

# What's News in FSA



June 2008

## USDA Farm Service Agency

Washington/Columbia County FSA Office  
1080 SW Baseline, Suite B-3  
Hillsboro, OR 97123  
Telephone: 503-684-3174 x2  
Fax: 503-681-9772  
Website: [www.fsa.usda.gov/or/washington.html](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/or/washington.html)  
Office Hours: 8:00-4:30 M-F

## Office Staff:

Gail Stinnett, CED x 106 [gail.stinnett@or.usda.gov](mailto:gail.stinnett@or.usda.gov)  
Nancy Thompson, FLM x 107 [nancy.thompson@or.usda.gov](mailto:nancy.thompson@or.usda.gov)  
Suzanne Hayes, FLO x 116 [suzanne.hayes@or.usda.gov](mailto:suzanne.hayes@or.usda.gov)  
Dennis Cooper, PT x 100 [dennis.cooper@or.usda.gov](mailto:dennis.cooper@or.usda.gov)  
Heidi Duggan, PT x120 [heidi.duggan@or.usda.gov](mailto:heidi.duggan@or.usda.gov)  
Peggy Kinkade, PT x105 [peggy.kinkade@or.usda.gov](mailto:peggy.kinkade@or.usda.gov)  
Kyle Mills, COT x104 [kyle.mills@or.usda.gov](mailto:kyle.mills@or.usda.gov)

## County Committee:

Kay C VanNatta, Chairperson  
Crystal VanderZanden, Vice-Chairperson  
Tom Duyck, Regular Member

## 2008 Crop Acreage Reports



The deadline to file 2008 crop acreage reports is **June 30th, 2008**. Acreage reports are needed for a variety of USDA programs including the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) programs, and upcoming programs in the new farm bill. Crop acreage reports should be submitted to prevent a loss of benefits in a variety of Farm Service Agency programs.

Washington/Columbia County field acreage maps were mailed on May 2<sup>nd</sup>; if you have not received your maps please contact the Washington/Columbia County Service Center at (503) 648-3174 x2. Please be sure to include **crop type** and **planting date** when submitting your maps to the Washington/Columbia Service Center.

## Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

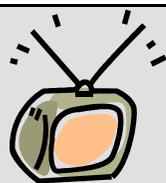
Producers with NAP coverage must file a notice of loss (CCC-576). It is important to remember that you only have **15 days** from the date of the event or when you are aware of any crop losses/damages to file the notice of loss. It is necessary to contact the Washington/Columbia County FSA Office immediately if you decide not to harvest your crop so we can send out a crop adjuster. Producers need to contact the County FSA Office within 15 days if you decide to partially harvest a crop so we can send out an adjuster to appraise the part not being harvested.

The 2009 NAP sales closing date for the following crops is **August 31<sup>st</sup>**: Beets, cabbage, canola, carrots, Christmas trees, flowers, greens, herbs (except peppermint), onions and radishes. This also applies to any fall planted crops not mentioned.

NAP participants are reminded, in order to keep up your Actual Production History (APH), 2007 production records are due in the office by **June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008**.

## Weed Control

**Producers enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)** are advised to start watching for insects/rodents/weeds, (especially noxious weeds), on their CREP acres. All participants enrolled in CREP need to be in compliance with the Oregon noxious weed law and ensure that noxious weeds are controlled. County Committee approval is required for all CREP maintenance work done during the **primary nesting season, from March 1<sup>st</sup>-July 15<sup>th</sup>**. Work completed during this period will be limited to spot treatment of the affected area. Participants should abide by the terms of their CREP contract to ensure penalties are not issued by the County FSA Committee. Such penalties include: payment reduction, termination of affected crop acres, or terminating the entire CREP contract. To avoid these penalties participants should use proper insect/rodent/weed control on their acres in a timely matter.



## Don't Forget!

On **February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009** the entire Nation will move to digital television. Television stations currently broadcast their TV signals in both analog and digital format. If your TV is not set up in digital format, you will not have any reception on your TV. This doesn't affect people who purchase their television through cable or satellite companies. If you receive free over the air television through either a rooftop antenna or through set-top "rabbit ears" connected to your TV set, this change will affect you. Those who wish to continue use of their conventional analog television and do not have cable or satellite will need to purchase a digital-analog converter box in order to continue to receive TV signals after February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Converter boxes can be found at retail stores throughout the country.



## Special Accommodations

Farm Service Agency programs are available to all eligible interested persons including those with disabilities. Special accommodations will be made upon request for those with disabilities, vision, or hearing impairments. If such accommodations are needed, please contact Gail Stinnett at 503-648-3174 ext 106.

## Farm Loans for Socially Disadvantaged Persons

Farm Service Agency offers loans to socially disadvantaged applicants. FSA can make and guarantee loans for the purchase and/or operation of family-sized farms and ranches. A "socially disadvantaged" person is described as belonging to a group of people whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to individual qualities. Some examples include: Women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Latinos, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. All applicants must meet the requirements for FSA's regular farm loan assistance. Please call Suzanne Hayes at (503) 648-3174 x116 for more information.



## Farm Youth Loans

Are you between the **ages of 10-20** and need money to start a farm project? Farm Service Agency can help get your project started. Projects must be in connection with the local FFA, 4-H, or other similar organizations and be part of an organized and supervised plan of work. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000. Listed are some examples of projects: livestock, lawn and garden service, repair shops, aquaculture and roadside stands. This is an excellent opportunity to provide youth with a practical business opportunity. Please call Peggy Kinkade at (503) 648-3174 x105 or email her at [peggy.kinkade@or.usda.gov](mailto:peggy.kinkade@or.usda.gov) for more information.

### Emergency Loans

If you were affected by the **December 2-3, 2007 flood** and may be in need of emergency loan assistance, please call Suzanne Hayes at (503) 648-3174 x116 for more information. Emergency loans are available for specific disaster conditions declared by the President, or the Secretary of Agriculture.



## Would You Like to File Forms and Apply for Programs Online?

Sign up for eGov today! Go to <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov> to conduct business with FSA from your home computer. With a Level 2 eAuthorization account, a valid e-mail address and your home computer, you can: file forms, apply for FSA programs, check contracts and view your customer statement or payment history.



### Dates to Remember



June 20<sup>th</sup>: First Day of Summer

June 30<sup>th</sup>: Last Day to Timely File Acreage Reports

July 4<sup>th</sup>: Independence Day-Office Closed

**June is Celebrate Equality Month & Men's Health Month**

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