



# Farm Service Agency

## Rich County News

September/October 2006

### Rich County FSA

195 N. Main St.  
Randolph, UT 84064  
435 793-2465 Phone  
435 793-2745 Fax

### Hours

Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### County Committee

Philip Eastman  
Simeon B. Weston  
Clint Cornia  
Judy Stuart

### County Executive Director

Bill Cornia

### Program Technician

Debbie McKinnon

### Farm Loan Manager

Scott Bown

### County Committee Election

Just a reminder to watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot. Early in November ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters in Local Administrative Area 3 which is the Woodruff area. If you don't receive a ballot please notify the county office. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on December 4, 2006



Newly elected county committee members take office on January 1, 2007.

### AgrAbility of Utah

AgrAbility of Utah is part of a national program administered through the USDA. AgrAbility focuses on promoting independence for members of the agricultural community who have disabilities resulting from injury, illness, age or other causes. AgrAbility offers opportunities to persons of all ages and connects individuals to a network of service providers, product suppliers, and product manufacturers in order to provide education, information, services, and support.

Types of assistance available include:

- Agriculture work-site analysis
- Farm/Home accessibility survey
- Environmental modifications
- Equipment adaptation and modification
- Information and referral
- Facilitation of independent living
- Individual advocacy
- Peer support
- Coordination of community service
- Education
- Agricultural safety workshops to prevent further injuries

If you or someone you know could use some assistance in making your farm or ranch operation easier because of a disability, please contact: Rhonda L. Miller, PhD. Phone: (435) 797-3772 E-mail: [rlmiller@cc.usu.edu](mailto:rlmiller@cc.usu.edu).



## **NRCS Conservation Program Sign-Up Ends Nov. 15, 2006**

The sign up period for several NRCS programs will be coming earlier this year. The period to sign up for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), and Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) **is currently open and will end on November 15<sup>th</sup> 2006**. These programs assist landowners by providing 50% - 75% of the cost involved in completing conservation projects on private land. These programs can help you pay for:

- **Rangeland and pastureland improvement projects** including fencing, stock-water developments, weed control, brush control, seeding and even yearly incentive payments for proper grazing management.
- **Irrigation improvements** including sprinklers, pivots, pipelines and pumping systems.
- **Streambank restoration projects** including rock-barbs, reshaping of banks, willow and other woody vegetation plantings, riparian fencing and off-stream stock watering systems.
- **Animal waste management systems** including waste storage structures, pipelines and feedlot relocations.

The above list is just a sampling of the types of conservation projects available through NRCS. If you would like more information, please contact the Rich County NRCS at 435-793-3905 or stop by the office and talk to Thomas Hoskins.

## **NAP Deadline Approaching**

The NAP (Non Insured Assistance Program) can soften financial losses caused by natural disasters, but only if you have applied for coverage and paid the application fee. This program can be likened to an insurance policy.

NAP is a federally funded program that provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occurs as a result of natural disasters. NAP also provides coverage for crops for which the catastrophic level of insurance is not available.

It is \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per producer, per county, or not to exceed \$900 for a multi-county producer. **December 1, 2006 is the final day to sign up perennial crops for 2007 NAP coverage.**

Just like filing a claim, producers who have a NAP contract on file with this office need to file a **NOTICE OF LOSS** when it becomes apparent that a covered crop or pasture has been damaged by drought, frost, insects, etc. This **NOTICE OF LOSS** should be filed within **15 days** of when the damage is apparent—no matter how significant the loss may seem at the time. Producers also need to notify our office if you intend to graze a crop instead of harvest it.

**IMPORTANT:** Additionally, you will need to submit production evidence to the FSA Office for your crop, even if you did not have a loss on your covered crops. This is required to establish an APH (actual production history) for each year. This is used to calculate your production yield, and consequently will affect your NAP payment.

Make sure to timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.

## **Special Accommodations**

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA office and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are needed.

## 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 important exceptions to the rule, some of which are claim settlements, power of attorney forms, and signatory authority for an entity.

## Reporting Farm Information

It is the producer's responsibility to report their farm operation completely and accurately.

Nobody needs reminded that farming and ranching in today's modern marketplace has become a complicated business. Gone are the days when most of us could sell cattle over a handshake and marketing grain meant delivering it to the local elevator. In today's complex business world, new importance has been placed on ensuring that all aspects of farming and ranching are covered with detailed and legally binding contracts. Government paperwork is no different. In fact, as FSA implements the programs authorized by the Farm Bill, we have grown to realize that it is extremely important that all FSA farm records accurately represent how your operation is being conducted.



For example, producers have now found themselves in hot water because the FSA paperwork reflected their operation as a partnership when the state's tax records indicated that they had formed a corporation. Others have been penalized because the operating name on the FSA records was different than the name the producers used in doing business with suppliers or processors. While the local tractor dealer may know that John Farm really means John and Jane Farmer or that the Lazy R is another name for Stan Rancher's operation, government computers cannot make the connection.

Please take the time to review the forms on file in your FSA County Office. Your payment limitation forms should provide an accurate picture of your operation. The same shares should carry through on the DCP contracts, crop reporting shares, etc. In addition, it's just as important that all your commodity contracts, accounts with businesses that provide receipts for FSA documentation, etc., are in the same name of the entity as represented by our farm records. The county office staff is available to answer any questions you may have on this important issue.

## Be Counted on the 2007 Census of Agriculture

The 2002 Census of Agriculture counted 2.2 million farms and ranches in the United States. That was down 15% from the 2.6 million farms and ranches counted in 1974. What changes are in store for the future of agriculture in our country? It is important that all operators are again counted in 2007 Census of Agriculture to show their contribution to the entire US. Agricultural industry.

Every farm and ranch in the nation can expect to receive a mailed Census questionnaire in December 2007. To get an accurate count for 2007, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service must receive a completed report for every farm and ranch in the U.S. The Census is the only source of uniform agricultural data for every county in the U.S. and provides a complete statistical picture of U.S. farms and ranches every five years.

The information you provide on the Census is kept confidential. For more information about NASS or the Census of Agriculture visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov), or call NASS's Field Office at 1-800-747-8522.



**Rich County FSA Office  
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 Randolph, UT 84064**

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<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
October 9	Columbus Day Holiday
October 19	COC Meeting
November 10	Veteran’s Day Holiday
November 3	COC Election Ballots Mailed
December 1	Deadline to purchase NAP coverage
December 4	COC Ballots must be postmarked or delivered to office
December 1	Deadline to purchase NAP coverage

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