



# YOLO COUNTY FSA NEWS



Volume 1

January 2010

### 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  
Marlene Schuler  
Tom Slater  
Rudy Lucero Jr.

Committee schedules and organizational structure TBD Jan. 19 @ 1:00 PM

### County Executive

#### Director:

Marianne A. Morton

### County Office Staff:

Nathan Bohl  
Beth Collier  
Dee DeLuca  
Caroline Walgenbach



Closed January 18th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

### 2008 SURE SIGNUP BEGINS

Signup for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) for producers who suffered 2008 crop production or quality losses began January 4, 2010.

Unlike previous disaster programs, SURE takes into consideration crop losses on and revenue from all crops grown by a producer nationwide. It provides assistance in an amount equal to 60% of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible, producers must have:

- met the risk management purchase requirement (RMPR) by either obtaining crop insur-

ance or NAP coverage for all economically significant crops;

#### **PLUS**

- had a farming interest physically located in or contiguous to a county with a 2008 Secretarial disaster designation

#### **AND**

- suffered at least a 10% production loss on at least one crop of economic significance;

#### **OR**

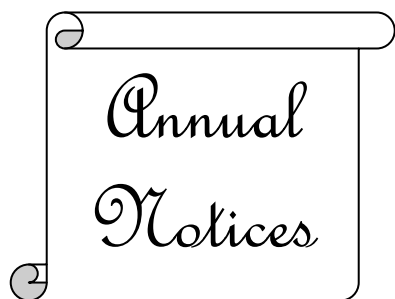
- individually suffered at least a 50% loss of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster.

Producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the 2008 RMPR through a buy-in provision. The RMPR may be waived for producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher or a limited resource farmer.

### COC ELECTION RESULTS

Marlene Schuler 171 votes  
Regular Member  
Bob Dettling 1 vote  
1<sup>st</sup> Alternate





### *HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLAND COMPLIANCE*

Operators are reminded that in order to receive payments, compliance with Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions are required. Farmers with HEL soils need to be aware of tillage, crop residue and rotation requirements as specified in their conservation plans. It is very important that you contact our office before modifying (e.g., tiling, draining, dredging, filling or leveling) any wetland or drainage ditch. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these situations can result in loss of all Federal payments and eligibility.

### *CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE*

Any person convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant (e.g., marijuana, opium poppies and other drug producing plants).

### *DESIGNATION BY LANDOWNER*

When land with contract acres is sold, those contract acres normally transfer with the land to the new owner

based on a cropland ratio. However, the landowner and purchaser can agree to divide the contract acres in any manner that is mutually agreeable. To use this designation by landowner method, the land sold must have been owned for at least three years and the owner and purchaser must sign a memorandum of understanding designating contract acres before completing the sale. If you have questions, please contact our office for details before selling your land.

### *RECORD CHANGES*

Participation in FSA farm programs requires all records to be accurate and up to date. It is the producer's responsibility to inform FSA of changes to his/her farming operation including, but not limited to: land ownership changes, adding or dropping a tract of land (leases), entity type or ID number changes, marriage, divorce, deaths or changes in your financial institution for direct deposit. A copy of the deed must be submitted for ownership changes; copies of written lease agreements must be submitted for all cash leases.

### *1996 DEBT COLLECTION IMPROVEMENT ACT*

The DCIA provides, among other things, that a person owing a delinquent nontax debt to the Federal Government is ineligible for Federal financial assistance, including direct loans (other than disaster loans) or loan insurance or guarantee. The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 amended DCIA to

exclude marketing assistance loans or loan LDP's from the restrictions on barring delinquent Federal debtors from obtaining Federal loans or loan guarantees. Proceeds received from MAL's and LDP's will be offset against any delinquent debt owed by the producer to FSA. Proceeds from MAL's and LDP's to producers who are members of corporations, partnerships or other entities will be offset against the producer's pro rata share of entity payments after notification of the intent to offset has been provided to the nonborrower entities.

