



U.S. Department of Agriculture

Tehama County FSA  
2 Sutter Street, Ste. C  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Phone (530)527-3013  
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Hours  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

County Committee  
James Brandt  
Gerrie Larson  
David Lester

County Executive Director  
George Moran

Staff  
Donna McKenna, PT  
Susan Symons, PT  
Barbara Sneathen PT  
Ed DeBauche, FLO  
Sandy Davidson, FLO  
Beth Garibaldi, PT

NRCS

District Conservationist  
Larry Branham

Range Specialist  
Erik Ross

Soil Conservationist  
RaeAnn Dubay



Farm Service Agency  
November 2007

# Tehama County News

## Crop Disaster Program Signup

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops. The 2007 crops must have been planted before February 28, 2007. Orchard crops are eligible. **CDP signup for quantity losses began October 15, 2007.** The CDP sign-up dates for quality losses have not yet been announced.

Only producers who had crop insurance or NAP for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP, and the production or quality loss must be due to a natural disaster. For more information, contact the Tehama County Farm Service Agency office at 2 Sutter Street in Red Bluff for an appointment (530) 527-3013, Ext 2.



## County Committee Election

The following producers have been nominated to represent Community "C" (west of the Sacramento River and south of Gyle Rd) on the Tehama County Committee:

David Lester – Cattle, Hay, Olives  
Pablo Nerey – Olives

The Tehama County Committee meets monthly in the conference room at #2 Sutter Street, Red Bluff. The committee oversees the commodity programs, price support loans and payments, conservation and disaster programs as well as other USDA programs in Tehama County.

Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on November 2, 2007. **Ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on Dec 3, 2007.** Ballots will be counted on Thursday December 6, 2007 at 11:30 AM in the USDA conference room at 2 Sutter Street, in Red Bluff. **Una boleta para votar escrita en español esta disponible en nuestra oficina o llamando 527-3013, extension 2.**



## **2007 WOOL & MOHAIR LDPs**

Producers can still request a Loan Deficiency Payment for 2007 crop year wool or mohair. Producers must sign up for the LDP benefits before they lose “beneficial interest” in their wool or mohair. Payment may be requested at any time during the LDP availability period as long as the appropriate forms have been signed.



**The deadline to request an LDP for 2007 wool or mohair is January 31, 2008.** For more information contact Sue at the Tehama County FSA Office, (530) 527-3013, Ext.2

## **Agriculture Census Information Online**

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service has launched a web site to provide producers with news and information on the upcoming census. The site is located at <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.

According to NASS, the Census site is designed to accommodate the growing number of farmers and ranchers that are using the Internet. This year marks the first time that producers will have the option of filling out their Census forms online, saving both time and postage costs.

The Census of Agriculture is taken every five years, gathering information about every farm and ranch in the nation and the people who operate them. A variety of topics are covered and the Census provides comprehensive agricultural data for every county. Forms will be mailed to producers in late December that will include directions for responding online. Census forms need to be returned by Feb. 4, 2008.

## **NON INSURED CROP ASSISTANCE (NAP)**

The NAP program covers crops not insured by “crop insurance”. Producers must annually provide an acreage report and production evidence for each covered crop. The NAP fee is \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per producer, per county. The service fee must be paid prior to the eligible crop sales closing date.

\*\*\*\*\* ***Upcoming sales closing dates for 2008 include:*** \*\*\*\*\*



Honey, Onions:	December 1, 2007
Most orchard crops, (e.g. Olives, Pistachios, Pecans):	December 15, 2007
Kiwi, Strawberries:	December 15, 2007
Citrus for 2009 crop	January 1, 2008
Apples	January 31, 2008
All other spring seeded annuals (e.g. vine seeds):	March 1, 2008

The NAP program is similar to “CAT” coverage in that payments are calculated on losses greater than 50%. Losses must be due to a weather related disaster.

## **FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN PROGRAM (FSFL)**

FSA provides low-interest financing for Farm Storage Facility Loans to producers to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. Storage and handling facility loans must be approved by the local FSA county committee before any site preparation and/or construction can be started.

For more information regarding this program please contact FSA or visit our web site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> for a program fact sheet.

## **FSA Farm Loans Available For Beginning Farmers or Rancher**

Regular farm ownership loan are available for beginning farmers or ranchers. These loans offer financing up to \$200,000 and a maximum term of 40 years.

The interest rate is currently 5.75 percent. The rate for "limited resource producers" is 5.00 percent.

The regular farm ownership loan funds may also be used in joint financing where FSA lends up to 50 percent of the amount financed and another lender provides 50 percent or more. FSA may charge an interest rate of not less than 4 percent with terms up to 40 years.

## **OTHER LOAN SERVICES AVAILABLE**

Youth Loans for those involved in 4-H, FFA and other agricultural groups. A Socially Disadvantaged Farmer is defined as one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. For the purposes of these programs, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

Beginning Farmer Down Payment Ownership Program (10-40-50)

Call the FSA office at (530) 527-3013, Ext 2 or visit our web site <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

## **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP)**

EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers in making voluntary improvements to natural resources (plants, animals, soil, water and air) on the land they own or manage. This is a cost share program and all applications are ranked based on environmental benefit to the resource concerns established for the county.

Applications for assistance with EQIP can be submitted throughout the year. A deadline is set for each funding cycle and applications received by the deadline will be screened and ranked by NRCS staff. The most recent deadline was November 2, 2007.

Priority is given to applicants who have a conservation plan in place before applying for EQIP.

For more information and details on conservation planning, contact the Tehama County Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Office at (530) 527-3013 Ext 3.

## **Livestock Disaster Programs**

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) has been announced. Eligible livestock producers can apply for compensation for feed losses due to a natural disaster that was declared between Jan 1, 2005 and Feb 28, 2007. Losses due to drought conditions in Tehama County in 2007 are not eligible, because the drought was declared after 2/28/07.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) has also been announced. LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock (including catfish) producers who suffered livestock losses (deaths) due to excessive heat between June 20 and July 30, 2006.

For more information, or an appointment, call George at 527-3013, ext 2 at FSA.



Tehama County FSA Office  
 2 Sutter Street, Suite C  
 Red Bluff, CA 96080-4353

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Nov. 2	County committee ballots mailed to voters
Nov. 12	Veterans Day Holiday
Nov. 22	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec. 3	Last day to return county committee election ballots
Dec. 6	COC Ballots to be counted at 11:30 am in FSA Office
Dec. 25	Christmas Day Holiday
Jan. 1	New Year's Day Holiday
Jan. 31	Deadline to request Wool/Mohair LDP

**Got Computer?**



Your home computer could save you time when filing for FSA programs and benefits. There are now several government programs and web sites designed to enable you to enroll in USDA programs, obtain information to improve the effectiveness of your farming operation, or track your USDA payments or account balances. Contact your local FSA office for assistance with establishing your internet access.

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14<sup>th</sup> and Independence Ave, SW, Washington, D>C>< 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD).

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