



November 2009

# Churchill, NW Nye, Pershing, Storey and Washoe Counties Farm Service Agency News

NV Farm Service Agency  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/nv](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nv)

### Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Fallon FSA Office

111 Sheckler Rd., Ste. B  
Fallon, NV 89406-8951  
Phone: (775) 423-5124  
Fax: (775) 423-1335

### Fallon COC Members

Eric Olsen, Chairman  
Raymond Kretschmer,  
Vice Chair  
Robert James, Advisor  
Michael "Mickey" Laca,  
Member  
Steve Damonte, Member

### Lovelock FSA Office

110 American Blvd.  
Lovelock, NV 89419  
Phone: (775) 273-2922  
Fax: (775) 273-3508

### Lovelock COC Members

Karen Wesner, Chairman  
Vance Vesco, Vice Chair  
Mike Phillips, Member

### Staff:

Bob Baldwin, CED  
**Program Technicians:**  
Imelda Andersen (ext. 102)  
Jan Hronesh (ext. 108)  
Sandy Smith (ext. 104)  
Terry Goldsworthy  
(ext. 100 - Lovelock)  
**Farm Loan Manager:**  
Carolyn Persinger (ext. 106)  
(775) 423-5124 x 106  
**Farm Loan Officer:**  
Phyllis Dowd (ext. 107)



## 2010 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2010. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 1, 2009. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

## Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create five new disaster programs, collectively referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. These programs include:

- **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)**
- **Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)**
- **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)**
- **Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program**
- **Tree Assistance Program (TAP)**

To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.

In the 2008 Farm Bill; in general, the term "farm" means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer. In the case of aquaculture, the term "farm" means all fish being produced in all counties that are intended to be harvested for sale by the eligible producer. In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers who meet the definition of a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher, do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement.



## Attention NAP Producers

**The application deadline date for the 2010 NAP grazing crops (with the exception of grain which has already passed) is December 1, 2009.**

Producers are also reminded to submit all 2009 production records to the office as soon as possible.

For more information on NAP coverage please contact Terry Goldsworthy at (775) 273-2922 ext. 100 in the Lovelock office; or Jan Hronesh in Fallon at 775-423-5124 ext. 108.

## Acreage Reports are Required for the SURE Program

Because of the delay in announcing the provisions of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, producers enrolling in the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) are reminded that 2008 crop reports are required for SURE participation. This includes crops planted on cropland and/or non-cropland, including native pasture or improved grass that will be hayed.

Physical evidence of the crop in the field is not required for Farm Service Agency (FSA) to accept late-filed 2008 acreage reports. However, evidence of existence or disposition, is required.

The following requirements for 2008 SURE include:

- producers **must** report all crops, in all counties, in which they have an interest
- late filed fees shall be waived for late-filed 2008 acreage reports and physical evidence in the field is not required
- if the actual use of a crop is different from the intended use reported, the producer may report the final use to the County Office; however, the intended use shall **not** be changed.

The provisions noted are for 2008 only. For 2009 and 2010, normal acreage reporting requirements will be applied.

More details on the 2008 SURE Program are available at county FSA offices or on line at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)



## Selling Land

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all the payments you've received to date.

Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.

## Voting for County Committee Begins

Ballots for this year's county committee election will be mailed to eligible voters on November 6, 2009. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on December 7, 2009. If mailed, ballots must be post-marked by midnight December 7, 2009.

The candidates in this year's election are:

Pershing County, LAA 2:

**Colby Burke** is nominated in LAA 2 to serve as a committee member. Burke produces alfalfa and wheat. She is also an active member of Cattlewomen's.

Churchill County, LAA 3:

**Valerie Christoph** is nominated to serve as a committee member. Christoph is a member of Liberty Jersey Farms Inc., a dairy operation based in Churchill County.

**Michael Olsen** is also nominated in LAA 3, Churchill County. Olsen is a partner of Sage Hill Dairy which operates a dairy business in Churchill County. Both candidates are active members of Dairy Farmers of America. They are involved in agriculture and are excellent candidates to represent the farmers and ranchers in LAA 3.

Eligible voters in the above mentioned local administrative area who have not received a ballot should contact the FSA county office staff.

