

USDA - FARM SERVICE AGENCY – KLAMATH CO

Voice: 541.883-6924 Ext 2 FAX: 541.882-9044

2316 South Sixth Street Suite C Klamath Falls, OR 97603

COUNTY COMMITTEE

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Dawn Rose, PT X 102
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www.fsa.usda.gov/or

Chris Kirby, Farm Loan Officer x 104
Rowena Chase, PT X 109

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

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Livestock Forage Program Now Open

Producers in Klamath County are now eligible for compensation on pasture losses for 2010 because of drought conditions. In order to qualify you must have purchased insurance for your pasture for the 2010 year. If you do not have insurance you may still be eligible if you qualify for one of three waivers. 1) Beginning Farmer, 2) Limited Resource Producer, 3) Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher. Signup is ongoing between now and January 2011. Eligibility is limited to Non Irrigated pasture. For more information on what is needed for your application please call 541-883-6924X2.

Emergency Conservation Program for Livestock Water Hauling

Signup for the livestock water hauling program has been extended until July 30, 2010. This program provides cost share to offset costs associated with hauling water to livestock because the water source is not available due to drought. Cost share may only be earned as long as forage is available.

Drought Management Workshop July 28, 2 PM Cooperative Extension

A cooperative effort between OSU Cooperative Extension, Tulelake RCD, Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Farm Service Agency has led to the creation of a Drought Management Workshop. The purpose of the workshop is to provide additional resources and knowledge for managing your farm and ranch. This workshop may provide you with a different perspective on crop management, irrigation management and financial management.

The Workshop is scheduled for July 28th 2010 at 2-4 PM at the OSU Extension Service at 3328 Vandenberg Road. Chanda Engel, OSU Livestock Forage Specialist, will provide information on cropping, Teresa Wright, Tulelake RCD, will provide information on pump testing and irrigation system improvement projects, Evelyn Conrad, Klamath County Natural Resource Conservation Service will provide info on EWEP, Klamath County Farm Service Agency will discuss underutilized programs for Klamath County including Noninsured Assistance Program Insurance and Loan Deficiency Payments. Collectively our goal is to provide you with at least one piece of information that will help strengthen your farming operation. Each presentation is expected to last no more than 20 minutes with time available at the end for individual discussion.

New Loan Officer Chris Kirby

Klamath County FSA is pleased to welcome Chris Kirby as the new Farm Loan Officer. Chris is a graduate of Bonanza where he and his family raise cattle. After completion of high school and a four year stint in the U.S. Army, he graduated from Oregon State University in 2003. Chris started his FSA career in 2002 and has been Farm Loan Officer in the Roseburg and Burns offices, before returning to Klamath County in 2008. Chris rejoins FSA after being a commercial banker for Sterling Savings Bank for the past couple years. With his knowledge of commercial and FSA lending experience and familiarity with Klamath County agriculture you can be assured that your personal farm needs will be evaluated by an employee with the knowhow and experience to serve your needs.

Conservation Reserve Program Signup Anticipated

There is a high probability that there will be a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup period before the end of September 30, 2010. FSA encourages producers to pay attention to future news releases, newsletters and post card notices. CRP is a voluntary program under which producers enroll sensitive cropland into CRP. Cost share is provided to plant a conserving use crop which in turn protects the soil from erosion and damage and improves wildlife habitat. In exchange for not using the cropland for the term of the contract producers receive an annual rental payment. Rental payments are based upon the soil types and use a non irrigated rental rate for the calculation. Applications are ranked on a national level and based upon an Environmental Benefits Index. For more information and to be placed on a mailing list please contact our office.

Acreage Reporting Deadline

The acreage reporting deadline for Klamath County is August 15, 2009. Acreage reports must be filed in order to maintain eligibility for some programs such as the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP). No final DCP payments will be issued if acreage is not reported and a refund of advance payments would be required. If you miss the August 15 deadline you will still be eligible to file an acreage report, however a late filing fee will be charged and FSA will have to conduct an onsite visit to each farm to verify crops. The farm visit fee is a minimum of \$46 per farm.

2010 Feds, Farmers, and Friends Feed Families Food Drive

The Klamath County Service Center is participating in the 2010 Feds, Farmers, and Friends feed families food drive. We will accept food and cash donations for the Klamath Lake County Food Bank at the service center through August 31. Just one dollar will distribute 15 pounds of food.

