

November 2019



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

NEWSLETTER

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Washington State FSA Newsletter

**Washington State Farm
Service Agency**

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State Executive Director:
Jon Wyss

Sign Up for 2020 Dairy Margin Coverage

Dairy producers can now enroll in the 2020 Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program. This voluntary program offers protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all-milk price and the average feed cost (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer. The 2020 DMC program will provide coverage for the entire 2020 calendar year. **The deadline to enroll in the 2020 DMC program is December 13, 2019.**

All producers who want 2020 coverage, even those who took advantage of the 25 percent premium discount by locking in the coverage level for five years of margin protection coverage, are required to visit the office during this signup period to pay the annual administrative fee.

For the dairy producers who did not lock into a coverage level, during signup a margin from \$4.00 to \$9.50 can be selected along with the percentage of covered production history from 5 percent up to 95 percent. [Learn more about coverage levels and premiums](#)

State Committee:

Katlenia Vejraska, Chair
Maureen Harkcom, Member
Jesus Limon, Member
Robyn Meenach, Member
Bruce Nelson, Member

To find contact information for your local office go to www.fsa.usda.gov/wa

[with this fact sheet](#). Dairies can use the [DMC decision support tool](#) to evaluate various scenarios using different coverage percentages and margin amounts. The tool currently does not work using Internet Explorer 11 but will work with other browser options, such as Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Microsoft Edge.

DMC offers catastrophic coverage (\$4.00 at 95%) that costs an annual \$100 administrative fee. Producers can opt for greater coverage levels for a premium cost, in addition to the \$100 administrative fee. Dairy operations owned by limited resource, beginning, socially disadvantaged or veteran farmers and ranchers may be eligible for a waiver of administrative fees. Research your options by visiting the [farmers.gov DMC webpage](#) or make an appointment at your local FSA office today. To locate an office near you, visit [farmers.gov/service-locator](#).

2019 NAP Crop Production Reporting Deadline Approaching

Annual reporting of actual harvested production is a requirement for producers who obtained Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for the 2019 crop year. To retain program eligibility for NAP covered crops, participating producers must annually report actual production to retain NAP program benefits and ensure the NAP actual production history (APH) reflects accurate yield data.

Producers of 2019 NAP covered fall-seeded crops, such as fall canola, fall mint, fall peas, fall lentils, and fall seeded small grains, must report actual harvested production by no later than **December 15, 2019. By this deadline, producers must also sign** a CCC-452 APH form and file a CCC-576 NAP Application for Payment form for those crops that have an approved NAP Notice of Loss on file. As seed producers may not have their harvested seed cleaned yet, we encourage you to report your total dirt weight immediately in order to meet the deadlines for reporting production, filing your actual production history, and filing any application for payment forms on your 2019 crop. Once the seed has been cleaned, please provide the final cleaned seed pounds to your county office for use in your APH and to calculate your NAP benefit. Remember, a NAP benefit will only be calculated if an approved notice of loss was filed.

Producers of 2019 NAP covered honey must provide total harvested production by January 2, 2020 for all honey produced during the 2019 calendar year. 2019 NAP covered tree fruits (apples, apricots, cherries, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums) and nuts, blueberries, cranberries and grapes must report actual harvested production by January 15, 2020 along with signing the CCC-452 APH form and the application for payment. An application

for payment will only be processed if an approved notice of loss was filed for the NAP covered crops.

If actual harvested production for NAP covered crops is not timely submitted to your local county FSA office, NAP benefits for crop losses will not be earned and the NAP yield will begin to drop significantly, affecting your future NAP coverage levels. If you have any questions about production reporting or NAP payment requirements, contact your county FSA office.

2018 ARCPLC PAYMENTS

Final Market Year Average (MYA) prices for 2018 have been published for Wheat, Barley, Oats, Corn, Grain Sorghum, Dry Peas, Lentils, and Canola. The MYA for several crops fell below the Statutory Reference Price resulting in a 2018 PLC Payment Rate for those crops.

