



COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

LAA 1- Suzanne Ginet
LAA 2 - Mel Morris
LAA 3 - Lori Mefford

JACKSON/JOSEPHINE COUNTY FSA

573 Parsons Drive, Suite 101
Medford, OR 97501-3769
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OFFICE STAFF

Joe Hess, County Executive Director
Diane Rabbe, Program Technician
Donna Finch, Program Technician

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM (Open during lunch hour)
Web Site <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/or/jackson.html>

*****NEW COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*****

The Jackson-Josephine County Farm Service Agency has a new County Executive Director (CED). Joe Hess started his position on May 27, 2008. Joe was raised on a ranch in Klamath County and gained his experience in a cow/calf operation. Joe was a Program Technician in the Klamath County FSA office for 4 years prior to coming to Medford. Through his knowledge of FSA programs, farming practice customs, these will be valuable assets he brings as a new CED.

*******ACREAGE REPORTING*******

Certification for crop acreages is due **June 30, 2008**. Producers must report farm acreages, production and intended uses by this date. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 1 day after the final planting date. Producers, who wish to receive commodity loans or Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's), including wool, must also file on all cropland. Please remember, June 30, 2008 is the final date to report without a late filing fee.

****Disaster Signup Continues****

Eligible farmers and ranchers who suffered livestock losses, feed losses, or crop loss damage before Dec. 31, 2007, can still apply to receive disaster assistance. FSA continues to accept applications and make payments for quantity losses under the Crop Disaster Program (CDP), for losses that occurred before the end of the 2007 calendar year. In designated disaster counties producers have until **July 18, 2008** to apply for assistance under the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). No ending date has yet been announced for CDP. Later this summer FSA will begin making payments to producers for quality losses under CDP.

For more disaster program information go online at: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>

******* 2008 CROP YEAR WOOL, MOHAIR & UNSHORN PELTS/UPDATE*******

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act), was enacted into law May 22, 2008. The 2008 Act authorizes 2008 Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP). Presently, only wool and mohair are showing deficiency prices. These prices change weekly. To be eligible for the LDP program payment, producers must own the animal, have a risk in the production and submit form CCC-633 page 1 prior to loss of beneficial interest. The wool must be shorn in 2008 and a verifiable weight slip provided with the payment application. Wool producers do not need to sell their wool. A certified weight slip will suffice. The document must contain your name & address, the net quantity, the date, the type of the wool (graded or un-graded). All other program policies apply; 2008 annual crop acreage reporting, 2008 Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) on form CCC-526, Payment Limitation Review on form CCC-502, and Highly Erodible Conservation and Wetland Conservation certification on form AD-1026.

For more information, contact FSA, or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>. Click on the subject "Price Support" in the left column, and then click on "Loan Deficiency Payments" under the Related Topics column.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER.....DON'T FORGET !!!!!!!!!!!!!

- June 30, 2008 - Last day to report crop acres without paying a late file fee
- July 4, 2008 - Office closure
- July 18, 2008 - Last day to file disaster LCP/LIP applications
- Aug. 1, 2008 - COC Nomination Deadline for LAA #2

USDA-FARM SERVICE AGENCY
Jackson/Josephine County
573 Parsons Dr., Suite 101
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County Committee Elections “FSA Counts on You”

Since COC elections happen only once a year, here is an election refresher. For election purposes, counties are divided into *local administrative areas*, or LAAs. Each LAA selects one producer to serve a three-year term on the Farm Service Agency county committee. Each year, an election is held in an LAA to replace the committee member whose three-year term is expiring. In counties with three LAAs, one seat is up for election. In combined counties in some years, two seats may be up for election. LAA #2 has been represented by Eagle Point rancher and retired Ag-teacher, Mel Morris. He has served on the FSA Committee for a total of 9 consecutive years. He will no longer be eligible to run for candidacy this year. LAA #2 area includes farms and ranches operating north of Township 36, from the west & north border of Josephine County to the east and north border of Jackson Co.

Nominations

Candidate nominations for the FSA county committee election will be accepted June 15 through Aug. 1, 2008.

Producers who are residents in the LAA holding the election and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Also, organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates. The nomination form, FSA-669A, is available at the county office or may be downloaded from <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=newsroom&subject=landing&topic=cce>.

To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. The completed nomination form must be returned to the county office by the close of business on Aug. 1, or postmarked by midnight Aug. 1, 2008.

Voting

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning Nov. 3, and must be returned to the county office by the close of business on Dec. 1, or postmarked by midnight Dec. 1, 2008.

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