jeff Peterson, FLO

#### COC Meeting Schedule

Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006 10:00 AM

#### Important Dates:

November 17<sup>th</sup>, last day to  
apply for 2006 EQIP

South Sound Farm Forestry  
Association (360) 705-1888



## CCC-633EZ for Crop Year 2007

Beginning with the 2006 crop year eligible producers could indicate intentions to request LDP benefits on an eligible LDP commodity by completing and submitting CCC-633 EZ, Page 1, agreeing to the prescribed terms and conditions. CCC-633 EZ, Page 1 is crop year specific therefore; producers need to fill out a new CCC-633 for subsequent crop years.

Eligible producers may submit CCC-633 EZ, Page 1 for Crop Year 2007 eligible LDP commodities starting October 1, 2006 or the CCC-633 EZ, Page 1 will be accepted any time during the loan availability period as long as the producer still has beneficial interest in the commodity.

Note; The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 authorized LDP's through crop year 2007. Producers will not be allowed to sign CCC-633 EZ, Page 1 for crop year 2008 unless authorized.

## Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program provides a financial incentive for installing projects that benefit the management of the land and environment. EQIP typically pays 50% to 75% of the cost of the project. The natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) is currently taking applications for the program. Apply before November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at your local NRCS office if you would like to be considered.

## Reporting Crop Damage

**Reporting Crop Damage is essential for Disaster Declarations** - FSA encourages producers who have suffered crop damage due to a weather-related event to report the damage to your local FSA office. USDA uses damage reports to determine a need for disaster declarations. Disaster declarations trigger availability of emergency loans and in some instances, additional disaster assistance programs. Damage reports are not limited to crops. They also include farmsteads, farmland and livestock.

Helpful documentation includes the specific location of the farm damage, date and time of disaster event, type of damage (i.e. hail, wind, flooding, etc.), what was affected and estimated percent of loss or dollar amount. You are encouraged to take pictures of significant damage as both insurance agents and the FSA office use these in support of future program applications and/or their cumulative damage reports. Contact the county office for information about disaster assistance programs.



County Executive Director