

# What's Cropping Up!

## Wasco/Hood River FSA



# JUNE 2008



### Your County Committee:

Jim Mullen~ Committee Chair  
Carleton Clausen~ Vice Chair  
Janie Dodge~ Member  
Derek DeBorde~ Member  
Paul Klindt~ Member

**2325 River Rd. Ste. 1**  
**The Dalles, OR 97058**  
**Phone: (541) 298-8559 X 2**  
**Fax: (541) 296-7868**

### Your FSA Staff:

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

### 2008 Dates to Remember



-  Jun 15<sup>th</sup>~ COC nominations begin
-  Jun 30<sup>th</sup>~ Deadline to report acreage
-  Jun 30<sup>th</sup>~ Deadline to report production for NAP
-  Jul 4<sup>th</sup>~ Independence Day Observed (office closed)
-  Jul 18<sup>th</sup>~ LCP/LIP Deadline
-  Aug 1<sup>st</sup>~ Deadline to file COC nomination forms

The region 9 ESD is providing young migrant children with schooling and daycare opportunities starting June 15<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Carlos Perez, *ESD Family Liaison*, at [cperez@r9esd.k12.or.us](mailto:cperez@r9esd.k12.or.us) or 541-980-7486.

### The Farm Bill of 2008

H.R. 2419, the "Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008" has passed. For more information on what the Farm Bill entails, please visit <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/D?c110:6:./temp/~c110bHjdGi:>. This is a direct link to the Farm Bill. To meet the new farm bill provisions, we may need additional paperwork in our eligibility files. There are provisions for uninsured producers to "buy in" to be eligible for '08 disaster assistance. Please stay tuned for future announcements.

### 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 adverse weather. The FSA-576 maintains the crop's eligibility for potential disaster payments through the NAP program. The notice must be filed 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.

## FSA Counts on You: Nominate and Vote!

### COUNTY COMMITTEE (COC) ELECTION NOMINATIONS

Nominations are being sought from eligible candidates to represent Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1 and 4. LAA 1 includes **NORTHERN WASCO COUNTY**, LAA 4 is the **LOWER HOOD RIVER VALLEY**. Eligible voters have the right to nominate candidates of their choice by petition (form FSA-669-A) or you may self nominate. **Petitions must be received in our office by August 1, 2008.** Persons nominated must be of legal age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper and be eligible to participate in any FSA program that is provided by law, regardless of funding. Visit the following website to print the nomination form (FSA-669A) or to find more information: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) Follow the link "News & Events" to "County Committee Elections" listed under **RELATED TOPICS**. A listing of known farm/ranch owners and operators in LAA1 and 4 is listed in our office for your information.

**USDA encourages diversity on the Committee, women in agriculture, persons of different ethnic or racial backgrounds, and beginning farmers/ranchers are encouraged to seek nomination.**

A brief informational meeting will be held in our office on June 25 beginning at 9 am to explain COC member duties and the COC nomination and election process. Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to visit The Dalles Service Center should contact Kevin MacIntyre at 541-298-8559 Ext 110, or e-mail [kevin.macintyre@or.usda.gov](mailto:kevin.macintyre@or.usda.gov) prior to the meeting date. If you can not attend but want more detailed information, please contact Kevin. The Committee election will be held on December 1, 2008.

### Please Report Your Crop Acreage

Deadline to file your FSA 578 is June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Acreage reporting is essential and required to stay eligible for FSA Administered Farm Programs. Call Judy for an appointment!

### No Longer getting your email flash?

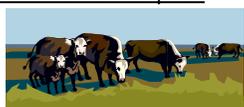
Please make sure your email hasn't changed or your mail box isn't full. Kevin gets about 50% of the emails he sends as flashes back as undeliverable. Keep informed, keep us up-to-date!

### CRP Grazing Authorized

Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer announced that USDA has authorized certain acreage enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to be available for hay and forage after the primary nesting season ends for grass-nesting birds.

"This action will provide much needed feed and forage while maintaining the conservation benefits from the nation's premier conservation program," said Schafer. "Eligible farmers and ranchers will be able to plan for harvest of forage after the end of the primary nesting season this summer."

Eligible land may not be hayed or grazed until after the end of the primary nesting season, July 15<sup>th</sup>. Also, some of the eligible land or forage of the land must be reserved for wildlife and any land that is used under this authority must have a conservation plan. In many instances, the removal of some of the grass cover will increase the diversity of the stand and



provide long-term benefits for wildlife. Further, the most environmentally-sensitive land enrolled in CRP will not be eligible. The land will be subject to spot check to ensure compliance with the conservation plan. No rental payment reduction will be assessed on contracts being utilized for this critical use. However, a \$75 fee will be charged to process the required contract modification.

Signup for interested CRP participants will begin June 2, 2008, at local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. This modification for critical feed use is only for 2008. All forage use must be completed before November 10, 2008.



**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 harvest expenses? 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.

**Disaster Aid for Quality Losses Announced**

**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. Quality losses will be coming soon. Please call the FSA office at 541-298-8559 ext 2 for additional information or paperwork we may need.



**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. Deadline to apply for this program is July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

**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.

If you are making changes to your farming operation, bank accounts, adding or removing farm ground or altering any other information, please keep your FSA records current. Failure to update records may result in loss or delay of program payments.

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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