



September 2007

Elko-Eureka County News

Elko/Eureka County USDA Service Center

Elko/Eureka County FSA
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www.fsa.usda.gov/nv

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

County Committee
Steve Wines, Chair
Mark Damele, Vice Chair
Patsy Tomera, Member
Audrey Spratling, Member
Clayton Cota, Member
Vince Garcia, Advisor

County Committee meets on the second Monday of each month at 1:30 pm in the Conference Room at the Service Center

Staff
Clayre Moiola, CED
Cathy Yardley, FLO
Micki Wines, FLOT
Maria Murillo, PT
Kaye Sigman, PT

New Employee in the Elko Office

We would like to welcome Kaye Sigman to the Elko Eureka FSA Office. Kaye is our new Program Technician. She will be working with the Farm Programs and with the producers participating in the Farm Programs.

Maria will be working with the Farm Loan Program. Micki has taken a new job as Farm Loan Officer Trainee working with Cathy in the Farm Loan Program.

New Disaster Programs for disasters in 2005 & 2006

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/or 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 between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, are eligible as are producers located in counties contiguous to those counties. Producers in a primary (or contiguous) county that received an Administrator's Physical Loss Notice directly associated with a disaster declaration will also be eligible.

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, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year to apply for benefits. Produc-

ers 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.

With that said, the Office would like to ask that producers that were affected by natural disasters, mainly wildfires in 2005 and/or 2006 wait until after October 1, 2007 to come in and sign up for the Livestock Compensation Program. Clayre will be going to a National Training on the disaster programs September 24-28, 2007 and will have a much better understanding of what will be required from the producers to participate in the programs and how the programs work.

Final DCP Payments For 2007

Enrolled producers can expect their final direct payment to be directly deposited into personal bank accounts sometime during the first few weeks of October.

Producers who did not elect to receive an advance direct payment will receive their entire direct payment for the year in one lump sum after the end of the fiscal year (September 30). The direct payment for a crop equals 85 percent of the farm's base acreage *times* (x) the farm's direct payment yield *times* (x) the direct payment rate.

If there are any unearned advance counter-cyclical payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the final Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments you are about to receive are accepted for multiple future applications.

County Committee Elections

Nominations for the county committee election

were due in the county office by August 1, 2007. The next step in the election process is the mailing out of the ballots, which will begin on 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.



Loan and LDP Information

Loans or LDPs are available for producers who share in the risk of producing crops. To be eligible, you must maintain beneficial interest (maintain title, control of the crop) in the crop through the time of application. Producers who have contracted the commodity, sold directly off the field, or immediately fed the commodity should have filed a CCC-633EZ page 1 to maintain eligibility for an LDP. The CCC-633EZ page 1 needs be signed prior to harvest. Producers who deliver grain under a delayed pricing contract lose beneficial interest upon delivery in most cases.

Commodities harvested for other than grain (such as hay or silage) are also eligible for LDPs. Applications should be made prior to feeding or selling. The maximum eligible quantity is based on actual production of grain for the farm. Producers that want to ensure the use of their own yield should request measurement service for farm stored commodities prior to feeding. If actual production is not available, the COC will assign a yield based on three similar farms in your area. Yield for crops that sustained weather damage will be based on the insurance appraisal.

Interest rates vary monthly and are based on the month of approval. Rates are subject to change January 1.

Loan repayment options, include:

- repay the loan, principal plus interest
- repay the loan at the market repayment rate
- deliver the outstanding quantity to a designated warehouse

When commodities are under loan and used as collateral, they may not be moved without prior written consent from the county office.

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. The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), you must contact the FSA county office staff within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. Producers with crop insurance should contact their local agent when losses occur and before destroying the crop.

NAP Deadline Approaching

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) deadline for forage 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.

October 31, 2007 is the final date for producers to purchase NAP coverage in Elko and Eureka County on all forage crops.

December 1, 2007 is the final date for producers to purchase NAP coverage for all grazing crops.

Producers who had NAP coverage may choose to continue coverage on the same crops for

2008, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the October 31, 2007. 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.

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)



Elko and Eureka Counties were approved for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) because of the drought in 2007. However, no funds are currently available for the allocation. The Elko Eureka County Committee (COC) will establish a signup period for this program at their October 15, 2007 meeting. Conservation practices that were approved: EC6 – Drought Emergency Measures – this includes installing emergency water source for livestock, developing springs or seeps for livestock water, constructing and deepening wells for livestock water. Also approved was EC7 – Other Emergency Conservation Measures – Hauling Water for Livestock

Elko and Eureka Counties were approved for ECP because of the summer fires in 2007. No funds are currently available for the allocation. The Elko Eureka COC will establish a signup period for this program at their October 15, 2007 meeting. Conservation practices that were approved: EC3 – Restoring Permanent Fences that were damaged or destroyed by wildfire in 2007.

Youth Loans Available

The school year has started and many young people are planning their 4-H, FFA or other organized youth group projects... Consider FSA youth loans for financing these endeavors.

Why...because there is no better time than the present to teach financial responsibility and establish a good credit history.

Eligibility for a rural youth loan requires that the applicant be between the ages of 10 and 20 and a US citizen. Applicants must live in a

town of less than 10,000 people and prove they are unable to secure a loan elsewhere to conduct a modest income-producing project. An advisor must be identified who will provide technical supervision and assistance, typically a High School Ag Science teacher or 4-H leader.

FSA loans cannot exceed \$5000 and are available to sponsor different types of projects in livestock, crop production, lawn and garden services, repair shops and roadside stands.

For more information on youth loans, contact Farm Loan Officer, Cathy Yardley at 775-738-6445 ext 106 or go to

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=fmlp&topic=dfly>.

EMERGENCY LOANS

Mike Johanns designated various counties, for damages and losses caused by combined effects of multiple disasters including severe drought, insect infestations, killing frosts, hot dry winds, below normal runoff, wildfires and flash floods that started January 1, 2007 and are continuous. The affected counties in Nevada are Elko, Lincoln, White Pine, and Clark County. For more information regarding Emergency Loans for physical and production losses contact Elko-Eureka County FSA Office at 775-738-6445 ext. 106.

Selected Interest Rates

Selected Interest Rates	
Farm Operating - Direct	5.50%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.75%
Limited Resource	5.0%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.0%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	04.625 %
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	04.750%



Dates to Remember	
October 8	Office closed for Columbus Day
Oct. 31	Last day to purchase NAP for 2008 hay crops.
Dec. 1	Last day to purchase NAP for 2008 grazing
Nov. 12	Office closed for Veteran's Day

Visit our Web site: <http://www.fsa.usda/nv>

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