



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Oregon FSA Newsletter - August 2022

[Farm Service Agency](#) | [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) | [Risk Management Agency](#)

### In This Issue:

- [State Executive Director's Message](#)
- [Interest Rates-August 2022](#)
- [Important Dates](#)
- [USDA Offers Wildfire Recovery Assistance](#)
- [2022 DMC Premiums due Sept. 1, 2022](#)
- [Before You Break Out New Ground, Ensure Your Farm Meets Conservation Compliance](#)
- [Beginning Farmer Loan Opportunity](#)
- [Ask the Expert: Customer Farm Records Mapping Q&A with Gwen Uecker](#)
- [Upcoming NASS Surveys](#)

## State Executive Director's Message

USDA's Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation, Robert Bonnie recently visited Central Oregon to visit two watershed projects with Senator Merkley, NRCS Oregon's State Conservationist Ron Alvarado, Farmers Conservation Alliance, and other partners. [Click here to see photos from the visit.](#)

I encourage you to visit the [Farmer.gov blog page](#) to read a message from our FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux on how FSA is adjusting to fit the situation facing livestock producers and the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) payment rates. The updated LIP payment rates are



effective immediately and will be applied retroactively starting January 1, 2022, for all eligible causes of loss including excessive heat, tornado, winter storms, and other qualifying natural disasters. Producers who have already received LIP payments for 2022 will receive an additional payment, if applicable, commensurate with these updated rates. For details on eligibility and payment rates, you can review our [LIP fact sheet](#).

National Honey Bee Day 2022 is on Saturday, August 20! The Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers two programs that have specific safety net benefits for producers of honeybees and honey. The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) assist producers when disasters impact honey production or damage or destroy colonies, hives or honeybee feed. More information is available at [Farmers.gov](#) or contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

Gail Greenman  
State Executive Director, Oregon FSA

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## Interest Rates-August 2022

**Farm Operating Loans – Direct, 4.000%**  
**Farm Operating – Microloans, 4.000%**  
**Farm Ownership Loans – Direct, 4.250%**  
**Farm Ownership – Microloan, 4.150%**  
**Farm Ownership-Direct, Joint Financing, 2.500%**  
**Farm Ownership-Down Payment, 1.500%**  
**Emergency Loans Actual Loss, 3.750%**  
**Farm Storage Facility Loans - 3 Years, 3.125%**  
**Farm Storage Facility Loans - 5 Years, 3.125%**  
**Farm Storage Facility Loans - 7 Years, 3.125%**  
**Farm Storage Facility Loans - 10 Years, 3.000%**

See [Oregon FSA's website/News Releases](#) for information on USDA's Secretarial natural disaster designations to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through [emergency loans](#).

FSA also offers guaranteed loans through commercial lenders at rates set by those lenders. You can find out which of these loans may be right for you by using our [Farm Loan Discovery Tool](#).

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## Important Dates

- **Aug 31:** Last day to purchase Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for beets, cabbage, canola, carrot seed, Christmas trees, flowers (including seed), greens, herbs, onion, and radish.
- **September 1** - Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) Premium Fees Due
- **September 5:** Offices Closed - Labor Day Federal Holiday

- **September 9:** Deadline to sign NRCS Conservation Plan for Grassland CRP Signup 204, and re-enrolling Continuous CRP signup 57 (including CREP) contracts
- **September 30:** CRP – Deadline to sign all contract forms with FSA for General CRP Signup 58, Continuous Signup 57, CREP, and Grasslands CRP SU204
- **September 30:** ARC/PLC -Deadline
- **October 10:** Offices Closed - Columbus Day Holiday
- **October 31:** Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program (OTECP) and Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) applications due.
- **LFP(2022)** - Deadline January 30, 2023 - **Please make sure to have any grazing leases reported and CCC-855's completed for 2022 LFP.**
- **NAP** (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program): Report losses within 15 days of event. Notify FSA of event within 72 hours for hand-harvested crops.

[Click here to learn more about local deadlines and ongoing programs.](#)  
[Click here to find state outreach events and trainings.](#)

## USDA Offers Wildfire Recovery Assistance

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers disaster assistance and low-interest loan programs to assist you in your recovery efforts following wildfires or other qualifying natural disasters.