### *APPEAL PROCESS*

After an FSA official makes a decision on your request for USDA services or application, you will be sent a letter informing you of the decision and options you can pursue if you disagree. Generally, program participants have three choices — an informal review with the original agency decision-maker, an opportunity for mediation or an appeal to the next level of authority within the agency.

### *CIVIL RIGHTS/ DISCRIMINATION PROCESS*

As a participant in or applicant for programs or activities operated or sponsored by USDA, you have the right to be treated fairly. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of your race, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability or marital or familial status, you may file a discrimination complaint. The complaint should be filed with the USDA Office of Civil Rights within 180 days of the

date you became aware of the alleged discrimination. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 326-S.W., Whitten Building, Stop 9410 Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

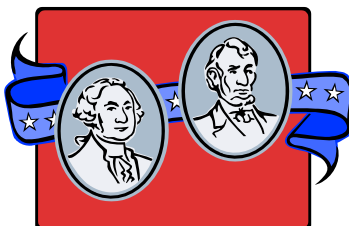
**FOREIGN LANDOWNER NOTIFICATION**

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 through FSA. Failure to submit the AFIDA form within 90 days of closing could result in civil penalties of up to 25% of the fair market value of the property. It is the foreign person's

responsibility to report the land transactions.

**FRAUD MAY LEAD TO DISQUALIFICATION**

Producers found to have committed crop insurance fraud are ineligible for a number of programs administered by FSA and CCC. Any person found to have committed fraud will receive a notice and will have an opportunity for a hearing on the record. The person may be disqualified from receiving any benefits under a number of programs for a period of up to 5 years. Other sanctions may also apply.



**SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS**

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office or any Farm Service Agency office near you for more information.

<b>2009 – 2012 PERSON OR LEGAL ENTITY PAYMENT LIMITATIONS</b>	<b>LIMITATION</b>
<b>Commodity Programs</b>	
DCP Counter-Cyclical and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE), except peanuts	65,000
DCP Counter-Cyclical and ACRE – peanuts	65,000
DCP Direct payments on covered commodities, except peanuts	40,000
DCP Direct payments on peanuts	40,000
Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) and Market Loan Gain (MLG)	No limit
<b>Conservation Programs</b>	
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)	50,000
Cost Conservation Stewardship Program (CSTP)	200,000
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	300,000
Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)	50,000
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)	50,000
Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)	50,000
<b>Disaster Assistance Programs</b>	
Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP); Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP); Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)	100,000
Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)	100,000
Tree Assistance Program (TAP)	100,000

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

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### **IMPORTANT DATES**

01/18/2010	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – office closed
01/30/2010	Deadline – 2009 LFP/ELAP
01/31/2010	NAP ACD* – 2010 apples Final loan/LDP availability date for 2009 mohair, unshorn pelts and wool Beginning date for grazing of CRP acres (2nd 60-day)
3/01/2010	NAP ACD – 2010 annuals
3/30/2010	End date for authorized grazing of CRP acres (120-day)
3/31/2010	Final availability date for 2009 wheat, barley, oats and canola marketing assistance loans and LDP's End date for authorized grazing of CRP acres (2 <sup>nd</sup> 60-day)
4/30/2010	2010 fall-seeded acreage reporting deadline
5/31/2010	Memorial Day – office closed Final availability date for 2009 corn, rice, grain sorghum, safflower, sunflower, soybean, cotton and mustard seed marketing assistance loans and LDP's
6/01/2010	Deadline to submit signatures and revise shares for 2010 DCP/ACRE contracts Deadline to request a farm reconstitution for 2010 DCP/ACRE enrollment
7/05/2010	Office closed in observance of Independence Day
7/15/2010	2010 spring-seeded acreage reporting deadline
8/01/2010	NAP ACD – 2011 fall-planted seed and multi-planting crops
9/01/2010	NAP ACD – 2011 garbanzo bean, forage seed, value loss and controlled environment crops
9/06/2010	Labor Day – office closed

\*ACD – Application closing date

*The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disabilities, political beliefs and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audio type, etc.) should contact the USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 702-2661 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250 or call (800) 245-6340 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*