

What's Cropping Up!

Your County Committee:

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Janie Dodge~ Member
Derek DeBorde~ Member
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Wasco/Hood River FSA



APRIL 2008

Your FSA Staff:

Kevin MacIntyre~ CED
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Judy Pointer~ PT
Nancy Fields~ PT
Karen Bloomdahl~ FLO
Dorothy Waters~ FLT
Josh Hanning~ DD
Nancy Thompson~ Area FLM



2008 Dates to Remember



-  Apr 18th~ Deadline for '08 Wool, Pelt & Mohair Loans and LDP's
-  May 21st~ Wasco County Crop Tour
-  May 26th~ Memorial Day Observed (office closed)
-  Jun 30th~ Deadline to report acreage
-  Jul 4th~ Independence Day Observed (office closed)

Filing a Notice of Loss

Imperative to any producer with Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage: You must file a notice of loss (FSA-576) if you have incurred any crop damage for the 2008 crop year due to recent adverse weather. The Notice of Loss maintains the crop's eligibility for potential disaster payments through the NAP program. The notice must be filed with the FSA within 15 days of the loss occurring or becoming apparent. Once a notice is filed, it is the producer's responsibility to inform FSA if the crop will be harvested. Unharvested acres require an appraisal (paid for by FSA) from a Crop Loss Adjuster. Please contact the Wasco /Hood River FSA for more information or any questions, 541-298-8559 ext 2.

Honey Loans Extended Through April 18th, 2008

The honey non-recourse marketing assistance loan and LDP program provides eligible honey producers with two forms of federal assistance; a non-recourse marketing loan or a Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP). The program helps to stabilize America's honey industry and ensure the well being of agriculture in the United States. Current loan rates for honey are 60¢/ pound.

To be eligible for a loan, a producer must have:

-  Produced honey in the United States during the calendar year for which the loan is requested, and extracted honey on or before December 31, of the applicable crop year;
 -  Had a continuous beneficial interest in the honey through date of repayment of the loan; and
 -  Been responsible for the financial risk of keeping the bees and producing the honey.
- To be eligible for a loan, the honey must:
-  Have been produced by an eligible producer;
 -  Have been produced and extracted in the United States during the applicable calendar year;
 -  Be of merchantable quality deemed by CCC to be suitable for loan; and
 -  Be stored in acceptable containers.



Please Report Your Crop Acreage

Orchardists were mailed Acreage Reports (FSA 578) in November and December. Please review them to be sure crops, crop types, planting dates, acreage and irrigation practices are accurately listed. Please look closely at the shares listed to verify for accuracy. Sign, date and return the acreage reports in the envelope provided. If you have spring planting to do, you can contact us at a later date. If you are making changes, removing crops, changing rotations, etc., please avoid last minute stress and anxiety by completing your reports early. Call Judy at the FSA office for an appointment to complete your acreage reports. Deadline to file your FSA 578 is **June 30th, 2008**. Acreage reporting is essential and required to stay eligible for FSA Administered Farm Programs.

No Longer getting your email flash?

Please make sure your email hasn't changed or your mail box isn't full. Kevin gets about 50% of the emails he sends as flashes back as undeliverable. Keep informed, keep us up-to-date!

Disaster Aid Still Available!

Crop Disaster Program (CDP)

CDP provides benefits to farmers and orchardists who suffered production and/or quality losses from natural disasters and related conditions that occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007. Only producers who obtained federal crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers who incurred qualifying losses must choose only one year to receive benefits. The maximum benefit available is \$80,000. Please call to set up an appointment. If you have already received benefits, please remind your neighbor that assistance is available.

Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)

LCP compensates livestock producers for grazing or stored feed losses resulting from natural disasters occurring between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007. For Wasco and Hood River Counties, the loss must have occurred between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2005. Contact the FSA office to set up an appointment.

Disaster Payments

Disaster programs were approved for payment on December 19, 2007. The FSA office has been working on getting those applications processed and paid. Many payments are being held up due to inaccurate producer account information.

Please notify us immediately if you've changed your account.



**WASCO/HOOD RIVER CO FSA
2325 RIVER RD STE 1
THE DALLES OR 97058**



Farm Loans Available! Contact Karen Bloomdahl at 541-298-8559 ext 107

Do you need a loan to finance your spring planting inputs? Do you need to upgrade your equipment line with a new tractor, planter or baler? Perhaps you want to expand your operation? Or maybe you need credit to increase your production? FSA may be able to help.

FSA's loan programs are designed to help family farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. FSA also provides credit to beginning farmers who do not have sufficient net worth to qualify for commercial credit. Beginning farmers must have been in agriculture less than 10 years and meet certain other requirements. Agriculturists who have suffered financial setbacks from natural and economic disasters, or who have limited resources with which to establish and maintain profitable farming operations may also be eligible for USDA loans. FSA is especially interested in working with socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers.

Farm Loans must be fully secured and can only be approved for those who have repayment ability and meet certain eligibility criteria.

Wool, Pelt and Mohair Loans and LDP's Extended through April 18, 2008

The Farm loans and loan mohair from unshorn pelts industry and assistance loan and LDP program provides eligible producers with two forms of Federal assistance. Eligible producers can either:



Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (the Act) provides 2002-2008 crop year marketing assistance deficiency payments (LDP's) for wool and mohair to eligible producers who produce and shear wool and live sheep and goats. The LDP program is also available to eligible producers of nongraded wool or for the '08 crop year through April 18, 2008. The program helps stabilize America's wool and mohair ensures the well-being of agriculture in the United States. The wool and mohair non-recourse marketing

1. request a nine-month marketing assistance loan; or
2. agree to forgo the loan and request an LDP



2008 Loan Rates (as of 4/7/08)

Ungraded Wool Loan Rate	38¢/pound
PCP	23¢/pound
LDP Rate	15¢/pound

Farm Records

FARM CHANGES?? If you have bought, sold or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the FSA staff at your local FSA office as soon as possible to update your farm records for the 2008 crop year. For any farm ownership changes you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. Cash leases must also be provided for eligibility purposes. All landowners participating in FSA programs must furnish their tax identification numbers. Remember, failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and fines if you are participating in farm programs. If your mailing information changes, we need to know. Deadline to update your records is April 1, 2008. Changes made after this status date, will not be effective until the 2009 crop year. Please don't delay!

Sign up for eGov, to conduct business with FSA. Go to <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov> and use your home computer to file forms, apply for programs, check contracts and view your Customer Statement or payment history. All you need is Level 2 eAuthorization, a valid email account and your home computer.

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