

**U.S. Department
of Agriculture**

Farm Service Agency
www.fsa.usda.gov

San Luis Obispo County
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Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM-4:30 PM

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS
SEPTEMBER 4, 2006

**San Luis Obispo
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FSA NEWS

Volume 3

Non Insured Assistance Program

Non Insured Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to Catastrophic Insurance. NAP is limited to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which catastrophic insurance is not available and is produced for food and fiber.

“Eligible crops” also specifically include the following:

- * Floriculture
- * Christmas tree crops
- * Industrial crops
- * Aquaculture, including ornamental fish
- * Ornamental Nursery
- * Turf grass
- * Seed crops

Eligible Disaster Conditions:

Crop acreage must have either of the following:

- Failed, suffered from damage, or for annual crops, be prevented from planting or replanting before the final planting date or end of the late planting period.
- Failed or suffered from damage after the final planting date for the crop.

These conditions must be reported to the office within 15 days of when the loss has become apparent. The loss must be certified on the CCC-576 form that is provided by the county office or the loss is not eligible for compensation.

Producers’ Responsibilities:

Yearly requirements to cover your crop include:

- File an application (CCC 471) in the office by the closing date of the crop being filed.
- Pay the required fees: &100 per crop/\$ 300 maximum per county.
- Must report acreage and shares for all crops planted.
- Certify crop production history for approved yield calculation.
- Complete Payment Limitation Eligibility form.
- Certify to \$2 million Gross Revenue limitation for each “person”, in an operation.
- Certify a Highly erodible land certification.

When you have a loss, you must:

- File a notice of loss and application for payment within 15 days of damage being apparent on from CCC-576 in the county office.

2007 NAP Sales Closing Dates for Coverage

CROPS	Closing Date
All Vegetable Crops	8/1/2006
Citrus: Oranges, Lemons, Limes, Grapefruit, Tangelos, Avocados	1/1/2006
Fall Planted Seed Crops	8/1/2006
Value Loss and Controlled Environment Crops	9/1/2006
Forage Crops	9/1/2006
Garbanzo Beans	9/1/2006
Fall Planted Garlic	10/1/2006
Honey	12/1/2006
Fruit - Nut Tree Crops: Almonds, Apricots, Asparagus, Cane berries, Cherries, Grapes, Kiwi, Mint, Nectarines, Olives, Peaches, Pears, Persimmons, Pistachios, Plums, Pomegranates, Most Strawberries, Walnuts	12/15/2006
2008 Citrus	1/1/2007
2007 Apples	1/31/2007

Reminder for NAP Claims filed for 2005:

All 2005 claims have to have production submitted and part G of the payment application signed by the 2006 acreage reporting date for the window applied for in order to be eligible for payment, according to 1-NAP Par 9.

In addition all production for APH Purposes even if you did not have a claim is due no later than the immediate subsequent crop year acreage reporting date for the crop, according to 1-NAP Par. 9.

2005 NAP claims and APH deadlines:

Planting Period of the 2005 loss claimed	Final Planting	Acreage Report: Deadline to Provide your production evidence
1	12/31/2004	4/15/2006
2	4/30/2005	8/15/2006
3	8/31/2005	12/15/2006

Emergency Farm Loans Available

On June 15, 2006, the Secretary of Agriculture designated an emergency in the State of California covering damages and losses caused by unprecedented rainfall and severe weather conditions which occurred from December 17, 2005 through April 26, 2006. 29 Counties, 21 Contiguous counties have been selected in California and 2 Contiguous counties in Nevada. In this disaster designation #S2315, that expires on February 15, 2007, San Luis Obispo County has been named.

To have qualifying losses, applicants must have suffered a sever physical or production loss directly related to the above cited cause. For more information contact the FSA Farm Loan team at (805) 928-9269 x 2.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Announcements

CRP Extensions and Re-enrollment – If you have paid the required fees to reenroll your CRP Land and have not had a field visit from the CRP Filed Team please notify the office. All CRP participants with contracts expiring at the end of September 2007 should have a conservation plan on file. We are sending letters with an appointment time and date to get your plan done.

