



Polk County News

Polk County FSA Office

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Sharilyn Millette, Loan Mgr.
Kathey Naegeli, Loan Officer
Farm Loan employees are in
Marion FSA Office 503-399-5741 ext 2

January 2007

SOME IMPORTANT DATES

January 31, 2007 – Deadline to file for 2006 wool, mohair or unshorn pelt LDP's

March 31, 2007 – Deadline to apply for FSA Non-insured assistance for certain crops, see article.

June 1, 2007 – Deadline to complete 2007 DCP contract, see article

June 29, 2007 – Deadline to report crop acreage to FSA if you receive USDA benefits, see article

August 29, 2007 – Deadline to file for emergency loan, see article.

IMPORTANT

2007 DIRECT AND COUNTER CYCLICAL (DCP) SIGN-UP UNDERWAY

The deadline for all individuals or entities that receive a share of the payment to physically sign the contract and file it with the FSA office is **JUNE 1, 2007**. **IF SIGNATURES ARE NOT RECEIVED IN THE FSA OFFICE BY JUNE 1, 2007 YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY \$100 LATE FEE PER CONTRACT.**

Please call us to make an appointment or stop by the office at your convenience. An advance phone call is helpful to us and you in preventing delays and getting you back to other business matters in a timely fashion. We would like to encourage you to contact us as soon as possible to avoid a mad rush at the end of May. **Do not rely on a phone call or other notification reminding you to complete the necessary paperwork.**

If you plan to increase the planted acreage of any fruits and vegetables (to include vegetable seed crops) or plant them in a different location than last year, you need to immediately visit the FSA office. The DCP program has restrictions on the planting of fruits and vegetables, and receiving benefits.

ACREAGE REPORTING

Producers or landowners who participate in FSA programs are required to file a timely and accurate acreage report by June 29, 2007. All cropland on farms which receive Direct and Counter-Cyclical payments, Marketing Assistance Loans, and Loan Deficiency Payments must be reported. In addition, all land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program and land in which Non-Insured Assistance Program benefits are received must be reported.

LOAN DEFICIENCY PROGRAM (LDP)

The program provides price support payments for eligible commodities when the county price falls below or is deficient of the loan rate, thus creating a payment rate. If you grew one of the commodities in crop year 2006 see the below deadline dates to apply for a LDP payment for your 2006 crop, if one is applicable. **Remember; contact the local office before losing interest in the commodity to ensure proper forms are on file.**

January 31, 2007 – Mohair, Peanuts, Unshorn Pelts, Wool.

March 31, 2007 – Barley, Canola, Crambe, Flaxseed, Honey, Oats, Rapeseed, Wheat, Sesame Seed

May 31, 2007 – Corn, Dry Peas, Grain Sorghum, Lentils, Mustard Seed, Safflower Seed, Small Chickpeas, Soybeans, Sunflowers Seed.

2007 NON INSURED CROP ASSISTANCE (NAP)

The Non-Insured Assistance Program is designed for all crops that cannot be insured under federal crop insurance. NAP only provides catastrophic insurance coverage (50% yield, 55% price). The cost of an application is \$100 per crop/year and no producer will be required to pay more than \$300 per county/year, no matter how many crops are grown. Here are the deadlines to apply. If you have any questions on when to apply for NAP coverage, please call the office.

Mar 15, 2007 – Beans, broccoli, cantaloupe, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, peas, potatoes, pumpkin, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon and all other spring crops not already signed-up.

May 31, 2007 - Buckwheat

To find out more about Federal Crop Insurance you can pick up a fact sheet for your particular crop from our office.

CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)

Are you interested in getting the financial and technical assistance needed to implement certain conservation practices on your land? Do you have land next to a stream or wetland? We may be able to provide the technical and financial assistance you need through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).

CREP is a jointly funded program by the federal government and the State of Oregon. The program has several objectives to include, but not limited to, reducing sediment and nutrient pollution from agricultural lands, stabilize stream banks with adequate vegetation, reduce water temperatures, improve habitat for fish species, and to provide a mechanism for farmers to help them meet water quality requirements established by federal and state law.

Landowners who enroll in CREP plant long term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion and enhance wildlife habitat. In return, the Farm Service Agency provides participants with rental payments and financial assistance. There is also an incentive payments based on the costs of establishing the habitat.

