



U.S. Department  
of Agriculture

**Umatilla County FSA**  
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**Hours:**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee:**  
Don Weinke - Chairman  
Ed Burlingame - Vice  
Andy DuMont  
Jeff Newton  
Bob Walchli

**Staff:**  
Kent Willett, CED  
Kevin Jordan, FLM  
Jared Lathrop, FLO  
Virginia Lundberg, PT  
Fran Mortier, PT  
Lori Yokom, PT  
Tina Campbell, PT  
Virginia Klein, PT  
Corrie Thorne, PT  
Amanda Born, PT

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- Eligibility Requirements
- County Committee Elections
- Beginning Farmer & Rancher Land Contract Program
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- NRCS EQIP Deadline



# FSA UPDATES

**Farm Service Agency**

**November  
2006**

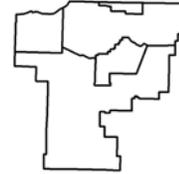
**2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) Signup**

Sign up for the 2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments (DCP) program has started. Producers are reminded that the earliest a person can receive a direct advance on their 2007 contract is December 1. The advance payment percent will be 22% for 2007 (down from 40% or 50% in 2006). The remaining 78% will be issued in October of 2007. DCP still requires all participants to: comply with highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions; devote base acreage to agricultural or conserving use; not plant or harvest fruits and vegetables (other than lentils, mung beans, and dry peas) on base acres (some double cropping exceptions apply); file an acreage report by June 30, 2007 for all cropland on the farm enrolled; and notify the office of when there has been a change of interest on a contract. Most applications will be taken by appointment but some walk-ins will be allowed. For more information concerning DCP, contact Lori Yokom at extension 120.

**Eligibility Requirements**

The Farm Service Agency is requiring all county offices to check eligibility forms for all participants before they receive payment in fiscal year 2007. That means that we will be double checking all signature authority forms, farm operating plans, sodbuster/swampbuster compliance certifications, adjusted gross income certifications, and legal documents supporting various entities. All operators will be required to file a new Farm Operation Plan (CCC-502) or sign an update for crop year 2007. If you want to receive your DCP advance payment in December, the office strongly advises you to schedule your appointment and complete your paperwork as soon as possible. Because of the magnitude of the changes being made nation wide, the office is concerned of computer upload-download problems that can prevent us from issuing payments up to 14 days.

**County Committee Elections Reminder**



Ballots for the 2006 County Committee election were mailed starting November 3. The election is being held for the Umatilla Indian Reservation District and

the North Dryland District. Ballots will be sent only to owners and operators who have the majority of their farm operations in these areas. If you do not receive a ballot and you think you should, please contact the office. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the office by 4:30 p.m. December 4, 2006.

**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 farmers acquire more land. It also helps land owners to sell 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 will cover the amount of unpaid taxes and insurance on the land. To find out more about this program, please contact the Farm Loan staff.

**Office Move**

The Umatilla County USDA Service Center is moving into the ground floor of the John Murray Building located at 200 SE Hailey Avenue in Pendleton. All services will be severely restricted November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, and the office will be closed November 10<sup>th</sup> through November 17<sup>th</sup>. Please put these dates on your calendar if you are thinking of applying for or paying off commodity loans.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 UMATILLA COUNTY FSA OFFICE  
 200 SE HAILEY AVE., SUITE 112  
 PENDLETON, OR 97801**

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**2007 Non-Insured Assistance Program Deadlines**

The Non-Insured Assistance Program is designed for all crops that can not be insured under federal crop insurance. This includes some insurable crops that do not meet some basic production requirements (apples, cherries) or crops grown under uninsurable practices or areas (onions, garbanzos). 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. Producers who acquired NAP coverage in 2006 must reapply for 2007 coverage. Here are the deadlines to apply.

08/31/06	All fall planted crops not mentioned
08/31/06	Onions (fall and spring), Radishes, Canola, Carrots, Cabbage, Turf Grass Sod, Ornamental Nursery, Cut Flowers, Value Loss Crops
10/02/06	Grass (hay and seed), Alfalfa (hay and seed), Clover, Small Grains, all Forage and Grazing Crops, Other Perennials Crops not mentioned
11/20/06	Berries, Fruit, Honey
03/15/07	All spring planted crops not mentioned
05/31/07	Buckwheat

**EQIP Cut-Off for 2007 Announced**

Agricultural producers who want to be considered for the current round of cost-share funding through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) need to apply with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). EQIP has a “continuous sign-up period” for producers interested in the program. However, a ranking first cut-off date of November 30, 2006 has been established. In Umatilla County, EQIP applicants have two options; one option is the General Umatilla County Funding, and the other is through the CTUIR (Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation) funding. Each funding pool has different priority areas such as water savings, utilizing on-site weather stations for pest management and water management, or maintaining and improving big game habitat. For more information please contact NRCS in Pendleton Service Center (278-8049 ext 3) or at the Mission Field Office (966-2325).

**Calendar**

- November 10 – Veteran’s Day (office closed)**
- November 13-17 – Office Closed (moving)**
- November 20 – NAP Deadlines**
- November 23 – Thanksgiving Holiday (office closed)**
- December 4 – Last Day to Submit Ballot**
- December 25 – Christmas (office closed)**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communications of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA’s Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please contact Kent Willett at (541) 278-8049 ext. 124. USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.