**Voter Requirements** Persons meeting requirements in **1 or 2, plus 3**, below, is eligible to vote:

- 1.** Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either of the following:  
an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper, *or*  
a partner in a general partnership or member of a joint venture that has an interest in a farm as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper; *or*
- 2.** Not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm; *and*
- 3.** Eligible to participate in any FSA program that is 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.

## Farm Loan Year End Reviews

Producers that have a farm loan with FSA are reminded they must provide data for their Year-End Analysis (YEA) to their loan officer each year. Borrowers are urged to provide this information timely so that their files can be maintained. The office will contact you for the data you will need to provide us.

### *Applications for FSA Farm Loan Assistance*

Farmers and ranchers that intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Filing early will help ensure that your loan is processed and approved as early as possible so that planting decisions can be made. Failure to apply early can result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications that must be processed in date order. Contact your local FSA Farm Loan Manager or Officer for more details and assistance in applying.

### *Operating Loan Applications Needed Now*

Farmers that plan to apply to the FSA for annual operating loan assistance this year are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. The earlier an application for loan assistance is filed, the quicker the FSA staff can process your request. In addition, due to budget constraints, farmers that wait until later in the year to apply, run the risk of finding out that our funding allocations have been utilized already. Farmers should also contact their FSA Farm Loan Manager or Officer at 775-423-5124 for information as to what is required in order to have a complete loan application on file. Decisions on loans can not be made until a complete application is received.

## Online Services

Producers, if you have Internet access you can electronically log on, fill out and print a variety of FSA paper forms in the comfort of your home as your schedule allows. You can also register for secure electronic access that will allow you to electronically sign and transmit some forms directly to the county office staff. If you are new to the website, first you will want to obtain a Level 2 USDA Service Center Customer ID and password at: <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/> and then click on "Create an Account Page" link.

USDA eAuthentication is the system used by USDA agencies to enable customers to obtain accounts that will allow them to access USDA Web applications and services via the Internet. This includes things such as submitting forms electroni-

cally, completing surveys online, and checking the status of your USDA accounts.

If you already have a Customer ID and password, then click on the following eForms website at:

<http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainervlet> and then click on the "Sign In" button. A disclaimer window will open and after you read the "Warning message" click on the "Continue" button.

Then the USDA Web services page will open to the eAuthentication login page. Enter your login User ID and password and then click on the "Login" button. To sign and transmit forms electronically, you must sign-up and get a User ID and password.

Submitting an e-Form is convenient. You can access information anytime day or night seven days a week. It's faster and forms and applications can be submitted and received in the county office in a matter of minutes, not days or weeks.

## LFP Maps

FSA's Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) compensates eligible livestock producers for grazing losses suffered because of drought conditions that occurred from January 1, 2008, to October 1, 2011.



This program provides financial assistance to producers who suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011, during the calendar year in which the loss occurs. Fire losses must have occurred on federally managed lands.



Weekly LFP Payment Eligibility maps that depict the weekly LFP payment eligibility by county for the US and Puerto Rico, based on grazing periods, drought intensity, and forage types can now be found on FSA's internet Web site at:

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

The four most current county level LFP maps will be:

- posted in the Disaster Assistance Program section on the FSA Internet web site
- updated on a weekly basis
- provided for each year and each eligible grazing type.





PRESORTED STANDARD  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 DAVIS, CA  
 PERMIT #22

Dates to Remember	
Nov. 6	County committee ballots mailed.
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Holiday
Nov. 26-27th	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Dec. 1	2010 NAP Final Application Date for Coverage for all grazing crops (excluding grain)
Dec. 7	Deadline to return County Committee Ballots
Dec. 10	2008 LFP Signup Deadline

Selected Interest Rates for October 2009	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	2.875%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.750%
Limited Resource	5.00%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	3.00% to 3.625% depending on term
Sugar Storage Facility	4.00%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.375%

## Changing Banks

Almost all FSA payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

---

## Unauthorized Disposition of Loaned Grain

If loan grain has been disposed of through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office staff, it is considered unauthorized disposition. The financial penalties for unauthorized dispositions are severe and a producers name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. Always call the office before any grain under loan is fed or sold.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."