



June 2007

## WHITMAN COUNTY FSA NEWS

### 2007 Acreage Reporting Deadline June 30

#### Time is running out, call for an appointment

FSA is taking appointments for 2007 acreage certifications. Producers are required to complete an annual acreage report to maintain eligibility for DCP, loans and LDP's, NAP and CRP. If you have not already called and made an appointment please give us a call and we will set you up with a date and time to come in and report. We can mail out copies of your maps if you need them. Accurate reporting is critical, especially important are ensuring that the shares you report are the same as the crop that is delivered to warehouse or processor. You are also required to provide us with your planting dates as well. Copies of your acreage reports will be provided to you to bring to your crop insurance agent. **The deadline for reporting is June 30, 2007.**

### County Committee Election Nominations Upcoming

The period for accepting nominations for persons interested in serving on the Whitman County Committee begins in June. Nominations may be filed from June 15<sup>th</sup> through August 1<sup>st</sup>. This is an earlier time period than we have had in the past, and comes during a typically busy time for most, so advance notice is being given here prior to the opening date for accepting nominating petitions.

Local Administrative Area (LAA) 3 is due to hold elections this year; the LAA is currently represented by Larry Schroetlin, who is completing his second term on the Committee. There is one alternate Committee Member in LAA 3, Gary Boone. FSA is looking for good candidates willing to run and serve on the County Committee.

FSA County Committee persons serve typically one day per month. They are responsible for such things as reviewing and approving Crop Disaster applications, determining the needs for requesting special disaster programs in the county such as the Livestock Assistance Program and Emergency Haying and Grazing of CRP. The Committee is also responsible for approvals and determinations related to ongoing programs such as Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP), the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and commodity loans and LDP's. They are the first point of review when producers appeal adverse determinations. County Committee persons are compensated for time served, and mileage traveling to monthly meetings.

Nominating petitions may be obtained beginning June 15<sup>th</sup> though the County Office or on-line at the FSA webpage. A valid nominating petition requires only the signature of the person being nominated, indicating that they are willing to serve if elected, and a determination that the nominee meets the eligibility requirements to serve. All persons, including members of agricultural groups considered to be historically under-represented, to include female and minority producers, are encouraged to consider being nominated to serve on the committee, or filing a nominating petition for an eligible candidate.

LAA 3 is the eastern third of Whitman County. The boundary runs from Wawawai in the south along the southern boundary of Township 14 to the western boundary of Range 44, north to the southern boundary of Township 16, east to the western boundary of Range 45. Then north to Clear Creek Road to SR 272 across to the Glenwood Road to Glenwood and then northeast along the North Fork of the Palouse River to Elberton. Then west on the Elberton Road to Dry Creek Road to Crabtree. Running on a line straight north to Fairbanks and then along the Fairbanks road north to the Spokane County Line.

If you have questions about the LAA boundary and whether you are within it please let us know.

### Wes Taylor to Move on

Temporary Program Technician Wes Taylor worked at Whitman County FSA since June, 2006. Wes has taken a position as a Temporary Program Technician with the Spokane County FSA Office. We wish Wes well and appreciate the effort he put in for Whitman County FSA.

### Whitman County FSA

805 Vista Point Drive  
Suite 1  
Colfax, WA 99111  
(509) 397-4301  
Fax (509) 397-6763

Email:  
mike.mandere@wa.usda.gov

Website:  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>

### Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

### County Committee

Larry Schroetlin, Chair  
Greg Hall, Vice-Chair  
David Swannack, Member  
Gracie Miller, Committee  
Advisor

### Office Staff

Mike Mandere, CED  
Ann Holbrook, CPT  
Fred Hendrickson, PT  
Bonnie Riebold, PT  
Kathy Carothers, PT  
Doreen Riedner, PT  
Nancy Doege, PT  
Jonelle Olson, PT  
Candi Wilson, Student Intern

### Farm Loan Manager

Steve King  
(509) 924-7350

### Important Dates

July 18 – County Committee Meeting

June 30 – Acreage Reporting Deadline

July 4 – Independence Day, Office Closed

### Get Your Payments Timely & Accurately

Changes in your Bank Account or has your Bank merged or changed names?