County Committee Elections

The Farm Service Agency Office receives oversight from a group of elected producers collectively known as the County Committee. The Committee is responsible for developing guidelines and making determinations on eligibility and handling appeals. Each year elections take place for an area within the county with the elected committee person beginning a three year appointment January 1. This year's election is for LAA 2 which encompasses the Midland, Henley Klamath area. In order to serve you must participate in FSA programs and live in the LAA area that you serve. For an nomination form please contact the FSA office.

Crop Insurance Available Through Farm Service Agency

Crop insurance is available for a variety of crops such as grain and hay crops and pasture. In some cases insurance is available through private insurance companies and in some cases you must purchase coverage from the Farm Service Agency. For instance Barley crops with an intended use of grain will have insurance available from your local insurance agent with a deadline to purchase the insurance next spring, however if you intend to raise Barley for hay then you need to purchase insurance from the Farm Service Agency. That deadline is November 30. Insurance is available from FSA for losses to pasture due to drought. Insurance for your pasture must be purchased prior to November 30, 2010 for the 2011 year. For Alfalfa Crops you will purchase insurance from your insurance agent for stands of alfalfa that are 2 to 7 years of age, however insurance for older stands of alfalfa or alfalfa-grass and grass hays will be purchased from FSA. The deadline for alfalfa insurance from your agent is September 30. The deadline for Modoc and Siskiyou County may be earlier.

Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) Available?

What are LDP's? Loan Deficiency Payments, commonly known as LDPs, are payments that become available to producers because of low market prices for a particular crop. What triggers an LDP? LDP's are triggered when the actual market price falls below an established loan rate for the crop. For example in Klamath County for 2010, Barley has an established loan rate of \$2.21 per bushel. That amounts to \$92.08 per ton. If at any time between now and the final availability date of March 31, 2011, the Klamath County Price for barley falls below the \$92.08 per ton threshold a deficiency occurs. Because of the "market deficiency" producers are eligible to apply for a payment on each bushel of harvested crop that they have control and possession of. **This payment is not a loan.** Even though the name of the program is called the Loan Deficiency Payment, it is not a loan, it is a payment designed to provide market stability. Last year on September 1, the LDP payment for barley was \$4.58 per ton which provided a tremendous opportunity for Klamath County producers to earn "free" money. In order to be eligible you must report your acreage for crops by the deadline of August 15. You must also have a CCC-633EZ Page 1 on file prior to selling or feeding the crop. Once an LDP payment becomes available you provide the application to your local Farm service Agency Office and it is processed on the date in effect that you applied. You are then free to market your crop later. If you sell your crop for a price higher than the price that was in effect on the date you received payment, you keep the LDP payment and also receive the benefit of marketing your crop at a higher rate. It's a win-win program that provides extra income during difficult market times. Because the payment is dependent upon actual market conditions there is no way to know if any LDP payments will become available this year, however as harvest nears you will want to consider the option. There are LDP's available for Wheat, Oats, Barley, wool and mohair and rates vary from county to county. You can track the daily rates at www.fsa.usda.gov . Click on the View Daily LDP and PCP rates on the right and then select the State and County. You may also call the FSA office.

Foreign Landowner Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government offices, real estate agents, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

Bank Account Changes

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA county office staff if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

**USDA – FARM SERVICE AGENCY
 KLAMATH COUNTY OFFICE
 2316 SOUTH SIXTH STREET SUITE C
 KLAMATH FALLS OR 97603**

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Important Dates	
Ongoing	CREP Applications, Farm Storage Facility Loans
August 15, 2010	Acreage Reporting Deadline
August 31, 2010	NAP Insurance Deadline – Carrots, cabbage, Christmas Trees, Flowers, greens, herbs
September 6, 2010	Labor Day, Office Closed
September 30, 2010	Alfalfa Hay – Private Insurance
November 30, 2010	NAP Insurance Deadline – Forage Crops and Grazing Crops from FSA
Lending Rates for Loans	
Operation Loans 2.5% - August	Commodity Loans 1.5 %- July Rate
Farm Ownership Loans 4.625% - August	Farm Storage Facility Loans 7 Year 2.750% , 10 Year 3.250%-July Rate
	Farm Storage Facility Loans 12 Year 3.50%- July Rate

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