Available programs and loans include:

- **Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)** - provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters including excessive wind and qualifying drought (includes native grass for grazing).
- **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)** - offers payments to eligible producers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather.
- **Tree Assistance Program (TAP)** – provides assistance to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers for qualifying tree, shrub and vine losses due to natural disasters including excessive wind and qualifying drought.
- **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)** - provides emergency relief for losses due to feed or water shortages, disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, which are not adequately addressed by other disaster programs.
- **Emergency Loan Program** – available to producers with agriculture operations located in a county under a primary or contiguous Presidential or Secretarial disaster designation. These low interest loans help producers recover from production and physical losses.
- **Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)** - provides emergency funding for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate land severely damaged by natural disasters; includes fence loss.

## How to Document Wildfire Losses

To participate in LIP, you will be required to provide verifiable documentation of death losses resulting from an eligible adverse weather event, and you must submit a notice of loss to your local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss of livestock is apparent. To participate in ELAP, you must submit a notice of loss to your local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent and should maintain documentation and receipts.

You should record all pertinent information regarding livestock losses due to the eligible adverse weather or loss condition, including:

- Documentation of the number, kind, type, and weight range of livestock that have died, supplemented if possible by photographs or video records of ownership and losses;
- Rendering truck receipts by kind, type and weight - important to document prior to disposal;
- Beginning inventory supported by birth recordings or purchase receipts;
- Documentation from Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Natural Resources, or other sources to substantiate eligible death losses due to an eligible loss condition;
- Documentation that livestock were removed from grazing pastures due to an eligible adverse weather or loss condition;
- Costs of transporting livestock feed to eligible livestock, such as receipts for equipment rental fees for hay lifts and snow removal;
- Feed purchase receipts if feed supplies or grazing pastures are destroyed;
- Number of gallons of water transported to livestock due to water shortages.

For more information on these programs, contact your local [USDA Service Center](#) or visit [fsa.usda.gov/disaster](https://fsa.usda.gov/disaster).

## 2022 DMC Premiums due Sept. 1, 2022

Dairy producers have until Sept. 1, 2022, to pay premiums for the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) Program. With monthly DMC program triggers well above the \$9.50 per hundredweight (cwt) coverage level, there have been no indemnity payments distributed through the USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) through June 2022. In prior years, producers were able to deduct annual DMC premiums from indemnity payments, but that's not the case this year.

Approximately 75% of calendar year 2022 DMC and Supplemental DMC premiums have not been paid as the payment deadline of Sept. 1 approaches.

Failure to pay the DMC premium by the deadline may affect a dairy operation's ability to participate in the DMC program in future years. Contact your local FSA office for more information.

For more information visit the [FSA dairy programs webpage](#) or the [online dairy decision tool](#).



## Before You Break Out New Ground, Ensure Your Farm Meets Conservation Compliance

The term “sodbusting” is used to identify the conversion of land from native vegetation to commodity crop production after December 23, 1985. As part of the conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, if you’re proposing to produce agricultural commodities (crops that require annual tillage including one pass planting operations and sugar cane) on land that has been determined highly erodible and that has no crop history prior to December 23, 1985, that land must be farmed in accordance with a conservation plan or system that ensures no substantial increase in soil erosion.



Eligibility for many USDA programs requires compliance with a conservation plan or system on highly erodible land (HEL) used for the production of agricultural commodities. This includes Farm Service Agency (FSA) loan, disaster assistance, safety net, price support, and conservation programs; Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation programs; and Risk Management Agency (RMA) Federal crop insurance.

Before you clear or prepare areas not presently under production for crops that require annual tillage, you are required to file Form AD-1026 “Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation Certification,” with FSA indicating the area to be brought into production. The notification will be referred to NRCS to determine if the field is considered highly erodible land. If the field is considered HEL, you are required to implement a conservation plan or system that limits the erosion to the tolerable soil loss (T) for the predominant HEL soil on those fields.