Don't Forget – Update your Direct Deposit Form.

USDA Avg Price Received by Farmer's Projected for 2006  
Wheat: **\$4.27**



**FSA Farm Loan Program Reminders**

It can be very common that FSA Farm Loan Program borrowers need an endorsement signature from the local Colfax Service Center on checks made jointly to the borrower and FSA. **Borrowers are reminded to please call the Colfax Service Center first to inform FSA that an endorsement signature will be needed.** This gives the Colfax Service Center time to contact the Farm Loan Manager. All checks needing endorsement also need applicable settlement data that can be provided to the Farm Loan Manager so please have this information available when bringing in a check.

**Crop Disaster Program and Livestock Compensation Program to be Available**

On Friday, May 25, 2007, the President signed into law H.R. 2206, the "U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007," which provides crop production loss assistance in a manner similar to previous disaster programs for quantity losses occurring from natural disasters and related conditions that occurred in 2005 or 2006 or 2007. The losses for 2007 crops are covered only if the crop subject to the loss was planted prior to February 28, 2007. A producer would choose one of the 3 years in which they could receive benefits. The quantity loss threshold for eligibility is 35% and the payment rate is set at 42% of the established crop insurance price. **Only producers with crop insurance coverage or that signed up for the Non-insured Assistance Program would be eligible for assistance.** The 95% crop value cap and deduction for crop insurance indemnities would be in place. Quality loss assistance is based on the actual, local market discounts suffered by producers based on their crop sales receipts, or as established by the State Farm Service Agency Committee. Payments are to be made on 65% of the crop quantity subject to quality discounts at a payment rate equal to 42% of the market loss sustained and provided that the producer had crop insurance or NAP coverage.

As with the Crop Disaster Program, a producer would choose for each livestock program one of three years for which he or she would receive benefits. The Livestock Compensation Program provides benefits for producers in designated disaster counties for their added costs of procuring livestock feed in 2005, 2006 or 2007 (up to February 28, 2007). The payment rate is 61% of the payment made under the LCP announced in the Federal Register notice dated February 12, 2007. Eligible livestock under that announcement are: adult or non-adult dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, swine, deer, catfish and other livestock the Secretary may designate. A Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) would be available to cover livestock deaths caused by a natural disaster or related condition that occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007 (up to February 28, 2007), including losses due to hurricanes, floods, wildfires, blizzards and anthrax. The payment rate is to be not less than 26% of market value of the livestock on the day before the date of death, as determined by the Secretary.

The Secretary of Agriculture has authority to ensure a producer does not receive duplicative payments for the same losses in conjunction with other federal disaster assistance programs. The \$2.5 million Adjusted Gross Income Limitation applies, as does the \$80,000 payment limit for the Crop Disaster Program and the various payment limits for the livestock programs. **FSA is currently working on regulations, procedure, and software for implementation of the programs authorized under the Act. We will publicize the details such as the sign up dates when that information is made available.**

**CRP Weed Control Reminder**

Every year the County Committee has taken payment reductions against producers who either failed to control their weeds or did not take timely action. **Don't become the target of a complaint and possible payment reduction. Be a responsible steward and ensure timely and effective control measures are taken on your CRP to prevent any adverse impacts on surrounding cropland.** Check your stands often and take appropriate measures to prevent problems from developing.

Whitman County 2007 Crop Loan Rates May CCC Interest Rate 5.875%		
SWW: \$2.79 per bu HRS & HWS: \$3.07 per bu HRW & HWW: \$3.24 per bu	BLY: \$2.11 per bu (\$88 per ton) Oats: \$1.30 per bu Canola: \$7.30 per cwt.	DPEAS: \$6.63 per cwt LENTILS: \$13.31 per cwt S. Chickpeas \$7.43/cwt.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisals, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotapes, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).