



# NEWSLETTER



December 2011

## Pershing County, NV FSA Office

**Terry Goldsworthy,**  
Acting County Executive  
Director

775-273-2922 ext. 100  
775-273-3508 fax

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

### Hours

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

### County Committee:

Mike Phillips, Chairman  
Colby Burke, Vice Chair  
Vance Vesco, Member

Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday  
of the month, subject to  
change

### State/County Staff

**Gus Wegren,** District  
Director, State Office  
775-784-5411 ext. 113

**Carolyn Persinger,** Chief  
Farm Loans, State Office  
775-784-5411 ext. 110

**Carly Brown,** Farm Loan  
Officer Trainee, Fallon  
775-423-5124 ext. 107

**Dan Ferraro,** Farm Loan  
Officer Trainee, Fallon  
775-423-5124 ext. 106

### NRCS Staff:

**Christie Scilacci,** Soil  
Conservationist  
775-273-2134 ext. 101

**Karl Anderson,** District  
Conservationist, Fallon  
775-423-5124 ext. 3

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Receive free e-mail updates and in some regions even newsletters now by visiting: [www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe).

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## COC Election Results

Ballots for this year's county committee election have been counted. Mike Phillips has been re-elected to the COC for his third term. **Congratulations Mike!**

## 2012 DCP/ACRE Sign-up

2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) enrollment begins Jan. 23, 2012 and ends June 1, 2012.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- All producers planting on **DCP base** acres must be identified on the DCP/ACRE contract and receive a proportionate share of DCP/ACRE payment for the farm.
- Changes on the farm after enrolling June 1<sup>st</sup> in DCP/ACRE **must** be reported to your local FSA office such as: Ownership changes, Producer changes (Individuals and Entities, Change in crop shares arrangements.

## LDPs for Unshorn Lamb Pelts

Eligible producers have until Jan. 31, 2012, to apply for Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) for unshorn pelts produced during the 2011 crop year.

Eligible producers must have beneficial interest in the pelts, owned the lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter and sell the unshorn lamb for immediate slaughter. Producers must also comply with wetland conservation and highly erodible land conservation provisions on all lands they operate or have interest in.

To qualify for payment, pelts must have been produced by an eligible producer from live unshorn lambs of domestic origin in the United States.

## Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

The sign-up for 2010 losses in the SURE program runs through **June 1, 2012**.

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that incurred in the crop year 2010. SURE is available to eligible producers with qualifying losses on:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred crop production or quality losses, or both, and includes all crops grown by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops.
- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.

Please call the office for an appointment.

**NOTE:** You will need your 2010 production in order to complete the calculations. Please plan to bring this with you to the appointment.

**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.



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**Disaster Assistance Programs**

FSA disaster assistance 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

To be eligible for the SURE and ELAP programs, producers must have purchased catastrophic risk protection insurance for all insurable crops, and NAP coverage for non-insurable crops. Sign-up ends Jan. 30, 2012 for LFP, LIP, and ELAP. Producers have 90 days from the time a loss is apparent to file an application for TAP.

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 Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are not required to purchase the catastrophic insurance or NAP.

**Farm Loan Programs**

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000.

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan, for loans obligated after October 1, 2011.

To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

**IRS Form 1099-G**

Producers receive CCC-1099-Gs annually detailing payments from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on the CCC-1099-G is a service intended to help FSA customers report taxable

income. It is not intended to replace the producers' responsibility to report income to the IRS.

FSA staff cannot interpret IRS regulations or advise producers about which payments to report on their income tax returns. However, county office staff can review payments for accuracy of data.

**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 has been established.

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.

For additional information on this and other settlement issues contact:

**Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims**

**Process:**

[www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov) or 1-888-508-4429

**Pigford – The Black Farmers**

**Discrimination Litigation:**

[www.blackfarmercase.com](http://www.blackfarmercase.com) or 1-866-950-5547

**Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement:**

[www.IndianFarmClass.com](http://www.IndianFarmClass.com) or 1-888-233-5506



CONGRATULATIONS go out to Christie and Randy Scilacci on the birth of their daughter, Ellie Marie!

Ellie was five weeks early but weighed in at 5.1 lbs on November 28, 2011. Mom and baby are doing well!

While Christie is out of the office, please contact the Fallon NRCS office at 775-423-5124 ext. 3 if you need assistance.

Christie plans on returning to the office on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Have a safe and happy holiday season!*



## NV Dept of Ag/ NV Cooperative Extension

Pesticide Applicator  
Training & Continuing  
Education Workshop  
[Videoconference](#) -  
**February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Lovelock**

Limited Seating: Pre-  
registration deadline-January  
26; (775) 353-3715.  
To pre-register contact Jon  
Carpenter: 775-353-3715 or  
[jcarp@agri.nv.gov](mailto:jcarp@agri.nv.gov).

Continuing Education Units-  
CEU's: Certified applicators are  
eligible for CEU's. The course  
has been approved for six  
Nevada CEU's (2 hours laws and  
4 hours general). You must have  
a valid Nevada pesticide  
applicators certificate to get  
CEU's. Please bring your  
certification card.