The final 2018 PLC payment rate for Wheat is \$0.34 per bushel, Barley is \$0.33 per bushel, Grain Sorghum \$0.69 per bushel, Dry Peas \$0.005 per pound, Lentils \$0.0227 per pound and Canola is \$0.0435 per pound.

Actual county yields have been announced for the ARC-CO program. The following are the counties in Washington earning an ARC-CO payment for wheat: Chelan \$10.30, Island \$3.87, Skagit \$8.74, Snohomish/N. King \$18.47, and Whatcom \$3.87. All other counties exceeded the ARC-CO revenue guarantee, so no payment is earned.

More information on Actual 2018 yields and payment rates for other crop for 2018 ARC-CO may be found at

https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/arcplc_program/arcplc-program-data/index.

Time to Vote – Choose Your FSA County Committee Representative

You have the opportunity to choose your representative on your local Farm Service Agency County Committee. FSA encourages farmers and ranchers to make your voices heard by voting in the upcoming Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Committee elections. Ballots are mailed in early November. Return ballots to your local FSA office by the **Dec. 2, 2019** deadline to ensure that your vote is counted.

FSA county committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will offer. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers and can settle producer appeals of FSA decisions. They also hire the County Executive Director. Many committees will be making these decisions in 2020.

FSA is Hiring



Washington state FSA is hiring for multiple positions. Full vacancy announcements can be located at www.usajobs.gov.

The Yakima county has announced two new Farm Loan positions. These positions are open externally to the public until November 11, 2019. The Loan Assistant is located at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/549928300> and the Loan Specialist is located at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/549928400>.

The Adams county office seeks a full-time permanent Program Technician, performing general office functions related to FSA programs. Position is located in Ritzville, Washington. This position opens on November 12, 2019 and closes November 26, 2019. To apply, applicants are required to follow the instructions and submit their application package through usajobs.gov under vacancy # FSACO-10637576-20-WA-001-AS.

Please share these positions with anyone you know who may be interested and any questions can be directed to Human Resource Specialist Mitzi Stephens at (509) 323-3007 or by email at Mitzi.stephens@usda.gov.

2020 Census - Your Work Counts and So Do you



The Census is a complete count of everyone who lives in the U.S. Every 10 years, Census data is collected to determine how \$675 billion in federal funds are distributed in your community. It doesn't matter if you just came to the United States to work, [you also count](#).

Your work counts. As workers, business owners, taxpayers and neighbors you have made Washington the 2nd largest food producers in the nation, which makes your voice important to make changes in your community and Washington by participating

in the 2020 Census. You'll be asked to count everyone who lives in your home. Before **April 1, 2020**, you will receive an invitation to fill out the Census online, over the phone or by mail.

Nothing to fear, Much to Gain. When you participate in the Census, your responses are protected and your answers are strictly confidential and by law, your personal information CANNOT be shared with government agencies like ICE, the FBI, or the Police.

We are also hiring. Join the 2020 Census team and help shape the future of your community. Apply at 2020Census.gov/jobs.

Important Dates and Deadlines

November 11, 2019 – Veterans Day. USDA Service Centers will be closed.

November 20, 2019 – Deadline to obtain 2020 crop year NAP coverage for asparagus, berries, grapes, honey, hops, tree fruits, nuts, and other perennial crops not listed under the 9/30 category.

November 28, 2019 – Thanksgiving Day. USDA Service Centers will be closed.

December 2, 2019 – County Committee ballots are due to FSA county offices or postmarked by this date.

December 6, 2019 – Deadline to apply for 2019 MFP.

December 13, 2019 – Deadline to sign up for 2020 Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC). Annual administrative fees are still due by this date even if the dairy operation chose to lock in to a coverage level for five years.

December 15, 2019 – Deadline to report actual harvested production of 2019 NAP covered fall-seeded crops, including fall canola, fall mint, fall peas, fall lentils, fall seeded small grains.

December 15, 2019 – 2020 crop acreage reporting deadline for fall-seeded crops. This includes fall-planted alfalfa, canola, lentils, mint, onions, peas, and small grains.

December 25, 2019 – Christmas Day. USDA Service Centers will be closed.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

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