



# NEWSLETTER



May 2011

## Elko/Eureka Co. FSA Office

555 W Silver St  
Suite 101  
Elko NV 89801

PH: 775-738-6445  
FX: 775-778-9712

[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

### Hours

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

### County Office Staff

Clayre Moiola  
County Executive Director

Miki Wines  
Farm Loan Officer

Maria Murillo  
Program Technician  
Farm Loan/Program

Jacque Fender  
Program technician  
Far Program

**County Committee**  
Patsy Tomera/Chairperson

Mitch Heguy/Vice  
Chairperson

Mark Damele/Member

Clayton Cota/Member

Ira J Wines/Member

## 2011 FSA County Committee Elections

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency(FSA)Elko/Eureka county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, large or small. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

County Committee (COC) members are a critical component of FSA operations. The intent is to have the COC reflect the makeup of the producers and to represent all constituents. This means wherever possible, minorities, women or lower income producers need to be on the committee to speak for these underrepresented groups.

County committees provide local input on commodity price support loans and payments, conservation programs, incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities, emergency programs and payment eligibility.

FSA county committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decision and operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal rules, regulations and laws.

### Election Period

June 15, 2011 – COC nomination period begins.

Aug. 1, 2011 - COC nomination forms (FSA-669A) due at the local USDA Service Center

Nov. 4, 2011 – COC ballots mailed to eligible voters

Dec. 5, 2011 - Last day to return completed COC ballots to the USDA Service Center

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria as follows:

- Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
- Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate

Candidates must not have been:

- Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee
- Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony
- Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services.

For more information about county committee elections, contact the county office staff.

### Nominations

Nominees must complete and sign form FSA-669A available at USDA Service Centers and online at:

[http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/fsa\\_0669a\\_commiteelectform.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa_0669a_commiteelectform.pdf)

Nomination forms for the 2011 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2011.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy.

**LAA-5: Mark Damele has served for 3 terms (9yrs) and the County Committee is looking for someone to run for his area which is mainly the Diamond Valley area.**

**LAA-4: Mitch Heguy has served 1 term and is eligible for re-election. This is the area west of Ruby Mt.'s in Elko County.**

Anyone interested please contact the office for a Nomination form.

## Who Can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age (18 year) may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in and FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote. More information about voting eligibility contact your local FSA office.

## Congratulations

**Claire Neumann**, our COT who assisted CED Clayre Moiola this past year in the Elko/Eureka and Ely FSA Offices, has accepted the CED vacancy in Pershing County/ Lovelock, NV. We wish Claire the best in her new endeavor commencing May 2, 2011.

## NEWS FLASH!

The Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) application deadline is fast approaching! **All RBEG applications are due May 27** in the Nevada State Rural Development Office located at:1390 South Curry St.Carson City, NV 89703

The RBEG is designed to finance and facilitate the development of private business enterprises.

Eligible applicants are: non-profit, public body and Native American tribes. Although there's never enough money to go around, many great RBEG projects have been funded in rural Nevada over the years, so we encourage you to give it full consideration.

Funds may be used for business planning, feasibility study, equipment and revolving loan fund to name a few.

Contact Michelle or David if you have questions or need assistance at:**Michelle Kelly in Northern Nevada** at 775-887-1222 ext. 118, [michelle.kelly@nv.usda.gov](mailto:michelle.kelly@nv.usda.gov)

or

**David Foster in Southern Nevada** at 702-262-9047 ext. 103; [david.foster@nv.usda.gov](mailto:david.foster@nv.usda.gov)

## NAP Records

Production records for individual crops need to be filed at the FSA office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is your first year in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up to date. Records submitted must be reliable or verifiable and need to show crop disposition. We recommend producers to submit production records as soon as harvest is complete.

ALL 2010 PRODUCTION RECORDS  
MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE  
SUSEQUENT CROP YEARS FINAL  
ACREAGE REPORTING DATE,  
JUNE 15-SMALL GRAINS  
JULY 15-ALL CROPS WHICH  
INCLUDES GRAZING

## Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans is being established. If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you during certain time periods between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

For additional information on this claims process and other settlement issues contact:

**Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process**  
:[www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov) or 1-888-508-4429

**Pigford - Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation**  
[www.blackfarmercase.com](http://www.blackfarmercase.com) or 1-866-950-5547

**Keepseagle - Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement**  
[www.IndianFarmClass.com](http://www.IndianFarmClass.com) or 1-888-233-5506



# NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS OR RANCHERS

## COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

### ***NAP Loss Filing***

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing the Notice of Loss is required for ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576 (notice of loss) in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

### ***AGI and the IRS***

USDA has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Internal Revenue Service to establish an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the verification report that IRS sends to FSA.

The agreement ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service by June 15 to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices.

### ***Farm Reconstitutions***

At FSA, farms are “constituted” to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. If multiple owners and/or operators do not agree about program participation and want to separate acres by programs, for example to enter only a segment of property into the new ACRE program, then producers should inquire about a reconstitution of the farm at the local FSA office.

The reconstitution—or recon—is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. NOTE: to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by August 1, 2011 for farms enrolled in specific programs.

### ***Farm Loan Programs***

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with credit to meet their business needs. Farmers having trouble obtaining financing have both direct and guaranteed loan options.

Farmers who have had a setback and whose lenders are reluctant to extend or renew credit can ask their lender if they qualify for an FSA loan guarantee

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,119,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner prior to production credit needs.

FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Elko/Eureka FSA Office  
 555 W Silver St. Suite 101  
 Elko, NV 89801

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### Did Your Bank Change?

If you have changed banks and not notified FSA, your payment could be delayed. Payments are now electronically transferred into your bank account. If we are not aware of changes to your account and have incorrect routing numbers, there could be problems. For FSA to make timely payments, you need to notify the office if you close your account or if another financial institution purchases your bank. It is important that any changes in producer's account such as type of account, bank mergers, routing number or account numbers, be provided to the county office promptly to avoid possible payment delay.

Selected Interest Rates for May 2011	
Farm Operating – Direct	2.625%
Farm Ownership-Direct	5.000%
Conservation Loan	5.000%
Farm Storage Facility -7YR	2.875%
Farm Storage Facility -10YR	3.500%
Farm Storage Facility-12YR	3.750%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.250%

Dates to Remember	
May 30	Office Closed-Memorial day
June 1	Deadline for Farm Record Changes
June 1	DCP Sign Up Ends
June 15	Deadline for Acreage Reporting Small Grain Crops
July 15	Deadline for Acreage Reporting All crops --includes Grazing
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program

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