



SEPTEMBER 2010 YAMHILL COUNTY AG NEWS



YAMHILL COUNTY FSA OFFICE
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County Committee

Drenda Bayliss, Chairperson
Arne Goddik, Vice Chairman
David Cruickshank, Member

Office Staff

Darca Glasgow, CED – Ext 103 - darca.glasgow@or.usda.gov
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Farm Loan

Nancy Thompson, FLM - nancy.thompson@or.usda.gov
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for Nancy or Suzanne

Marketing Assistance Loans

A Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) is available for producers who share in the risk of producing wheat, oats, barley, dry peas or corn for silage or grain. To be eligible, a producer must maintain continual beneficial interest in the crop from harvest through the earlier of the date the loan is repaid or CCC takes title to the commodity. Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity; responsibility for loss or damage to the commodity; and title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan ---even if the producer regains beneficial interest.

Commodity loan eligibility also requires compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements; beneficial interest requirements, acreage reporting and ensuring that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards. For commodities to be eligible they must have been produced by an eligible producer, be in existence and in a storable condition and be merchantable for food, feed, or other uses as determined by CCC. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan.

- Producers **do not** have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical and/or ACRE Programs to be eligible for commodity loans.
- Violating provisions of marketing assistance loan may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans.
- The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without prior authorization and providing an incorrect quantity certification.



County Committee Elections

Voting Begins November 5

The election is for LAA area #2; This area is east of the Hopewell Highway, east of the Lafayette Highway, east of Abbey Rd, east of Kuehne Rd, east of Kinney Rd, east of Ribbon Ridge Rd to the intersection of North Valley Rd, east of North Valley Rd, and east of Spring Hill Rd. This takes in Newberg, Dundee, the eastern portion of Lafayette and the Grand Island area.

And the nominee is.....

Arne Goddik – currently growing seed crops, sweet corn, strawberries and flower seed on the family farm on Neck Rd in Dayton.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning Nov. 5 and must be returned to the county office by the close of business on Dec. 6, or postmarked by midnight Dec 6, 2010.

Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote. When signing the ballot for an entity (including trusts) there must be signing authority on file in the county office. No one can 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.

Actively Engaged

FSA wants to remind producers about the rules that govern the requirements to be “actively engaged” in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program administered by FSA.

Normally the stockholder or a member of legal entity **must make contributions of active personal labor and/or active personal management for the farming operation.** The contributions are to be performed on regular basis, must be identifiable, and separate from the contributions of others.

The exception to this rule for stockholder or member of a legal entity only occurs if both of the following apply:

- At least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management; and
- The total direct payments received both directly and indirectly, by the legal entity and each of the members doesn't exceed \$40,000.



Electronic Services

If a producer has Internet access, program participants can access many services from home 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours.

To participate in these services, you must meet all program eligibility requirements. Online services have stringent security measures to protect your private information.

To utilize electronic services requires a *USDA eAuthentication Level 2 Account*, including your e-mail on the county office for identity verification.

If you have questions, or would like assistance establishing your account, just contact your local USDA Service Center and talk with our trained FSA personnel.

Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. Statute limits NAP to commercial crops or agricultural commodities, except livestock, for which CAT level coverage is not available in crop insurance. NAP and Crop Insurance coverage on all crops is required for additional crop, livestock and honeybee disaster programs.

Application Closing Dates, 2011 and later Crop Years for Yamhill County: (list may include insurable crops)

October 1	Asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadowfoam, sugarbeet, triticale grain
November 20	Apples, apricots, blueberries, caneberries, chestnuts, cherries, cranberries, grapes, hazelnuts, honey, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, strawberries, walnuts
November 30	All forage and grazing crops except oats. All grasses and legumes for seed.
March 15	Beans, broccoli, camelina, cantaloupe, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, oats, peas, potatoes, pumpkin, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon
May 15	Buckwheat



Producers who already have coverage on 2010 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop(s) for 2011, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date. When fees are submitted timely the application for continuous coverage is not required to be signed.

Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee. **Service fees are \$250 per crop pay type / \$750 per county / \$2250 per producer.**

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. (For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.) And submit production before 6/30 of the following year.

