



October 19, 2006

# YAKIMA COUNTY FSA NEWS

## Yakima County FSA

1606 Perry Street, Suite A  
Yakima, WA 98902-5769  
Phone- (509) 454-5746, Ext. #2  
Fax- (509) 454-5682

## Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

## County Committee

Nadeen Boyle, Chairperson  
Daniel T. Martinez, Vice-Chair.  
Linda North-Spaulding, Member  
Gilbert Gonzalez, Jr., Advisor  
Carol Hull, Advisor

## Office Staff

Leticia Benavidez, PT  
Sandy Christensen, PT  
Jennifer DeWeese, PT  
Sherry Fadden, PT  
Crispin Garza, SCL  
Brian Miller, CED  
Kim Miller, PT  
Lisa Ruff, FLM  
Scott Smith, FLO  
Julie Troutman, PT

## Next COC Meeting

October 31, 2006  
9:00 AM

## Dates to Remember

- November 3- COC Election ballots sent to voters
- November 17- EQIP Application deadline
- November 23- Office closed in observance of Thanksgiving
- December 4- COC Election voting deadline

## FSA Web Sites

State- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>  
National- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>  
USDA- <http://www.usda.gov>



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

## FSA COMMITTEE ELECTIONS



The FSA County Committee elections are being held in Local Administrative Area #1 this year. This area consists of farms located in the upper valley minus the land situated south of Ahtanum Creek. Producers in this area will be electing a County Committee person and an alternate to serve a three-year term. The following candidates have been nominated for the election:

- **Cherryl Gutierrez** farms two miles northwest of Selah, and has 6 years of experience in the production of apples and pears. Ms. Gutierrez is currently an Alternate to the FSA County Committee.
- **Jose J. Guzman** farms three miles southeast of Moxee, and has two years experience in the production of apples.
- **Daniel T. Martinez** farms east of Moxee and has 34 years experience in the production of hay, wheat, apples, cattle and sheep. Mr. Martinez is a member of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers and the FSA County Committee, and past member of the West Valley Fair Board.

The election ballots will be sent out by November 3, and must be returned by Monday December 4, 2006. In addition, voters must sign the certification on the ballot envelope for the ballot to be considered valid! Producers who did not receive a ballot and feel like they should have should contact our office. Please take the time to vote for the candidate of your choice.

## EMERGENCY LOANS

Producers in Yakima County may be eligible for emergency loans under the following disaster declaration by the Secretary of Agriculture. The declaration covers damages and losses caused by the following conditions:

- Adverse weather conditions since April 1, 2006; (*May 1, 2007 application deadline*).

For more information on emergency loans please contact our office.

## 2007 DCP PROGRAM SIGNUP

Producers who will be operating farms in 2007 with crop acreage bases established under the Direct and Counter Cyclical Payment (DCP) program may signup now. Producers have until June 1, 2007 to enroll farms in the 2007 DCP program.

There are two types of payments available for producers who participate in the DCP program:

**Direct Payments-** Regardless of the price of commodities, direct payments will be issued annually on 85% of the crop acreage base times the payment yield. Direct payment rates include 52 cents/bu for wheat, 28 cents/bu for corn, 24 cents/bu for barley and 2.4 cents/bu for oats.

22% of the direct payments can be requested at signup.

## Counter-Cyclical Payments-

Will be paid if market prices fall below certain levels during the 12-month marketing periods for each commodity. Depending on the comparison between national average market levels and target prices, it is possible that counter-cyclical payments could be paid 3 times during the crop year.

## LOANS AVAILABLE

FSA has direct and guaranteed loan programs available for family-sized farm businesses. FSA's loan programs are designed to help farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.

The loan limits for direct operating and farm ownership loans are \$200,000 each. The loan limit for guaranteed operating and farm ownership loans is a combined total of \$899,000. Funding is allocated for these programs after October 1 of each year.

Depending on the type of loan, funds can be used to purchase farms, livestock, and equipment, operate the farm, build or repair farm buildings, pay for water development for conservation practices and in some cases refinance debts. For additional information contact our office.

## BANK CHANGES?

If you have a direct deposit request on file with our office, please remember

to let us know if you change banks or account numbers. Sending funds to a closed account will delay your payments.

### NEW DEADLINE FOR EQIP

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) is now taking applications for the 2007 Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) through close of business Friday, November 17. The **deadline of November 17** is a new deadline for EQIP. In past years, signup began in the fall, with the deadline in early January. With this new deadline, NRCS will have more time to work with growers to develop sound conservation plans, which will make for better contracts. EQIP is a cost-share program that provides financial assistance for growers to implement conservation practices. If you have interest in signing up, please contact your local NRCS office.

### 2006 GRAIN LOANS AND LDP'S

All wheat, corn, barley, oats and grain sorghum are eligible for price support benefits for 2006.

Producers have a choice between taking-out a regular 9-month Price Support Loan or receiving a Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP). The provisions for each are as follows:

**LDP-** Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) are not a loan they are a price support payment. LDP's can be made when the Posted County Price (PCP) falls below the county loan rate. There is a \$75,000 per person LDP payment limitation. Producers can check the LDP rates daily on the Internet at the following address: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/psd/ldp/>

**eLDPs-** Producers also have the ability to complete their LDPs online on the internet with an eLDP. eLDP's are available to producers who have established a "Level 2" internet user account with USDA. In addition, the County FSA Office must establish an LDP "customer profile" before the online eLDP application is made. To start the process, complete your online program registration by accessing: <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> This will allow you to access your personal payment information, enroll in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program

(DCP), apply for Loan Deficiency Payment payments and other programs. Call our office for more information regarding "on-line" program availability or visit FSA's Web site at: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

### PRICE SUPPORT LOANS-

Regular 9 month loans on warehouse or farm stored grain at a reasonable interest rate (currently 6.0 %) can provide an excellent marketing tool for producers who wish to hold their grain for sale at a later date. The loan can be repaid at any time, and the repayment will be the lesser of the Posted County Price (PCP) or principal plus interest. The grain may be "forfeited" to FSA at loan maturity instead of repaying the loan principal and interest.

### 2006 Yakima County Price Support Rates are as follows:

Wheat (SWH)	\$2.95 per bushel
(HRS)	3.25 per bushel
(HRW)	3.38 per bushel
Barley	2.18 per bushel
Corn	2.42 per bushel
Grain Sorghum	3.82 per cwt.
Oats	1.28 per bushel
Wool	.38 per pound

### MILK (MILCX) PROGRAM REMINDER

Milk producers are reminded that if a MILCX production start month was not selected for fiscal year 2007, the month elected for the 2006 fiscal year will be production start month for the 2007 fiscal year. In order to change the production start month for fiscal year 2007, producers will need to come into the FSA office on or before the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the month originally selected by the dairy operation as their MILCX production start month, and the new production start month requested.

Se habla español en esta oficina de FSA. Si quiere información tocante a los programas de crédito, conservación y otros programas que suministra esta oficina, por favor visite o llame la oficina de FSA. El número de teléfono es (509) 454-5746. La dirección se encontra encima.