



U.S. Department of Agriculture

Tehama County FSA  
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Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Phone (530)527-3013  
Fax (530)527-7451

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

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

County Committee  
James Brandt  
Richard Edsall  
David Lester

County Executive Director  
George Moran

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

Loan Manager  
Roberta Wheeler

NRCS

District Conservationist  
Larry Branham

Range Specialist  
Erik Ross

Soil Conservationist  
RaeAnn Dubay

Rural Development

Manager  
Keith Johnson

Loan Specialist  
Marcia Brooks

Staff  
Jill Monson



Farm Service Agency

October 2006

# Tehama County News

## 2006 COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

This year farmers in Community "A" will elect their representative to the FSA County Committee. Community "A" is located west of the Sacramento River and north of Gyle Rd. to the Shasta County line. The nominee, Gerrie Larson, is a bee keeper, and her bees are used as pollinators for local orchards and the production of honey. Ballots will be mailed in November and must be returned by December 4, 2006. If you farm in Community "A", and do not receive a ballot by November 20, please contact the county office. The votes will be tallied at 1:00 P.M. on Tuesday, December 5, in the FSA office in Red Bluff. Farmers of legal voting age are eligible to vote.

To find out more about the FSA county committee, call the office at (530) 527-3013, extension 2, or read more on line at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>. Information is available in both Spanish and English.

## FOREIGN LANDOWNER RESPONSIBILITIES

Foreign investors, who buy, sell, or hold an interest in U.S. agricultural land must report their holdings and transactions to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture through their local FSA office. Failure to timely file an accurate report can result in a penalty of 25 percent of the fair market value of the land. Foreign investors should submit the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) form to their local FSA office.

## POWER OF ATTORNEY & PROPER SIGNATURE AUTHORITY

Does FSA have your proper signature authorization on file? No benefits may be issued without the proper documentation. Each entity type has specific rules regarding who has authority to sign for the entity and the office staff will be glad to assist you in clarifying who may sign for your operation. If you need an agent to act on your behalf for FSA administered programs, you need to complete an FSA-211, Power of Attorney form. This form is available at your local FSA office or on-line at <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov>. FSA-211s completed outside USDA Service Center offices must be notarized. Questions??? Call your FSA office.

## ATTENTION: FARM LOAN BORROWERS OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 31, 2006- GET YOUR PAYMENTS IN!

Please note that the office will be closed Dec. 31, 2006. Any one who wants their 2006 tax statement to show the interest for payments due January 1, 2007, must make their payment to this office by close of business on December 29, 2006. Questions? Call your loan officer



## **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.

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### **\*\*\*\*\* Upcoming sales closing dates for 2007 include:\*\*\*\*\***

Honey, Onions:	December 1, 2006
Most orchard crops, (e.g. Olives, Pistachios, Apples):	December 15, 2006
Kiwi, Strawberries:	December 15, 2006
Citrus for 2008 crop	January 1, 2007
All other spring seeded annuals (e.g. vine seeds):	March 1, 2007

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



Remember, to report all disaster conditions when they occur, even if you are unsure of the degree of loss. **Do not wait** until harvest to report your loss, you may be ineligible for benefits if disaster conditions can not be verified.

### **Bank Account Changes?**

Since January 1, 1999, FSA payments have been made by direct deposit (electronic funds transfer) to a pre-designated checking or savings account. Whenever there is a change to your account, it is important that you notify FSA of the change. Without notification, your payments may be delayed for a long time.



### **DCP Sign Up Underway**

We are now taking sign-ups for the 2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP). Update your DCP contract and put the advance payment to work for your farm today. Farmers who want to update their contracts need to address land and business issues such as:

- Will you continue to rent the same property you rented last year? If not, notify the FSA office so we can update your records.
- A cash rent certification may be used if you rented the land last year, however, an advance payment can not be issued for the farm until July 1, 2007.
- Are you changing the structure of your operation? For example, is the farm converting from an individual to a partnership, trust, or Limited Liability Corporation (LLC)? Are you changing shares within the business or is one of the shareholders leaving the business? These questions need to be answered prior to sign-up.

### **ACREAGE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Growers participating in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP), Non Insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), and/or Loan Deficiency Payment for program crops are required to file an annual acreage report. The deadline for fall seeded crops (any crops planted prior to 12/31/2006 for harvest in 2007) is April 30, 2007. The spring seeded deadline, and deadline for all perennials is July 15, 2007



## **CHANGE IN FARMING OPERATION?**

Update signature authorization when changes in the operation occur. Producers are reminded to contact the FSA office when changes occur, so that records can be kept current and accurate.

## **LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS (LDP)**

For those Wool and Mohair producers that wish to apply for a 2006 LDP, the final date to submit 2006 production records is January 31, 2007. Late filed applications will not be approved. For producers of commodity crops, you have until March 31, 2007 to apply for LDP benefits.

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

Applications are now being accepted from Tehama County farmers and ranchers wishing to participate in the 2007 *Environmental Quality Incentives Program* (EQIP). The cut-off deadline for accepting applications for the 2007 program year is December 1, 2006.

EQIP offers funds on cost-share basis for improvements made by landowners that address soil erosion, water quality and quantity, grazing land health, and other resource concerns. Applications will be ranked based on national, state, and local resource concerns. Tehama County farmers were awarded contracts totaling \$276,992, enrolling over 1,900 acres into the EQIP program.



Other USDA programs are available for 2007 and will follow the same application deadlines as EQIP. These include the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), among others

Landowners wanting more information about EQIP and other USDA programs should contact their local NRCS office. In Tehama County, NRCS is located at 2 Sutter Street in Red Bluff, and can be reached at (530)527-3013, extension 3. Additional information can be found by visiting [www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov).

## **ATTENTION OPERATORS AND LANDOWNERS!!!**

- Do you intend to clear timber areas and convert to farm/rangeland?
- Are you converting pasture land into cropland?
- Are there any areas on your farm(s) that you are considering cropping that have not been cropped in recent years?
- Are there wet areas that you want drain to make cropping easier?
- Are you disturbing a wildlife habitat area of any type?
- Are you doing anything different on your farm(s) this year?

These are Highly Erodible and Wetlands questions that producers need to address each year to assure that they remain eligible for USDA benefits. Before "moving dirt", you should contact NRCS to make sure that you are not jeopardizing your eligibility for benefits.





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

### **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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