

November 2013



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Wallowa County FSA Updates

For agricultural producers in the Lostine and Wallowa areas, please watch your mailbox for this year's County Committee election ballots which were mailed on November 4th. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to our office by Monday, December 2, 2013. Candidates are: Bobbie Lou Baker, Bruce Lathrop and Melvin Stonebrink.

Wallowa County FSA Office

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County Executive Director:

Bill Williams, ext. 104

Program Technicians:

Lela Kunkle, ext. 102

Dates to Remember

November 11, 2013 - Veteran's Day (Office Closed)

November 15, 2013 - Crop Reporting Deadline for PRF policy holders

November 28, 2013 - Thanksgiving (Office Closed)

December 2, 2013 - Deadline to Return Election Ballots

December 15, 2013 - Crop Reporting Deadline - Forage, Grazing & Fall planted crops

2014 Early Acreage Reporting Deadlines

The first acreage reporting deadline in Oregon is November 15 for

Susie Madigan, ext. 103

producers who have purchased a Pasture, Range, and Forage (PRF) policy or an Apiculture policy from their crop insurance agents.

Farm Loan Manager:

Kevin Jordan
Phone: 541-278-8049, ext. 111

December 15th is the deadline for all producers to report the following crops: fall canola, perennial forage (except seed), fall seeded wheat and barley.

Next County Committee Meeting:

All crops must be planted before they are reported to FSA. Producers should contact our office to schedule an appointment or answer any questions.

December 9, 2013 at 10:30 a.m.

FSA Signature Policy

Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits.

The following are FSA signature guidelines:

* Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office

* Spouses shall not sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities

For additional clarification on proper signatures contact our office.

Changing Banks

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using direct deposit.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep us up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, please contact our office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service. We will need a voided check to confirm your new account or have you take the form to your bank for completion.

Selling Land

If you plan on selling farmland, you should be aware of several consequences associated with FSA programs.

For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all of the payments you've received to date.

Reviewing program implications with us **before** completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.

Farm Reconstitutions

When changes in farm ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by Aug. 1 for farms enrolled in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program.

Estate Method — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

Designation of Landowner Method — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

DCP Cropland Method — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

Default Method — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

If DCP direct payments have already been issued on a particular farm, the reconstitution will be effective for the next year, unless the pay

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