The program targets the use of Riparian Buffers, Filter Strips, Wetland Restoration, Wildlife Habitat Buffers and Wetland Buffers to meet the objectives of the program

The program can be used on streams and properties both large and small. It is also a great way to participate in conservation because you will receive both financial and technical support. If you are interested in the CREP program or have any questions please contact the Polk County Farm Service Agency at 503-623-2396 extension 2 or stop by the office.

FARM LOANS TARGETING SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED GROUPS

FSA offers farm loan programs that are designed to help socially disadvantaged farmers purchase and operate family farms. FSA reserves a portion of its loan funds each year to assist in this goal. For purposes of this program, the groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Direct loans are made to applicants by FSA and include both farm operating and farm ownership loans. Guaranteed loans are also made for these purposes, and may be made by any lending institution subject to Federal or State supervision and guaranteed by FSA. Typically, FSA guarantees 90 or 95 percent of a loan against any loss that might be incurred if the loan fails. Please call 503-399-5741 ext 2 and ask for a Farm Loan employee to get more information.

COUNTIES ELIGIBLE FOR USDA EMERGENCY FARM LOAN ASSISTANCE

Effective December 29, 2006 there was a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration announced for Clatsop, Hood River, Lincoln and Tillamook counties. All contiguous counties were named in the Declaration, which includes **Polk County**.

The disaster designation is due to severe storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides that occurred between November 5 – 8, 2006. The disaster designation makes farm operators in all counties eligible to be considered for low interest emergency loans at a rate of 3.75% from FSA, provided all the eligibility requirements are met. Producers can borrow up to 100% of the actual production losses to a maximum amount of \$500,000. Loan terms for crop losses are normally 1 to 7 years, but terms of up to 20 years may be authorized.

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides emergency loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters, or quarantine. The loan funds can be used to restore or replace essential property; pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year; pay essential family living expenses; reorganize the farming operation; and refinance certain debts.

The loans may be made to farmers and ranchers who own or operate land located in one of the counties listed above, are established family farm operators and have sufficient farming or ranching experience; are citizens or permanent residents of the United States; have suffered at least a 30-percent loss in crop production or a physical loss to livestock, livestock products, real estate, or chattel property; have an acceptable credit history; are unable to receive credit from commercial sources; can provide collateral to secure the loan; and have repayment ability.

Farm operators in eligible counties have **until August 29, 2007** to apply for emergency loans to help cover part of their actual losses.

If you are interested in applying for an emergency loan or getting more information contact the following: Polk County loan officers are located in the Marion County FSA office, they can be reached at 503-399-5741. For Yamhill County call 503-472-1474 extension 2.

Information is also available online about FSA's emergency loans, visit the website at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/emloan.htm>.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Ron Quiring was elected to serve 3 more years as the regular member in the past election. Jim Gardner was elected as the 1st Alternate and Jim Wilson was elected as the 2nd alternate. Each year the number of ballots returned continues to increase, this years election was no different.

Next years election will be for the area of land located North of Hwy 22 and East of Perrydale Rd. If you have an interest in being placed on the ballot for this election or have any interest at all in the County Committee or questions, contact Andy Schmidt at 503-623-2396 ext 105 or by email at andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov

FOREIGN LANDOWNER NOTIFICATION

Foreign investors, who buy, sell or hold a direct or indirect interest in U.S. agricultural land must report their holdings and transactions to the Secretary of Agriculture. Failure to timely file an accurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land

***STAY TUNED* 2005 AND 2006 NATIONWIDE DISASTER PROGRAM**

There is a chance that Congress passes disaster legislation for 2005 and 2006 crop years. If you suffered a loss in either of those years continue to pay close attention to the newsletters or stay in monthly contact with the FSA office for what is happening regarding any disaster programs.

Dallas Service Center
Polk County FSA Office
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Do you wish to receive the newsletter by email? Please contact Andy at 503-623-2396 extension 105 or by email at andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov and you will be emailed the newsletter.

Do you have some suggestions regarding this publication and making it better for you? If so contact Andy at 503-623-2396 extension 105 or by email at andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to visit the USDA Polk County Service Center should contact Andy Schmidt, at 623-2396 extension 105, or email andrew.schmidt@or.usda.gov.

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