



April 2007

Humboldt/Lander County News

Humboldt/Lander County

USDA Service Center Humboldt/Lander County FSA

1200 E Winn. Blvd
Winnemucca, NV 89445

www.fsa.usda.gov/nv

Hours

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

County Committee

Darrell Taylor, Chair
Dick Williams, Vice Chair
Bob Buckingham, Member
Dennis Cawrse, Member
Rob Wohle, Member
Arlo Crutcher, Advisor

County Committee meets
On second Tuesday of
each month at 10:00 a.m.
in the conference room at
the Winnemucca FSA Of-
fice.

Staff

MaryAnn McDermett, CED
Donna Harrer, PT

Acreage Reporting

Acreage reporting time will soon be here. Please remember that filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) crops, acreage reports are to be certified by the June 15 deadline on small grains and a July 15 deadline on all other crops.

Acreage reports on crops for which NAP assistance may be paid are due in the county of office by the earlier of June 30 for small grains and July 15 for all other crops, or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acreage being reported.

The EZ Makes It Easy

The Farm Service Agency now employs the CCC-633 EZ in place of the old CCC-709 and CCC-633-LDP. The EZ form has been created to make the application process more user-friendly.

The CCC-633 EZ is a two-part loan deficiency payment request that allows producers to (1) indicate their intentions to receive LDP benefits *before* losing beneficial interest in the eligible commodity, and (2) submit a request for an LDP at any time during the loan/LDP availabil-

ity period before or after losing beneficial interest.

The EZ form was developed to cover field direct LDPs, basic LDPs and CCC-cotton AA, and revised to cover basic and field direct LDPs for wool, mohair and unshorn pelts.

By signing the first page of the EZ form, the producer indicates his or her intentions to receive LDP benefits. This one page covers all counties and all eligible harvested commodities for the entire crop year for the individual, joint operation or entity identified on the form.

Once the first page of the form has been signed and submitted, the producer can submit an LDP request by completing page 2 for all harvested commodities, except cotton; page 3 for cotton; or page 4 for wool, mohair and unshorn pelts. The LDP request can be submitted at any time during the loan availability period, before or after losing beneficial interest.

A key point to remember is that page 1 of the EZ form must be signed by the producer before beneficial interest in the commodity is lost. Once beneficial interest is lost the commodity is ineligible for an LDP even if beneficial interest is regained.

All producers are encouraged to submit page 1 of the EZ for each crop year whether or not they plan to subsequently request a loan or LDP.

Beginning, Small and Limited Resource Farmers & Ranchers:

Do You Require Financial Assistance to Fund Conservation Program Initiatives?



Banking Changes?

If you have changed banks and not notified FSA, your payment could be delayed. Payments are electronically transferred into your bank account, if we are not aware of changes to your account and routing numbers, there could be problems. In order 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 account, bank mergers, routing number or account numbers, be provided to the county office promptly to avoid possible payment delay.



USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Farm Service Agency (FSA) have worked together to make conservation programs more available to beginning, small, and limited resource farmers. As producers move from initial contract development into the implementation stage under NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program, many face the inability to acquire the initial capital investment of their cost-share portion needed for contract implementation.

To help producers implement conservation measures, FSA has several loan programs available to assist with up-front costs. FSA makes direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans to family-size farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit otherwise. A primary objective of FSA's farm loan programs is to assist small, beginning, and socially disadvantaged (minority and female) producers. In fact, a portion of FSA's loan funds are reserved for beginning and socially disadvantaged producers. These loan programs are not new and have been used successfully in conjunction with conservation programs throughout the United States.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov and www.nrcs.usda.gov.

Toll-Free Number for Borrowers

Direct loan borrowers with USDA's Farm Service Agency can now check the status of their accounts around the clock using a new toll-free telephone number.

The toll-free number, 1-888-518-4983, is available in both English and Spanish. The system delivers information on active FSA loans 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

During the first call to the new system, borrowers will enter their tax identification number or the Social Security Number associated with the loan. They also will need to enter their ZIP code. Borrowers will create a personal identification number for security. Customers must enter their PIN every time they use the system and may change their PIN. The system menu helps users access helpful information. The sys-

tem may also direct borrowers to contact their local FSA servicing office if action is necessary on their accounts.

DCP Deadline Changes

FSA has changed the deadline for the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) until Aug. 3, 2007.

This extension is a result of earlier problems with the Farm Service Agency's computer network. A late-file fee of \$100 will only be assessed for farms that are enrolled after Aug. 3, 2007, and before Sept. 30, 2007. Enrollment in DCP for the 2007 contract period began on October 1, 2006, and was scheduled to end on June 1, 2007. This extension applies **only** to the enrollment time frame, and does not extend the annual DCP contract period of Sept. 30, 2007. Applications signed after September 30, 2007 cannot be approved.

