



YOLO COUNTY FSA NEWS



Volume 1

February 2007

Yolo County FSA

221 W. Court, Suite 3B
Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 662-3986 x 2
(530) 662-4876 FAX

Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee:

Bob Paschoal, Chair
Tom Slater, Vice Chair
Randy Timothy, Member
Rudy Lucero, Jr., Advisor
Marlene Schuler, Advisor

County Executive

Director:

Marianne A. Morton

County Office Staff:

Kate Abele
Janet Aguilar
Nathan Bohl
Dee DeLuca
Caroline Walgenbach



This office will be closed
February 19th in
observance of George
Washington's Birthday



TIMOTHY REMAINS ON COUNTY COMMITTEE

Congratulations to Randy Timothy! Randy was re-elected to represent farmers from Dunnigan, Zamora, Knights Landing, Yolo, Woodland and Davis on the Yolo County FSA Committee. Randy was elected to his third term. Marlene Schuler and Rich Yeung will serve as First and Second Alternates, respectively.

FSA appreciates all of the voters who took the time to complete the election ballot. The County Committee system works only because of your participation.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Dee DeLuca transferred to Yolo from the Solano/Napa FSA Office. Dee is in charge of DCP, Farm Records, LDP's and MILCX.

Kate Abele, a lifelong Woodland resident, is reviewing all eligibility documents to ensure payment accuracy.

IMPORTANT PAYMENT LIMITATION REMINDERS

A limitation is the total annual payments that a "person" may receive from various federal agricultural programs.

The following changes may affect payment limitation determinations:

- Member number
- Member shares
- Entity type
- Marriages, deaths or divorce
- Establishment of a trust

NOTE: Estate planning decisions may result in a decrease in the number of "persons."

Producers must have and maintain separate bank accounts for their farming operations. FSA may review bank accounts, accounting ledgers and tax records to ensure all requirements have been met and producers have followed their Farm Operating Plan (CCC-502) as certified.



**PREVENTED PLANTING
ACREAGE CLAIMS**

When a producer is unable to plant an intended crop during the established planting period due to a natural disaster, a CCC-576 must be filed *within 15 calendar days after the final planting date* to permit the County Committee the opportunity to make a farm visit to inspect the specific acreage and verify the eligible disaster condition.

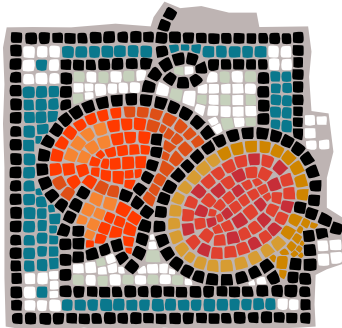
Producers must establish to the satisfaction of the COC that: all cropland feasible to plant but prevented from being planted was affected by a natural disaster rather than a management decision; and preliminary efforts made by the producer to plant the crop are evident.

**NONINSURED CROP
DISASTER ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM**

NAP was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when a natural disaster causes a catastrophic production loss or prevented planting of commercial crops produced for food or fiber for which the CAT level of crop insurance is not available.

To apply for coverage, producers must pay the non-refundable applicable service fees equal to \$100 per crop per county, not to exceed \$300 per producer per county and \$900 per

producer for all counties at the local FSA office by the application closing date.



Producers must notify their local FSA office within 15 days of the: 1) occurrence of any natural disaster condition; 2) final planting date if crops are prevented from planting because of a natural disaster; or 3) the date of damage to the crop or loss of production becomes apparent. Producers must file a CCC-576 (Notice of Loss and Application for Payment) even if they intend to harvest the affected crop.

**MAINTENANCE
DEFAULTS ON DCP/CRP
ACREAGE**

All producers sharing in DCP and/or CRP payments are required to control weeds and to prevent wind and water erosion on acreage enrolled in those programs. Additional CRP maintenance defaults are unauthorized haying or grazing and failure to maintain eligible cover. CRP cover cannot be disturbed during the primary nesting and brood-rearing season (April 1 –

July 15). Failure to comply with DCP and/or CRP maintenance requirements can result in payment reductions and/or contract termination.

**DCP SUCCESSION-
IN-INTEREST**

The transfer or change in the interest of producers on a farm in base acres for which direct or counter-cyclical payments are made will result in the termination of the payments with respect to the base acres unless the transferee or owner of the acreage agrees to assume all obligations under the contract (succession-in-interest). Producers who received payments on a farm and subsequently fail to meet the definition of a producer on the farm will be required to refund the payments. A refund is required, including cases where the predecessor was considered to be a producer at the time payments were issued. Debt collection activities will be initiated immediately upon loss of interest by the predecessor.

