

USDA **PLACER/NEVADA/ELDORADO** FSA NEWS

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PLACER/NEVADA/ELDORADO FSA OFFICE

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Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee:

Ken Mackey, Chair
Darlene Moberg, Vice
Chair
Carlin Hofman, Member
John Caswell, Member

County Executive

Director:

Bill Bryant

County Office Staff:

Beth Collier, PT

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

FSA appreciates all of the producers who took the time to vote. The County Committee system works only because of your participation. We are proud of the County Committee's record of service to farmers, and of this system of farmer-elected leaders. We look forward to welcoming **Ken Mackey** and **John Caswell** as our re-elected committee members. Ken Mackey represents farmers from LAA#2, Placer County and John Caswell, LAA#4 represents El Dorado County. **Toshiharu Kuratomi** was elected as 1st Alternate for LAA#2 and **Howard Neilsen**, 1st Alternate for LAA#4.

Annual DCP Enrollment

To participate in DCP, producers are required to **designate shares and sign the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program Contract (CCC-509) on a yearly basis.** The annual DCP sign-up period runs from October 1 to June 1 of the applicable program year. To be

considered enrolled timely; the CCC-509 must be submitted by June 1 of the applicable program year. In cases where a farm is reconstituted, all resulting farms will need to enroll (signatures obtained) if the producers intend to participate. CCC-509s with signatures obtained after June 1, but by September 30, will be accepted, but the farm will be assessed a late-filed sign-up fee of \$100. All supporting documentation, such as CCC-502, AD-1026, and CCC-526, must be submitted before payments can be issued. Annual acreage reports indicating uses of all cropland on a farm must be filed by the applicable established reporting dates. Acreage reports filed after the applicable final reporting date may be accepted if all requirements are met and a late-filed fee is paid.

DCP payments are calculated by taking 85 percent of the base acres, multiplied by the farm yield, times the applicable payment rate, times the producer share. Producers may receive an advance of the direct payment, beginning on

December 1 of the program year. Final direct payments will be made on or after October 1 following the contract period. Counter-cyclical payments may also be authorized for one or more covered commodities, depending on the projected and actual market prices. Producers may elect to receive up to two counter-cyclical payments per year: (1) the first partial payment, if any, is available after the first six months of the marketing year, and (2) final payment, if any, is made after the end of the marketing year for each eligible crop. Producers who do not elect to take the first advance payments will receive the entire counter-cyclical payment at the end of the marketing year for each eligible crop. The amount of a counter-cyclical payment is dependent upon the average of the actual prices received by farmers during the marketing year.

COMMODITY LOANS

A lien search must be completed by all producers requesting a commodity loan. Loans will not be disbursed until the county and state liens searches are completed and applicable lien waivers have been signed and returned to the County Office. A new lien search is required for every loan. Producers should request a lien search at the county office where they will be putting their commodity under loan two weeks prior to bringing in the warehouse receipts for warehouse stored loans

PAYMENT LIMITATION

Producers are reminded that no program benefits may be made until the FSA Office has made all necessary payment limitation and eligibility determinations. Producers will remain ineligible until all the required forms that include information pertaining to their farming operations are provide to the office.

Any producer determined to be “Not Actively Engaged in Farming” will be ineligible for most all USDA payments. This

includes DCP, gains from marketing loans and loan deficiency payments, CRP annual rental payments, disaster assistance or emergency payments, and any payment or benefit requiring a determination of “actively engaged in farming.” It is the producer’s responsibility to notify FSA of ANY changes in their farming operation or entity status throughout the year.

Remember, it is the producer’s responsibility to report their farm operation completely and accurately.

IMPORTANT, ALL PRODUCERS

Due to yearly signup of all farms and the amount of time involve it is very important you make an **Appointment for signup.** Appointments will help staff schedule sufficient time to complete your signup in a timely manner.

SPOT CHECKS BY FSA

All producers are subject to spot check through our end-of-year review process and the producer will be asked to submit proof of their contribution to the operation. The producer is required to provide the information so that the FSA County Committee can make a determination that the farming operation is actually being performed as was stated.

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.

There are exceptions to the rule. Spouses may not sign FSA-211s on behalf of each other or sign on behalf of the other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities. Spouses must have a power of attorney on file or sign personally for claim settlements, such as promissory notes and on security documents for price support loans.

Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents.

CLOSING DATES FOR 2007

- Honey 12-01-2006
- Fruit & Nut Tree Crops 12-15-2006
Almonds, Apricots, Asparagus
Caneberries, Cherries, Grapes
Kiwi, Mint, Nectarines, Olives
Peaches, Pears, Persimmons,
Pistachios, Plums, Pomegranates
Most Strawberries, Walnuts
- 2008 Citrus 01-01-2007
- 2007 Apples 01-31-2007

IMPORTANT DATES

**IT IS THE PRODUCER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THE
COUNTY OFFICE TO MEET DEADLINES**

December 2006	Begin issuing 2007 DCP advance direct payments <i>(Note: 22% of the 2007 direct DCP payment will be issued as an advance; the remaining 78% will be issued in October 2007)</i>
12/25/2006	Christmas Day – office closed
1/01/2007	New Year's Day – office closed
February 2007	2005 final rice CC rate announced 2006 second advance CC rates announced

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Placer/Nevada/El Dorado Farm Service Agency
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