



**Umatilla  
Farm Service  
Agency**  
200 S.E. Hailey Ave. Suite 112  
Pendleton, OR 97801  
541-278-8049 x2  
Email: [Josh.Hanning@or.usda.gov](mailto:Josh.Hanning@or.usda.gov)

**OFFICE HOURS**  
MONDAY-FRIDAY  
7:00 AM-4:30 PM

**August 7, 2007**

**COUNTY COMMITTEE**

Ed Burlingame	Dave Patton
Don Weinke	Bud Schmidtgall
Bob Walchli	

**OFFICE STAFF**

Josh Hanning, CED	Jenee Gillespie, PT
Kevin Jordan, FLM	Tina Campbell, PT
Jared Lathrop, FLO	Houston Bruck, FLO
Fran Mortier, PT	Virginia Lundberg, PT
Jessica Westberg, PT	Karie Smith, PT

**Umatilla Ag Round-Up**

**Name Game Winner**

A thanks to all of you who participated in the "Name Game". As you can see the winning name is "Ag Round-Up". While there were many creative entries, this one seemed the perfect fit.

**Weed Control on CRP**

There have been many questions from several interested individuals and groups over the past few months regarding weed control on CRP acreage. I would like to take this time to explain a few of the requirements and timelines which are built into each and every CRP contract. As most of you know, CRP practices range from general full field CRP bids to stream buffers, with each practice having its own unique qualities. Below are the guidelines for weed control on all CRP practices and contracts:

1. During the lifespan of the CRP contract, all CRP participants have an obligation to control weeds on their CRP contract.
2. CRP participants have the ability to control weeds anytime throughout the year, until the CRP acreage is certified. Certification usually takes place between years 2 and 4 of the CRP contract by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).
3. If the CRP contract is certified, participants cannot treat the full CRP acreage between March 1<sup>st</sup> and July 15<sup>th</sup>. CRP participants can still perform spot treatment of weed on CRP acreage during this time frame.
4. Existing CRP contract holders may request a mowing management practice if they wish. Management practices allow for cost-share dollars to pay on a mowing practice. Management practices must be completed by year 6 of a 10-year contract and year 9 of 15-year contract.

Please feel free to contact Josh or Jessica @ 541-278-8049 x2 if there are any questions or concerns regarding weeds on CRP acreage.

**Notices of Loss**

Notices of loss for Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) crops **must be filed in this office within 15 days of the disaster event or whenever the loss becomes apparent to the producer.**

If you abandon, destroy, or change your harvest intentions without requesting a crop appraisal, the acreage will be considered to have produced ½ of the APH (Actual Production History) yield guarantee. Please call the office and talk to Fran if you believe you have a disaster event

**FARM LOANS AVAILABLE**

Loan applications are being accepted for farm operating and ownership purposes for those having difficulty obtaining credit through private lenders. Operating loans include annual operating expenses, farm equipment and livestock purchases, and refinancing related debt. Ownership loans include the purchase or enlargement of a farm, or the construction and/or repair of buildings. A minimum qualification for **Farm Ownership** loans is 3 years involvement in the business operations of a farm. Loan guarantees are available to lenders where FSA provides up to a 90% guarantee of loss on the principal of a farm loan. The loan purposes are similar to direct loans, except that refinancing real estate debt is also eligible.

FSA provides direct and guaranteed loan assistance for beginning farmers as well. An applicant is considered a beginning farmer if they have not operated a farm for more than 10 years. Youth loans are available for 4-H and FFA members' ages 10 through 20 who want to start any income producing enterprise recommended by their leader. For further information, please contact the farm loan staff in Pendleton at (541) 278-8049 x2.

**Umatilla County FSA Office**  
**200 S.E. Hailey Ave. Suite 112**  
**Pendleton, OR 97801**  
**August 2007**

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## **Disaster Assistance Update**

Many of you have inquired about the availability of the Disaster funding the President signed into law on May 25, 2007. To date this office has not received any word as to when the Agricultural Assistance Act of 2007 will be finalized or implemented. Current information regarding the Act can be found at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) under the Disaster Assistance heading. As soon as Disaster assistance is available this office will publish a press release outlining the program guidelines.

## **New CRP Program**

The CRP State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) program was announced earlier this year. This program is designed to enhance existing CRP, with a specific emphasis on addressing local wildlife conservation needs. Currently this program has acres allocated for Oregon, but in order to use them each county has to have a SAFE plan. Outside organizations are encouraged to develop a SAFE proposal by August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The proposals must be based on the following:

- Restore threatened and endangered species habitat.
- Restore/enhance habitat for species that have suffered a significant population decline. i.e. Sharp Tailed Grouse
- Restore/enhance habitat for species that provide significant social or economic value to the community. i.e. pheasant or quail habitat.

After a proposal is accepted by Oregon then a SAFE sign-up will be announced. If anyone has any further questions regarding this new SAFE program please call the office @ 278-8049 x2 and talk to Josh.

## **Announcing 2007 loan rates for Commodity Loans!**

With the onset of harvest, it is time to start thinking about 2007 commodity loans. If you are planning on taking out a Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) for your 2007 grain, please contact Jenee at the FSA office at 541-278-8049, ext 108 to start the processing 2007 rates are:

<u>County</u>	<u>Wheat Rate</u>	<u>Barley Rate</u>
Umatilla	\$2.79/bu	\$2.17/bu

## **CRP Seeding**

This is just a friendly reminder to those of you who are scheduled to seed CRP acreage by next spring and have yet to secure a grass seed mix. Seed dealers have been calling the office to notify us that seed is already hard to come by for the current crop year due to the recent wildfires. As you all know, this demand usually tends to drive the price of seed costs upward. Please call the office if you would like a list of seed dealers or current cost share rates.

## **Dates to Remember**

Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>-Labor Day (office closed)      Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> – DCP & Eligibility sign-up final deadline  
Aug 31<sup>st</sup>~NAP deadline for fall planted vegetables

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