



November 2007

HUMBOLDT/LANDER FSA OFFICE

WINNEMUCCA USDA - FSA
Service Center

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Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee

Darrell Taylor,	Chairman
Dick Williams	Vice-Chair
Bob Buckingham,	Member
Rob Wohle,	Member
Dennis Cawrse	Member
Arlo Crutcher,	Advisor

Staff

MaryAnn McDermett, CED
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SIGN-UP DATES -- NEW LIVESTOCK AND CROP DISASTER PROGRAMS

Sign-up dates for the new Livestock Compensation Program, Livestock Indemnity Program and Crop Disaster Program have been announced. Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive benefits under the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) starting **September 10, 2007**. Eligible farmers can sign-up for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) beginning **October 15, 2007**, if they suffered quantity losses to their crops. USDA will announce and conduct CDP sign-up for quality losses as soon as possible.

LCP compensates livestock producers for **feed losses** and **LIP** for **livestock losses** occurring between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, due to a natural disaster. Producers in primary counties declared secretarial disaster areas or certain counties declared presidential disaster areas are eligible as are producers located in counties contiguous to those counties.

CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered **quantity and quality losses** to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops from natural disasters **if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 2007**. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop year. Only producers who obtained 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 must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP. Contact the FSA county office for more details.

NAP DEADLINE APPROACHING

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) deadline for fall seeded crops is approaching. NAP is designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production for an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance.

December 1st is the final date for purchasing **NAP for grazing**.

Producers who had NAP coverage may choose to continue coverage on the same crops for next year, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date. A new form CCC-471, Application for Coverage, is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crops.

Producers who choose to add or delete a crop from the previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471, with signatures, and pay the applicable service fee. Producers with NAP coverage are required to 1) file a Notice of Loss within 15 days of when a loss is apparent; 2) timely file acreage reports; and 3) keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods.

Farm Reconstitutions

In program terminology, farms are *constituted* to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in 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 payments are refunded.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Mailing of ballots will begin **November 2, 2007**. Voters have until **December 3, 2007, to return** their properly completed **ballots** to the county office. Elected committee members and alternates take office on Jan. 1, 2008.

Prospective Voter Requirements - Anyone who meets the requirements in either, 1 or 2, as well as item number 3, is eligible to vote for county committee members.

1. Voter is of legal voting age and participates or cooperates in any FSA program, or
2. The voter is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm.
3. The voter must also be eligible to participate in any FSA program provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

Discrimination Prohibited - No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

If you have any questions about your voter eligibility, please contact your county office staff

Census Gives Farmers a Voice In Their Future

America's farmers and ranchers will soon have the opportunity to participate in shaping the future of agriculture. The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will begin distribution of the 2007 Census of Agriculture next month.

According to NASS, the Census of Agriculture provides information that is not available anywhere else – information that benefits agricultural producers and their communities in many ways. Policy-makers use Census data for decisions concerning agricultural and rural programs. Community planners use Census information to target delivery of local services. Companies rely on Census data when determining where to locate their operations. And farmers themselves look at Census data when deciding to make changes in their production strategies.

Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Census is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation.

NASS will mail out Census forms on December 28, 2007 to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the convenient option of filling out the Census online via a secure web site at <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.



REPORTING LOSSES

If you had any failed crop acres, give serious thought to reporting them before destroying crop evidence. If Congress authorizes a crop disaster program in the future, proof of failed acreage may be required for your participation.



It's important to report failed acreage not brought to harvest to the county office staff prior to destruction. Ensuring that failed acres are documented could be the determining factor in whether you are eligible for future crop disaster program payments.

If you are experiencing low crop yields, you should keep good production records, but you don't need to report this acreage right now.

Selected Interest Rates September 2007

90-Day Treasury Bill	4.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	4.750%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.375%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.000%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	4.375%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	5.125%

Changing Banks

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been determined that the chance of having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff 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, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.



**WINNEMUCCA FSA
OFFICE
1200 E. WINN. BLVD
WINNEMUCCA NV 89445**



**PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
DAVIS, CA
PERMIT #22**

COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Five-member Humboldt/Lander County Farm Service Agency committee meets once a month. The committee has established 10:00 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month as its regular meeting time and the Winnemucca FSA office as its meeting place.

We will post a notice on the county office bulletin board if the committee must reschedule the time or place of its next meeting.

County committee members are :

- Chairman Darrell Taylor representing LAA 1
- Dick Williams representing LAA 2
- Bob Buckingham representing LAA 3
- Dennis Cawres representing LAA 4
- Rob Wohle representing LAA 5
- Arlo Crutcher Minority Advisor

Dates to Remember	
Nov 12	Veteran's Day – Office Closed
Nov 23	Thanksgiving – Office Closed
Dec 1	Deadline – purchase NAP for grazing
Dec 25	Christmas Day – Office Closed
Jan 1	New Year's Day – Office Closed
Continues	Grasslands Reserve Program

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