Licensed Pest Control Operators:  
are **not eligible** for continuing  
education credit at the **Reno**  
workshop.

Exam & Study Material:  
Applicators taking the pesticide  
certification exam must study for  
the test. Study manuals are  
available from NV Coop.  
Extension (\$15.00) or on line:  
[www.nevadapesticideeducation.com](http://www.nevadapesticideeducation.com)

**Exam: Winnemucca  
February 7, 2012 9:00am**

NV Cooperative Extension  
1085 Fairgrounds Road  
Phone: 775-623-6304

**Exam Fee-\$25.00:**

Payable by cash or check on  
the day of the exam. Checks  
payable to: Nevada  
Department of Agriculture (no  
credit cards).

## NRCS News

### **Sign Up Announced for Energy Conservation, High Tunnels and Organic Practices**

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service is announcing three special initiatives for conservation funding. Bruce Petersen, Nevada state conservationist, announced that the Organic, On-Farm Energy and Seasonal High Tunnel Initiatives are being offered through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) of the 2008 Farm Bill. Interested producers must sign up by Feb. 3 to be considered in the first batching and ranking period.

#### **Organic Initiative:**

Certified organic producers and those producers who are considering a transition to organic production methods are encouraged to participate in the Organic Initiative. Participants are eligible for up to \$20,000 in annual payments not to exceed \$80,000 payment limit over a 6-year period. Certified organic producers must provide a copy of their Organic System Plan (OSP) and organic certification must be maintained for the life of the contract. Producers transitioning to organic production must self certify that they agree to develop and implement an OSP and provide contact information of the applicant's USDA accredited organic certifying agent before an EQIP contract can be approved. Organic producers selling less than \$5,000 per year in organic agricultural products are exempt from the organic certification but are still eligible for the EQIP Organic Initiative. Funding is also available for applicants to develop Conservation Activity Plans provided by a registered third party technical service provider.

#### **On-Farm Energy Initiative:**

The On-Farm Energy Initiative helps producers install energy conserving practices such as residue/tillage management, irrigation water management, pumping plants, windbreaks or shelterbelts, and farmstead energy improvements. Producers must provide proof of operational energy savings for conservation measures to be installed. Receipts, invoices or records of historical energy consumption will be used to determine the potential benefits of the new, proposed practices during the ranking process. For energy measures installed on headquarters and agricultural buildings, producers work with technical service providers to develop an Ag Energy Management Plan. Funding to implement the AgEMP is also available through this initiative.

#### **Seasonal High Tunnels:**

Under the Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative, participants may install high tunnels that total up to 2,178 square feet in size. Payments are based on the size of the high tunnel being planned and installed.

For these initiatives, if funds are still available after the first ranking period, subsequent ranking and batching deadlines will be March 30 and June 1, 2012. Producers must meet all USDA program eligibility criteria to participate.

#### **Funding Available for USDA Sage-Grouse Conservation Initiative:**

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service is offering financial incentives to farmers and ranchers willing to protect sage-grouse habitat. Bruce Petersen, Nevada State Conservationist, said applications must be submitted by Jan. 13 for the first ranking period.

"The Sage-Grouse Initiative helps ranchers and farmers be proactive in keeping the bird from being listed under the Endangered Species Act and reducing the potential for future regulations to protect the species," said Petersen.

The Sage grouse Initiative helps producers install conservation practices that enhance sage grouse habitat such as brush management, range seeding, water developments, prescribed grazing and fencing. Payments are based on 75 percent of the estimated cost of establishing the practices. Beginning, limited resource and socially disadvantaged producers may be eligible for up to 90 percent of the estimated costs. Funding is being offered through the 2008 Farm Bill's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP).

Private and public lands can be enrolled under EQIP, with a \$300,000 payment limit for the program through the period of the 2008 Farm Bill. WHIP allows for installation of practices on private and tribal lands and has a \$50,000 annual payment limit. Applicants must meet all USDA program eligibility criteria to participate in Farm Bill conservation programs.

Producers may apply at any time for SGI funding but applications must be received by Jan. 13 to be considered in the first ranking period for fiscal year 2012 funding. Depending on the availability of funds, additional applications will be ranked on March 30 and June 1.

For complete details and to apply for funding, contact your local NRCS office.

Pershing County FSA Office  
 110 American Blvd.  
 Lovelock, NV 89419



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Selected Interest Rates for December 2011	
90-Day Treasury Bill	0.125%
Farm Operating - Direct	0.150%
Farm Ownership - Direct	3.375%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	0.150%
Emergency	0.150%
Farm Storage Facility – 7 year	1.500%
Farm Storage Facility – 10 year	2.125%
Farm Storage Facility – 12 year	2.375%

Dates to Remember	
Dec 23-26	Office closed for Christmas Holiday
Ongoing	2010 SURE
Jan. 23	2012 DCP Enrollment begins
Jan. 30	Sign-up ends Jan. 30, 2012, for LFP, LIP, and ELAP.
Jan. 31	Deadline to apply for Unshorn Lamb Pelts Loan Deficiency Payment
Mar 15	NAP Signup Ends for Corn & Millet

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