CoCoRaHS Welcomes the Silver State

Submitted by Laura Edwards, Nevada Co-CoRaHS State Co-Coordinator

Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network is proud to announce Nevada as one of its newest members. This volunteer, non-profit, precipitation measuring network kicked off on March 1 in our great state. Any and all who are interested in watching and reporting the rain, hail and snow in their backyard, farm or ranch, are encouraged to register. Any age citizen can participate, and with any level of commitment, from one season to a lifetime. The burgeoning network started small after a deadly 1997 flood in Fort Collins, CO, that resulted after heavy rain went unreported by storm spotters. CoCoRaHS has now grown to 17 states nationwide, with nearly 3,000 volunteers. The National Weather Service, emergency managers, hydrologists, researchers and many others are using CoCoRaHS for many purposes, plus it's just fun to see your data on the Web! All you need to participate are: an interest and willingness to watch your weather each day, have internet access to report your observations online, participate in a live or online training session, and own or acquire a 4" rain gauge. The first live

Farm Storage Facility Loans

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including wheat, rice, soybeans and corn.

The seven-year Farm Storage Facility Loans are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment, or remodeling existing facilities. Eligible facilities include new conventional-type cribs or bins and new and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures.

All Farm Storage Facility Loans are secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85 percent of the net cost of the storage or handling equipment, up to \$100,000 for each borrower. A minimum down payment is also required. For details, contact the county office staff.

northern Nevada training session will be on April 7 at Spanish Springs Library in Sparks, 10:30-12:30. For more information, visit the CoCoRaHS website at www.cocorahs.org, or contact Laura, Jim or Michelle, the Nevada State Coordinators, at 775-674-7010 or cocorahs@dri.edu.

Rural Youth Loans

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes operating loans to individual rural youths age 10 through 20 to establish and operate income producing projects. These projects must be of modest size and be initiated, developed, carried out by rural youths participating in 4-H Clubs, FFA, or a similar organization or with a vocational teacher or county extension agent. The project must be an organized and supervised program of work. It must be planned and operated with the assistance of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. Contact your local FSA office for more details.

Payment Limits

USDA payments and benefits are subject to producer eligibility and limitation provisions as defined by law. It is the producer's responsibility to report changes in the farming operation which may affect payment eligibility and payment limitation. Failure to do so can result ineligibility for payments for all years affected.

The following payments apply to DCP for each contract year through both direct and counter-cyclical payments. For all covered commodities, except peanuts: \$40,000 for direct payments and \$65,000 for counter-cyclical payments. The Environmental Quality Incentive Program has a \$450,000 payment limitation total for fiscal years 2002 – 2007. The Conservation Reserve Programs annual limit is \$50,000 per person. Marketing loan gains payment limit of \$75,000 per person.

Entities such as corporations, limited partnerships, trusts and estates are required to provide

names, addresses, and ID numbers of their members.

Removing CCC Loan Collateral

Producers are reminded, if you have grain under Commodity Credit Corporation loan it cannot be removed or disposed of without prior county office staff authorization or repayment. The county office staff may issue release authorizations based on a telephone or in person request when you are ready to move the grain. A loan violation is subject to monetary and administrative penalties, such as repaying the loan at principal plus interest, liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans and loan deficiency payments.

All commodity loans are subject to spot check. Locking in a market loan repayment rate is not a marketing authorization. If you are planning to move CCC loan grain, contact the county office staff for additional information.

March 2007	
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	5.125%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.375%
Limited Resource Loans	5.000%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	4.000%
Emergency Loans	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loans	4.750%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	6.125%



County Committee Meetings

The Five-member Humboldt/Lander County Farm Service Agency committee meets once a month. The committee has established 10:00 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month as its regular meeting time and the Winnemucca FSA office as its meeting place.

We will post a notice on the county office bulletin board if the committee must reschedule the time or place of its next meeting.

County committee members are:

- Chairman Darrell Taylor representing LAA 1
- Dick Williams representing LAA 2
- Bob Buckingham representing LAA 3
- Dennis Cawrse representing LAA 4
- Rob Wohle representing LAA 5
- Arlo Crutcher Minority Advisor

Dates to Remember	
May 28	Office closed for Memorial Day
August 3	Deadline to sign up for 2007 DCP (without penalty)
June 15	Last day to complete 2007 Acreage Reports for grain crops
July 15	Last day to complete 2007 Acreage Reports for all other crops
July 15	Last day to turn in 2006 Production information for NAP
Visit our Web site http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nv	

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