



Polk County News

Polk County FSA Office
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Website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/or/>

Ron Quiring, Chairman
Scott Faber, Vice Chair
Tom Crawford, COC Member
Sandy Moritz, Minority Advisor

Andrew Schmidt, CED – Ext 105
Laurie Johnson, PT – Ext 102
Beverly Schmidt, PT – Ext 100

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

November, 2006

SOME DATES TO REMEMBER

November 23, 2006 – Office closed in observance of Thanksgiving
December 4, 2006 – Final date to return election ballots to the county office or be postmarked
December 7, 2006 – Ballots will be counted
December 1, 2006 – Office closed in observance of Christmas
January 1, 2006 - Office closed in observance of New Years

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.

Nov 21, 2006 – Apples, apricots, blueberries, caneberries, chestnuts, cherries, cranberries, grapes, hazelnuts, honey, nectarine, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, strawberries, walnuts.
Mar 15, 2007 – Beans, broccoli, cantaloupe, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, peas, potatoes, pumpkin, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon and all spring planted crops not mentioned under the November 21, 2006 Deadline above.
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.

REPORTING CHANGES IN YOUR FARMING OPERATION

Each year, if you participate in USDA programs you are required to report any of the below changes to the Farm Service Agency office. We have completed updates for the 2006 year and now are started on the 2007 crop year please provide us with any of the following for your 2007 crop year.

- Change of land lease. Example from cash to share rent or vice versa.
- Change in the size of the operation due to adding or removing land.
- Change in the structure of the farming operation: Example: from a partnership to corporation.
- Change in members shares of the farming operation.
- Change in contributions of farm inputs of capital, equipment, active personal labor, or active personal management.
- Changes in income that may affect the 3-year average for determining adjusted gross income.

It is important to report the above changes. Failure to report these changes could cause you to be under paid, or worst yet over paid, which means someone else is not getting paid their correct amount. Our goal here is to ensure everyone receives the payment they are entitled to, but that can only be done with help from each and every farmer we work with in Polk County.

USDA DIGITAL AERIAL IMAGERY

The Geographic Information System (GIS) is being used by more farmers across America each and everyday. The technology is used for efficiency of fertilizer applications, pesticide use, seeding, more precise yield data, etc. Its use in agriculture will only continue to grow and expand with time. USDA understands the importance of aerial imagery to those farmers who are utilizing GIS or other imagery viewers.

APFO is the primary source for aerial digital and paper photography for the USDA; it has one of the largest collections of historical aerial photography in the nation, dating back to 1955. Call 801-975-3503 or go online at:

Dallas Service Center
Polk County FSA Office
580 Main Street Suite D
Dallas, OR 97338-1911

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<http://www.apfo.usda.gov> or stop by the office for more information.

BEGINNING FARMER & RANCHER LAND CONTRACT GUARANTEE PILOT PROGRAM

Farmers and ranchers in Oregon may be eligible to participate in a unique pilot program. It is a tool that may help you, or producers you know, acquire or farm land. It also helps landowners that may have an interest selling farm or ranch land on contract to qualified beginning farmers or ranchers.

The program provides the seller of land a no-cost 10-year "prompt payment" guarantee of the installment payments under a contract sale to a beginning farmer or rancher (buyer). If the buyer does not pay an annual installment due on the contract, or pays only part of an installment, FSA provides the scheduled payment or the unpaid portion to the seller through an escrow agent. The guarantee is limited to the total of two annual installments and also covers the amount of unpaid taxes and insurance for a period of two years.

You can find out more about this program by calling Sharilyn, Kathey or Lora at 503-399-5741 ext 2.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Ballots have been mailed to all eligible voters in the area East of Kings Valley Hwy and South of Hwy 22/Ellendale Rd. area. Signed ballots must be returned to the county office by **December 4th or be postmarked**. Newly elected county committee members take office Jan.1, 2007. Ron Quiring of Rickreall and Jim Gardner of Monmouth are the individuals who will appear as candidates on the ballot. You can only vote for one candidate or write in yourself or someone else.

For detailed information about FSA county committees visit the county office or go online at:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections>

FARM BILL AND ITS FUTURE

As many of you already know we are entering the last year of the current farm bill. Several programs are set to expire in September of 2007. There are several options you can take to stay informed of what is going on. The first is to read your newsletter and keep your address up to date, the second is to read the capital press and other agricultural related publications and the third, but most important is to talk with us at FSA. Do not hesitate to ask questions about what is happening. Currently, there has been some talk about extending the current farm bill, but that has yet to be determined. As we find out more information we will make every effort to keep you informed.

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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