

UNION COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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OFFICE STAFF: Jennifer Isley CED, Tim Hines PT, Tara Hett PT
 OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Direct & Counter Cyclical Program

Producers with crop acreage bases have until June 1, 2006 to complete their DCP contracts without incurring a late file fee. **Each farm that does not have all required documents in to the FSA office by June 1st must pay a \$100.00 late file fee before the contract can be approved or payments issued.** Participants who miss the June 1st deadline can still submit contract documents until September 30th.

When you sign a DCP contract you are agreeing to:

- Comply with highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation provisions on all land you own or operate.
- Control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain base acres according to sound agriculture practices.
- Not plant perennial fruits and vegetables or harvest annual fruits or vegetables (other than lentils, mung beans and dry peas) or wild rice on base acres.
- File an annual acreage report.
- Notify the county office of any changes in your farming operation.

Weather Losses

If you suffer crop losses due to damaging weather you need to report those losses to the FSA office within 15 days of the date the disaster event occurred. This is a requirement for producers that have NAP coverage. All other producers are encouraged to report losses as they occur. These reports are important in the event a disaster program is implemented.

2006 Acreage Reports

Producers participating in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), or those wishing to apply for a Commodity Loan or a Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) must file a crop acreage report to maintain eligibility for these programs. The deadline to report crop acreages is July 15th.

Remember: We are required to enter a planting date for **all crops** when you file your crop acreage report.

To schedule an appointment for your acreage report please call Tara at: (541)963-4178 ext. 2.

Farm Loans Available

Loan applications are being accepted for farm operating and ownership purposes from 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 operation 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 refinancing real estate debt is also eligible.

Important Dates

- June 1st Deadline to sign up for DCP without penalty
- July 15th Deadline to report crop acreages
- June 20th Crops Tour
- June 30th Deadline CRP REX Applications

Farm Storage Facility Loans

FSA offers a program which provides low interest loans to producers for the construction of grain storage facilities. This program provides loans for up to 85% of the construction cost of the facility with a maximum loan amount of \$100,000/operation. The maximum amount of storage is limited to two years of production minus any existing storage.

To be eligible, a producer must have satisfactory credit, no federal delinquent non-tax debt, crop insurance, and be able to show the ability to repay the loan. All loans are written for 7 years and have a level payment at the end of each year. Loans can be made for conventional bins, flathouses, silos, silage pits, and grain handling/drying equipment.

2006 Wool Loan Deficiency Payments

Producers are eligible for a Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) on their 2006 clip if they have not sold or otherwise disposed of that clip.

Producers are eligible for an LDP on wool anytime after shearing but before sale or loss of beneficial interest.

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