File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail, etc.

September 30 Deadline for SURE Applications

The deadline to submit USDA Farm Service Agency **2008** Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) program payment applications is close of business on September 30, 2010. Applications not filed by September 30, 2010, will not receive a payment.

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible for SURE, producers must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. In addition, producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act and/or NAP coverage as available, for all economically significant crops. For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

MANAGING WET SOILS AND DITCHES TO AVOID PENALTIES !!!

Management of wet soils, sub-surface drainage, removing trees and improving ditches is essential to farm management. However, if you are in USDA programs, ***you are required to check with FSA and/or NRCS prior to implementing any of the above work.*** If you do physical altering of wet areas and/or waterways without checking with FSA, it could result in violation of USDA rules and with a loss of payments. USDA would rather work with you BEFORE you get into a violation.

If you are going to do any physical management, improvement or changes to any wet or poorly drained land, waterways or ditches, ***get information from USDA on that piece of land before you do any work on it.***

Each year, when you visit FSA, if you are going to do any of the above changes, ***your role*** is to fill out a new AD1026 ***AND*** note on the form that you are physically altering a field. It honestly is better for your farming operation (and our ability to help you) to find out any issues with draining wet areas or clearing ditches BEFORE you do it, rather than having to work with NRCS to determine if you have a wetland violation.

For any work you do on your property, 1) keep any tiling records and maps of land you farm &, 2) when improving or repairing drainage tiles, use a digital camera to record the tiles you are replacing or repairing. If you are using USDA programs (or somebody in the future will use USDA programs), USDA has specific rules about altering/improving wet areas and waterways. ***Let's work together to help you manage your farms for sustained profit and watershed health.*** Contact us **BEFORE** you do that management on your farmland and you will be able to make a more informed decision.



ELAP Assistance Available

Aid from the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) is available to those producers who suffered losses in 2009 because of disease, adverse weather or other conditions.

More than \$13 million in disaster assistance, including more than \$7 million to compensate beekeepers for 2009 losses, will be issued. Under ELAP, producers will be compensated for losses that are not covered under other Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Payment programs established by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

BANK ACCOUNT CHANGES!!

If you have changed your bank or bank account number please contact the FSA office and let us know!! Final payment for the Direct & Counter-Cyclical Payment program will be completed the first of October as well as CRP & CREP payments. Our records must be up to date to be able to pay you timely.



FSA Farm Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers loans for farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,094,000. Emergency loans are always direct loans for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are also available through FSA.

For detail information loan eligibility or the different available loan programs, just contact the county office staff for an appointment with a farm loan officer.

Conservation Loan Program

The purpose of the program is to help finance conservation measures based on an approved NRCS conservation plan. There will be \$75 million available for direct Conservation Loans and \$75 million for guaranteed Conservation Loans for use by Sept 30, 2010. Loans can be obligated this Fiscal Year and closed in the following year. Since time is so short this year, only those applicants with conservation projects ready to go with an approved NRCS conservation plan could possibly use this year's funding. Funding for next year is expected to be similar.

CL funds can be used to implement conservation practices approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), such as the installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; implementation of manure management; and the adaptation of other emerging or existing conservation practices, techniques or technologies.

Direct CLs can be obtained through local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices with loan limits up to \$300,000. Guaranteed CLs up to \$1,112,000 are available from lenders working with FSA.

The test for credit and family sized farming operation requirements do not apply for Conservation Loans. Conservation projects could be totally financed upfront and any cost share received would be applied as an extra payment to the CL loan.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
YAMHILL COUNTY FSA
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SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER IMPORTANT DATES & OBSERVANCE

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

SEPTEMBER 15 -
OCTOBER 15, 2010



Dates to Remember

September 6 - Labor Day - Office Closed

September 30 - Last date to sign up for 2008 SURE and last day to apply for 2010 Conservation Loans

September 30 - Crop Ins. Wheat (all policies); dry peas, Barley (winter & spring)

October - Final DCP payments will be made and CRP annual rental payments

October 1 - NAP application closing date - Asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadow foam, sugarbeet, triticale grain

October 11 - Columbus Day - Office Closed

*October is National Disability
Employment Awareness Month*

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