

January 2008

KLICKITAT COUNTY FSA NEWS

LAA #2 ELECTION RESULTS

The Klickitat County FSA Committee (COC) met December 5, 2007 at 9:00 AM to count ballots for Local Administrative Area (LAA) #3. The county office received a total of 106 ballots. The results of the election are as follows:

- Kelly Kreps – COC Regular Member
- Linda Williams – COC Alternate

The term of office is three years, beginning January 1, 2008. The Klickitat County FSA Committee would like to thank the above producers for their willingness to participate in the election process and to everyone who took the time to vote.

STATUS OF THE NEW FARM BILL

The House of Representatives and Senate have passed their versions of the new Farm Bill. Now it will move to a joint Conference Committee to “work out the differences.” After approval by both Houses, the bill must be approved by the President. Until the new Farm Bill is finalized we don’t know if there will be a DCP (Direct & Counter Cyclical Program) or something similar to take its place. We will let you know as soon as we find out any details.

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM (CDP)

Signup for the CDP program is underway. There is currently no deadline for signing up. This program offers assistance for losses that occurred in 2005, 2006 and 2007. Producers can only receive payment for one year, if you had losses in more than one of the qualifying years the computer will choose which year will generate the greatest payment.

Only producers who purchased Federal Crop Insurance for insurable crops, or purchased a Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) application for non-insurable crops are eligible to apply for CDP benefits.

CDP covers losses for quality and quantity. We are only accepting quantity losses at this time. Producers must have suffered losses in excess of 35% to be eligible for payment. The payment rate is 42% of the established price. If you think you are eligible for this program, please call for an appointment.

LIVESTOCK PROGRAMS

Signup for the Livestock Compensation program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) are also in progress.

The LCP program pays producers who suffered losses from natural disaster based on their feed loss and livestock numbers. The major disaster condition that qualifies producers for this program in Klickitat County is the 2005 drought. When applying for the program, producers need to provide their livestock numbers as of January 1, 2005.

The LIP Program may compensate those livestock owners who lost livestock due to a natural disaster in 2005, 2006 or 2007. To be eligible the animal must have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation on the day the animal died.

If you are interested in applying for either LCP or LIP, please give us a call for an appointment.

Klickitat County FSA

1107 S Columbus Avenue
Goldendale, WA 98620-9296
(509) 773-5822
Fax (509) 773-6046

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee

Kelly Kreps, Chair
Karl Enyeart, Vice-Chair
Susan Powers, Member

Office Staff

Betty Fahlenkamp, PT
Norene Bartkowski, PT

Farm Loan Staff

Lisa Ruff, FLM
Crispin Garza, SCL
Scott Smith, FLO
Sandy Christensen, FLT

1606 Perry Street, Suite A
Yakima, WA 98902-5769
(509)454-5746

Next COC Meeting

January 17, 2008
9:00 AM

Dates to Remember

- January 21 – Office Closed
Martin Luther King Day

FSA Web Sites

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



AGRICULTURAL FOREIGN INVESTMENT DISCLOSURE ACT

Foreigners who have bought or sold agricultural land in the United States are reminded to report the transaction to the local FSA office within 90 days. To avoid Federal penalties and monetary fines, foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land must report their holdings, acquisitions, dispositions, leases of 10 or more years and land use changes to FSA within 90 days. Failure to file the AFIDA report could result in a civil penalty of up to 25% of the fair market value of the interest held in the agricultural land.

EMERGENCY LOANS

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

Drought which began January 1, 2007 (July 21, 2008 application deadline) and Wildfires which occurred on July 13, 2007 through August 15, 2007 (July 27, 2008 application deadline).

Family farmers who suffered losses in the designated areas may qualify for Farm Service Agency emergency loans with 3.75% interest and payment terms up to 40 years with real estate security. Loans based on losses to foundation livestock or chattels can have up to 20-year terms. The loan amount is based on actual loss amount not to exceed \$500,000.

The federal government does not intend to compete with private business, so applicants must be unable to obtain credit elsewhere to finance their needs at reasonable rates and terms. Applicants must be United States citizens or aliens legally admitted for permanent residence, must be established farmers and must have suffered an agricultural loss in a designated or a contiguous county. An applicant's farm must be family-sized. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs available, in addition to the emergency loan program, to help eligible farmers recover farm adversity. Interested farmers may contact their local FSA office (509) 454-5746 ext. 2 in Yakima for further information on eligibility requirements and applications procedures for Emergency Loans and other programs.

2007 EARNINGS STATEMENTS

Form CCC-1099, Report of Producer Payments, will be mailed in January to FSA program participants who earned payments in 2007. Information on the report should be verified since the data is reported to the Internal Revenue Service. If a discrepancy is found or a report is not received, please contact the county office.

Klickitat County FSA Office
1107 S Columbus Avenue
Goldendale, WA 98620-9296



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