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Yamhill County FSA Updates

Hopefully this nice, dry patch of October weather has made it possible to get into the fields and get your fall planting done! And with any luck to finish up hazelnuts, grapes, corn and the other fall crops without too much loss or damage.

Here at the office we have made the majority of the CRP payments and a limited amount of DCP payments but we should get the bulk of DCP payments out before the end of the month. We are ready to make changes to your farming operations for 2014 and get started on acreage reports! (I know, seems like we just finished!). We are taking 2014 NAP applications as well, so if you need to cover fall crops at a catastrophic level, now is the time.

Yamhill County FSA Office

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Program Technicians:
Lorie Atkinson x100

County Committee Elections

Watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on Nov. 4, 2013. The areas around Newberg, Dayton and Dundee are voting this year. If for some reason you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office.

Completed and **signed** ballots must be returned to the county office by close of business on Dec.2, 2013.

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Farm Loan Staff:

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Next County Committee

Meeting: Dec. 9, 2013 at 8:00

AM

Reporting Perennial Forage and Fall Seeded Crops

All producers in Oregon with a Risk Management Agency insurance policy for Apiculture or Pasture/Range/Forage are required to report their acreage for these crops to FSA by November 15.

December 15 is the deadline for all producers of fall planted and existing stands of Alfalfa Seed, Fall Canola, **Perennial Forage (hay & pastures)**, Fall Mint, Fall Onions (planted 8/15 – 9/15), and **Fall-Seeded Small Grains (including Wheat)**. Please call for an appointment to certify these crops.

Microloan Program

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the Microloan program to better serve the unique financial operating needs of beginning, niche and small family farm operations.

FSA offers applicants a Microloan designed to help farmers with credit needs of \$35,000 or less. The loan features a streamlined application process built to fit the needs of new and smaller producers. This loan program will also be useful to specialty crop producers and operators of community supported agriculture (CSA).

Eligible applicants can apply for a maximum amount of \$35,000 to pay for initial start-up expenses such as hoop houses to extend the growing season, essential tools, irrigation and annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing, and distribution expenses. As financing needs increase, applicants can apply for a regular operating loan up to the maximum amount of \$300,000 or obtain financing from a commercial lender under FSA's Guaranteed Loan Program.

Individuals interested in applying for a microloan or would like to discuss other farm loan programs available, should contact Suzanne Hayes, Farm Loan Officer (FLO) for Yamhill County or Scott Nieman, Farm Loan Manager (FLM), for Polk County. Their information is listed above.

Marketing Assistance Loans

A Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) is available for producers who share in the risk of producing the crop. 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 and acreage reporting requirements 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. But the commodity must have been reported on an acreage report. And the producer must be in compliance with the Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Compliance provisions.

Violating provisions of a 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

Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H Clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

For more information contact the farm loan staff. Our staff can help with preparing and processing the application forms.

Dates and Deadlines to Remember

Nov. 11 - Office Closed for Veterans Day

Nov. 15 - Last Day to purchase crop insurance - Pasture, Range & Forage Index and Apiculture Vegetation Index

Nov. 20 - Last Day to purchase NAP or Crop Insurance - perennial fruits, nuts & honey.

Nov. 28 - Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Nov. 30 - Last Day to purchase NAP - All grasses & legumes for seed and all forage & grazing crops except oats.

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