Grant deeds must be submitted to change ownership. Requests not completed by **September 30, 2007** will require the cancellation of the CCC-509 and refund of 2007 advance direct payments.



**DCP SIGN-UP
UNDERWAY**

Farm producers must apply for the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) on an annual basis. All owners and operators who will share in the DCP payments on the farm must sign the DCP Contract (CCC-509). Signatures that are obtained **after June 1, 2007 but before September 30, 2007** will be accepted, but the farm will be assessed a \$100 late-file fee.

IMPORTANT!

County Offices have been instructed to review eligibility documents for every producer before disbursing applicable payments, which has significantly affected turnaround on all payments. Please do not delay signing your farm(s) up – the eligibility review is the first step in that process.

**REQUIRED ACREAGE
REPORTS (FSA-578)**

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 requires that acreage reports for all cropland be filed by producers who participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program; request a loan deficiency payment or a commodity loan; parti-

cipate in the Conservation Reserve Program; grow an uninsurable crop that may need disaster protection; or participate in the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program. The 2006 fall-planted acreage reporting deadline is **April 30, 2007**.



**DISASTER
DESIGNATIONS**

To qualify for a Secretarial disaster declaration, damages and losses prompting disaster designations must be due to a natural disaster and at least one crop in the county must have suffered a minimum 30 per cent production loss.

When a county is designated as a primary disaster area, eligible producers in that county and contiguous counties can apply for low-interest FSA emergency loans, provided other eligibility requirements are met.

Eligible producers may borrow up to 100 per cent of actual production or physical losses, not to exceed a total amount of \$500,000. Emergency loans are further limited to a maximum, cumulative principal of \$500,000 at any time.

Applicants must:

- meet all standard loan eligibility requirements;
- meet the agency definition of an established farmer;
- be citizens or permanent residents of the United States;
- have suffered at least a 30 per cent loss in crop production and/or sustained a physical loss to livestock, livestock products, real estate or chattel property;
- have multi-peril crop insurance, if available;
- have an acceptable credit history, yet be unable to receive credit from commercial sources; and
- have collateral to secure the loan and ability to repay the loan.

On June 15, 2006, the Secretary designated Yolo County (S2315) due to damages caused by unprecedented rainfall and severe weather conditions. The authorization for FSA to accept emergency loan applications under this declaration ends **February 15, 2007**.

On December 14, 2006, the Secretary designated Yolo County due to damages caused by wildfire (S2474) on September 22, 2006. The authorization for FSA to accept emergency loan applications under this declaration ends **August 14, 2007**.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Yolo County Farm Service Agency
221 West Court Street, 3B
Woodland, CA 95695

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IMPORTANT DATES

***IT IS THE PRODUCER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THE
COUNTY OFFICE TO MEET DEADLINES***

February 2007	2005 final rice CC rate announced 2006 second advance CC rates announced
2/15/2007	Final date to request an emergency loan under S2315
2/19/2007	George Washington's Birthday – office closed
3/31/2007	Final availability date for 2006 wheat, barley, oats and canola marketing assistance loans and LDP's End date for authorized grazing of CRP acres (120-day) End date for authorized grazing of CRP acres (2 nd 60-day)
4/30/2007	Fall-seeded acreage reporting deadline
5/28/2007	Memorial Day – office closed
5/31/2007	Final availability date for 2006 corn, rice, grain sorghum, safflower, sunflower, soybean, cotton and mustard seed marketing assistance loans and LDP's
6/01/2007	2007 DCP sign-up deadline (without \$100 per farm late-file fee) – <i>ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE RETURNED BY THIS DATE OR LATE-FILE FEE WILL BE ASSESSED!</i>
July 2007	2006 final wheat, barley and oats CC rates announced
7/04/2007	Independence Day – office closed
7/15/2007	Spring-seeded acreage reporting deadline
8/01/2007	Final date to request a 2007 farm reconstitution NAP ACD – 2008 fall-planted seed and multi-planting crops
8/14/2007	Final date to request an emergency loan under S2474
9/01/2007	NAP ACD – 2008 forage and fall-planted garbanzo beans
9/03/2007	Labor Day – office closed
9/30/2007	2007 DCP sign-up deadline (with \$100 per farm late-file fee) 2002 Farm Bill expires
10/08/2007	Columbus Day – office closed
11/11/2007	Veterans Day – office closed
11/22/2007	Thanksgiving Day – office closed
12/25/2007	Christmas Day – office closed

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