Selling CRP Land – Notice to all current CRP participants; in the event land is transferred or sold the following provisions apply: If the new owner becomes

the successor to the existing CRP contract, the new owner shall assume all obligations under such contract. If new owners chose not to succeed interest, a payment refund + liquidated damages + total interest will need to be paid back to the office. The current contract holder is required to notify the office of any changes of ownership. You can refer to your CRP-1 Appendix or you can call the office for more information.

Managed Grazing - If you are interested in applying for managed grazing please call the office for required paper work. You have two options to choose from Option #1 **October 1 -November 30, 2006 & February 1-March 31, 2007** (120 days) or Option #2 **December 1, 2006-March 31, 2007** (120 days).

New Way to Request Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs)

Recently, FSA rolled out a new, streamlined process for requesting loan deficiency payments (LDP). The CCC-633 EZ form is a combination of the original CCC-633 and CCC-709 forms.

By signing the first page of the CCC-633 EZ form, producers indicate their intentions to receive LDP benefits. This one page covers all counties and all eligible harvested commodities for the entire year for the individual, joint operation, or entity identified on the form.

One thing that hasn't changed is the requirement that the form must be signed before beneficial interest in the crop is lost. Once page 1 of the CCC-633 EZ form has been signed, the producer can submit an LDP request by

completing page 2 at any time during the loan availability period.

This new form is available to small grain producers as well as wool and mohair producers.

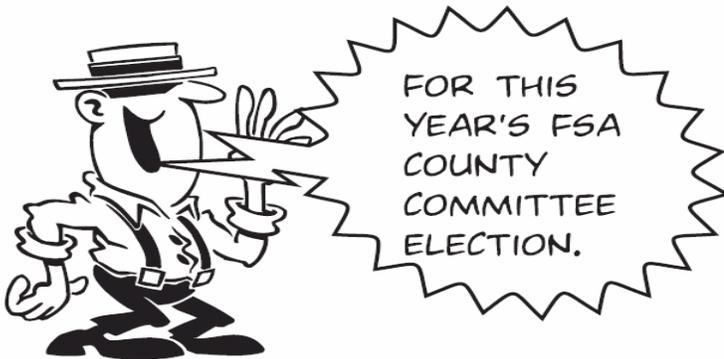
DCP Sign up Underway Now

The Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) sign-up period for fiscal year 2006 is from October 1, 2005 to June 1, 2006. The CCC-509 must be submitted by June 1, 2006. All owners and operators who will share in the DCP payments on the farm must sign the CCC-509. Forms with signatures that are obtained after June 1st, but before September 30th, will be accepted, but the farm will be assessed a **late-file fee of \$100**. Farm producers must apply for DCP on an annual basis and can opt out of the program for any year if they so choose.

For more information on DCP, you can contact your local FSA Office.

County Committee Elections

Count me in ...



Nominations close:

September 5, 2006

Ballots mailed:

November 4, 2006

Last day to return ballots to
FSA Office:

December 5, 2006

Nominate and vote for farmers of your choice. The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a direct link between the agriculture community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Local Administrative Area #12 (LAA), which is up for election covers the area that boundaries all land North of Highway 41 West, east of highway 101 to Highway 58, Highway 229 to Highway 41 East, and Highway 46 East to the Kern County line. If you are a farmer and live or farm in this area you are eligible for nomination and to run for County Committee in LAA #12.

Nominations form (FSA-669A) for LAA 12 is available at the local FSA Office and online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections>. All nomination forms must be received in the county office or postmarked by September 5, 2006.

For more information on any of FSA's programs, visit our website at www.fsa.usda.gov

ACCOMMODATION TO FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impaired, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call our office at (805) 434-0398 Ext 2.

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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