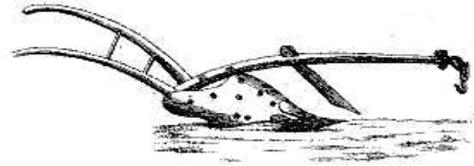




THE

FSA PLOWSHARE *



News for People Interested in
Agriculture
Serving
Jackson & Josephine Counties

Fall 2010

Inside this issue:

- Committee Election
- Farm Loans
- NAP Crop Assistance
- Livestock Forage Disaster
- AFIDA

USDA Service Center
573 Parsons Dr. Suite 101
Medford, OR 97501-3795

Phone: 541-776-4270 ext. 2
Fax: 541-776-4295

Hours: Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

County Committee:

LAA-1 Suzanne Ginet, Chair
LAA-2 Charlie Boyer, Member
LAA-3 Lori Mefford, Vice-Chair

County Office Staff:

Joe Hess, CED
Diane Rabbe, PT
Donna Finch, PT
Chris Kirby, Farm Loan Officer
(Klamath Co. FSA Office,
541-883-6924 ext. 104)

www.fsa.usda.gov/or/jackson.html
www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the FSA County Office staff, and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are necessary.

*A plowshare is the leading or cutting edge of a plow which cuts the soil and turns it over.

LAA-3 County Committee Election

The 2010 County Committee election for Local Administrative Area #3, Southern Jackson County, including the communities of Central Point, Medford, Phoenix, Talent, Ashland, Jacksonville areas has two nominees.

Andy Coats currently operates and manages about 250 acres of farmland at the May Ranch in Central Point. Being raised on a pear farm and hay ranch, the majority of Andy's life has been revolved around the outdoors and working the family business. Andy graduated from Crater High School in 1997 and was involved in 4-H during that time. He achieved his associate's degree in Arts from Linn-Benton C.C. in 2002. Prior to managing the May Ranch, Andy worked as a land surveyor. Andy is currently married and lives with his wife and kids in Medford. In his free time he enjoys playing basketball, hunting, fishing, camping, and other outdoor activities.

Lori Mefford resides at 5526 Rogue Valley Hwy, Central Point. She helps run the family farm (Seven Oaks Farm) which includes raising a variety of row crops, alfalfa, onions, and a cow/calf operation. She belongs to the Oregon Cattlemen's Assoc., Onion Producers Assoc., and is a member of the Direct Marketing Assoc. She is presently serving as Vice-Chairperson of the Jackson/Josephine County Committee.

If you reside within the boundaries of LAA-3, you should receive a ballot in the mail beginning Nov. 5th. Complete and return the ballot postmarked by Dec. 6th.

*** IMPORTANT ***

Be sure to sign the return label correctly. Look at the address label. If it is addressed to a business name, the person with signature authority for that business should sign stating what capacity i.e., "WTC Farms, by Wiley T Coyote, Manager"; or "Smith Family Trust by Joe Smith, Trustee".

LOANS FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or to improve farms or ranches. While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged Applicants, those traditionally underserved by USDA. A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

NAP is available for all crops not covered under Federal Crop Insurance. NAP provides catastrophic level of coverage (50% yield / 55% price) to crops damaged by the eligible weather events that occur before or during harvest. Fees are \$250/crop, maximum of \$750/county, and a maximum of \$1875/multi county producers. NAP coverage may be required in order to meet the eligibility requirements for the 2008 Farm Bill. Contact Diane with your questions.

- **October 1, 2010** – Asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadowfoam, sugarbeet, triticale grain
- **November 20, 2010** – Apples, apricots, blueberries, caneberries, chestnuts, cherries, cranberries, grapes, hazelnuts, strawberries, nectarines, peaches, pears, prunes, walnuts, & honey
- **November 30, 2010** - All forage and grazing crops except oat forage. All grasses & legumes for seed.
- **March 15, 2011**- All spring planted crops not mentioned above, beans, broccoli, Camelina, cantaloupe, cauliflower, corn, cucumber, lentils, mustard, oats, peas, potatoes, pumpkins, safflower, sunflower, squash, tomato, watermelon and oat forage
- **May 15, 2011** - Buckwheat

Other Important dates also apply:

- **January 2** – Deadline to report number of bee colonies for producers of honey
- **June 30** – Acreage Reporting Deadline for all crops for the current crop year
- **June 30** – Production Reporting Deadline for all crops for the previous crop year

Notice of Loss – Reported within 15 days of the date the loss became apparent (Form CCC-576)

2010 Livestock Forage Disaster Assistance Program (LFP) Jackson Co. Qualifies

On May 9, 2010 Jackson County became eligible for assistance under the 2010 Livestock Forage Disaster Assistance Program (LFP). Jackson County qualified for this program based on the fact that it was listed on the U.S. Drought Monitor at level D2—Drought-Severe beginning on March 15, 2010 and continuing through May 9, 2010. LFP compensates livestock producers for grazing losses resulting from drought or wildfire on federally managed land. Currently, eligible producers are limited to grazers of non-irrigated improved pastures.