In addition, prior to removing trees or conducting any other land manipulations that may affect wetlands, remember to update form AD-1026, to ensure you remain in compliance with the wetland conservation provisions.

Prior to purchasing or renting new cropland acres, it is recommended that you check with your local USDA Service Center to ensure your activities will be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions.

For additional information on highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation compliance, contact [your local USDA Service Center](#).

## Beginning Farmer Loan Opportunity

Accessing capital to begin, extend or support an agriculture operation can be especially challenging to new producers. Farm Service Agency’s “Beginning Farmer” direct and guaranteed loan programs provide an opportunity for qualified applicants to secure loans from funding set aside for producers who meet the following conditions:



- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years

- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size farm.

For more information contact, contact [your local USDA Service Center](#) or visit [fsa.usda.gov](http://fsa.usda.gov).

## Ask the Expert: Customer Farm Records Mapping Q&A with Gwen Uecker

In this Ask the Expert, Gwen Uecker answers a few questions about USDA's farmers.gov customer portal. Gwen serves as the Team Lead for the Program Delivery Division (PDD), Common Processes Branch for the Deputy



Administrator of Farm Program within Farm Service Agency (FSA). She helps lead PDD's effort to provide personalized customer information via farmers.gov.

A farmers.gov account provides self-service opportunities to FSA and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) customers via a secure authenticated access process.

### **What is the value of Customer Farm Records Mapping and why should producers use farmers.gov?**

Customer Farm Records Mapping (cFRM) provides you with self-help options and access to FSA data from home 24/7. For example, you do not have to wait for FSA to mail out maps for acreage reporting or make a special trip to the office to pick up your maps. You can print farm tract maps directly from farmers.gov.

New features include the ability to import precision agriculture planting boundaries and create labels containing crop information that can be printed on-farm tract maps. The maps can then be provided to FSA at the local USDA Service Center for completing the annual crop acreage report. You can use the draw tools to determine acres in a drawn area. The drawn area can be printed on a map and provided to the Service Center, a third party such as a chemical applicator, or exported as a feature file for use in other geospatial applications.

In addition, you can "Switch Profile" to view cFRM data for individuals or entities you are authorized to act on behalf of. This means you can view and print maps for your entity's farms. Producers can also view and print farm records details, including base and yield information (FSA-156EZ).

The FSA Farm Records Mapping page is accessed by clicking the blue "View Farm Records" button from the farmers.gov LAND tab.

To read the full blog visit [Ask the Expert: Customer Farm Records Mapping Q&A with Gwen Uecker | Farmers.gov](#).

## Upcoming NASS Surveys

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) has two upcoming surveys offering producers a chance to share how their cereal grain yields are this year. If harvest is not complete and yield unknown, please report the unharvested acreage on separate line in the survey.

We understand with the late harvest and seeding activity for next year, that time is especially valuable. Please complete the survey online, or respond when contacted by phone.

**The September Ag. Survey** (August 28-September 15) will ask producers for harvested acreage, yield and production, and grain stocks on farm as of September 1, for small grain crops in Oregon and the U.S. Data from this survey will also be used to estimate yields at the county level. Estimates will be released on September 30.

**The County Ag. Production Survey** (September 3-October 8) provides the data needed to estimate acreage and production of small grains crops in Oregon at the county level. This data directly impacts growers as the information is one of the sources of data for county level estimates used to determine payments in the ARC/PLC payment programs. If there are not enough responses to publish county data, a surrounding county's data may have to be used instead. This may have a negative effect on producer payments because of local yield difference between counties. USDA's Farm Service Agency also uses the estimates to administer disaster assistance programs.

Oregon State Statistician, Dave Losh can be reached at [Dave.Losh@usda.gov](mailto:Dave.Losh@usda.gov) with questions or for help with finding NASS survey results.



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Oregon FSA State Committee:  
Katherine Minthorn, STC Member  
STC Meeting: Sept. 8, STO

How can we help you? Submit questions or requests for further information to [ASK.USDA.GOV](https://www.usda.gov/ask-usda) or 1-833-ONE-USDA.

Sign up for important text message alerts from your local county FSA office! To subscribe, text FSNOW (372-669).



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