In order to apply for program benefits, you will need to provide the following information to the county office:

- Livestock numbers on March 15, 2010. Eligible livestock include: adult beef and dairy cattle, adult buffalo and beefalo, heifers and steers over 500 pounds, horses, goats and sheep.
- Copies of BLM and USFS grazing permits.
- Copies of bills from BLM and USFS showing paid for AUM's in 2010.
- Copies of pasture leases for the 2010 grazing season.

Multi-county producers will need to contact the county office in order to determine where to file an application for benefits. The general rule is that the operation will file in the county where the livestock were located at the time of the disaster designation. The deadline to file an application for this program is January 30, 2011.

The Risk Management Purchase Requirement applies to LFP. That is, eligible producers must have purchased grazing insurance through a crop insurance agent or have purchased NAP coverage through this office for 2010. Socially disadvantaged producers, limited resource producers, and beginning farmers or ranchers may have the Risk Management Purchase Requirements waived. Please contact the office for more details.

September – October – November Observances

September 15 – October 15 is Hispanic Heritage Month

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month/ National Breast Cancer Awareness Month/ National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

November is National American Indian Heritage Month

Foreign Investors Must Report United States Agricultural Land Holdings

"Any foreign person who acquires or transfers any interest, other than a security interest, in agricultural land in the United States is required by law to report the transaction no later than 90 days after the date of the transaction".

Foreign investors must file Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) reports with the Farm Service Agency County Office that maintains reports for the county where the land is located.

"Failure to file a report, filing a late report or filing an inaccurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land".

For AFIDA purposes, agricultural land is defined as any land used for farming, ranching or timber production, if the tracts total 10 acres or more. Disclosure reports are also required when there are changes in land use. For example, reports are required when land uses changes from nonagricultural to agricultural or from agricultural to nonagricultural. Get an FSA-153 from the local office or on line at www.fsa.usda.gov .

BANK ACCOUNT CHANGES!!

If you have changed your bank or bank account number please contact the FSA office and let us know!! Final payment for the Direct & Counter-Cyclical Payment program will be completed the first of October as well as CRP & CREP payments. Our records must be up to date to be able to pay you timely.

SURE

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that incurred in the crop years 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, producers are required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, for crops for which insurance is not available, producers must participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. However, crop insurance or NAP coverage is not required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage. Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirements. Producers must have a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Sec. of Agriculture. Must have suffered at least a 10% production loss on a crop of economic significance. Individual producers, in a non disaster county, may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50% of the normal production for the farm.

REVOCABLE TRUSTS

Revocable trusts may use the Social Security number (SS#) during the lifetime of the grantor and while the grantor is serving as the trustee of the trust. However, on appointment of a third party as trustee or successor trustee the trust will be required to apply for and use a new Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). The TIN maybe requested online from the IRS at www.IRS.gov .

USDA-FARM SERVICE AGENCY
Jackson/Josephine County
573 Parsons Dr., Suite 101
Medford, OR 97501-3769

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
TUALATIN OR
PERMIT NO. 71

Return Service Requested

Dates to Remember

September 6 – Labor Day – Office Closed

September 30 – Crop Ins. - Wheat (all policies); dry peas, Barley (winter & spring)

September 30 – SURE - 2008 crop year disaster application closing date

October – Final DCP payments will be made and CRP annual rental payments

**October 1 – NAP application closing date – Asparagus, garlic, mint, hops, meadow
foam, sugarbeet, triticale grain**

October 11 - Columbus Day – Office Closed

November 11 – Veterans Day – Office Closed

**November 20 – NAP & Crop Ins. application closing date - Apples, apricots,
blueberries, caneberries, chestnuts, cherries, cranberries, grapes, hazelnuts, strawberries,
nectarines, peaches, pears, prunes, walnuts, & honey**

November 25 – Thanksgiving Holiday – Office Closed

**November 30 – NAP application closing date - All forage and grazing crops except
oat forage. All grasses & legumes for seed.**

A list of crop insurance agents is available on the RMA Web site:

<http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/>

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)-720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer