

February 2018



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

NEWSLETTER

GovDelivery

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

Table of Contents

- [2017 CENSUS of AGRICULTURE](#)
- [Acreage Reporting Dates](#)
- [Filing a Notice of Loss](#)
- [Your Guide to FSA Farm Loans](#)
- [FSAfarm+, FSA's Customer Self-Service Portal](#)
- [February 2018 Interest Rates](#)

Hawaii State and Pacific Basin Farm Service Agency Welcomes our new State Committee Members



State Committee Members pictured above left to right: W. Ken Koike, Boyd Ready, Chair Teena Rasmussen, Glenn Martinez, and Simon Russell.

Hawaii & Pacific Basin FSA State Office

PJKK Federal Building
P.O. Box 50065
300 Ala Moana Blvd, Rm 5-108
Honolulu, HI 96850

Phone: 808-541-2600 x 2
FAX: 855-356-9493

State Executive Director:
AL Frenzel

Chief, Farm Loan Program:
Theresa Correa

Acting Chief, Farm Program Specialist:
Kristen Kiriu

Upcoming County Committee Meetings:

Hawaii County Committee
April 19, 2018 Time: 8:30am

Honolulu County Committee
March 16, 2018 Time:
3:00pm

Maui County Committee
March 15, 2018 Time: 830am

Kauai County Committee
March 14, 2018 Time:
9:00am

Contact the County Office to confirm meeting date and time, as budget constraints may limit the County Committee's ability to meet each month.

[Click here for a list of County Offices, contact numbers and addresses.](#)

Website for Hawaii and Pacific Basin FSA:

www.fsa.usda.gov/hi

2017 CENSUS of AGRICULTURE

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land - whether rural or urban - growing fruit, vegetables or some food animals count if \$1,000 or more of such products were raised and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the Census year.

The Census of Agriculture, taken only once every five years, looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures. For America's farmers and ranchers, the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future, and their opportunity.

The Census of Agriculture provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive and impartial agricultural data for every county in the nation. Through the Census of Agriculture, producers can show the nation the value and importance of agriculture, and they can help influence the decisions that will shape the future of American agriculture for years to come. By responding to the Census of Agriculture, producers are helping themselves, their communities, and all of U.S. agriculture.

Census of Agriculture data are used by all those who serve farmers and rural communities — federal, state and local governments, agribusinesses, trade associations and many others.

- Farmers and ranchers can use Census of Agriculture data to help make informed decisions about the future of their own operations.
- Companies and cooperatives use the facts and figures to determine the locations of facilities that will serve agricultural producers.
- Community planners and local governments use the information to target needed programs and services to rural residents.
- Legislators use the numbers from the Census when shaping farm policies and programs. Make Sure Your Farm or Ranch Counts. RESPOND NOW!
www.agcensus.usda.gov YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR OPPORTUNITY.

Acreage Reporting Dates

In order to comply with Farm Service Agency (FSA) program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to make an appointment with their FSA County Office to file an accurate crop certification report by the following deadlines:

January 2 – Honey

March 15 – Coffee

March 31 - All other non-insurable crops covered by Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program not listed in this table. Acreage reporting date is by March 31 of the subsequent crop year.

May 31 - Nursery for the ensuing crop year

July 15 - Banana, Papaya, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

September 30 - Aquaculture, Floriculture, Ginseng, Mushrooms, Turfgrass Sod for the ensuing year

December 16 - Grazed Forage - 15 days before the onset of grazing

If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office. For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports, please contact your local FSA County Office.

Filing a Notice of Loss

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent or 15 calendar days after the normal harvest date.

Producers of hand-harvested crops must notify FSA of damage or loss through the administrative County Office within 72 hours of the date of damage or loss first becomes apparent. This notification can be provided by filing a CCC-576, email, fax or phone. Producers who notify the County Office by any method other than by filing the CCC-576 are still required to file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, within the required 15 calendar days.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

Your Guide to FSA Farm Loans

Your Guide to FSA Farm Loans provides information to new customers interested in FLP loan assistance. The link to an electronic copy of the Guide is available at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index> .

For more eligibility requirements and information about FSA Loan programs, contact your local FSA office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

FSAfarm+, FSA's Customer Self-Service Portal

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) has launched a new tool to provide farmers and ranchers with remote access to their personal farm information using their home computers. Farmers and ranchers can now view, print or export their personal farm data all without visiting an FSA county office.

The program, known as **FSAfarm+**, provides you with secure access to view your personal FSA data, such as base and yields, Conservation Reserve Program data, other conservation program acreage, Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation status information, field boundaries, farm imagery, name and address details, contact information and membership interest and shares in the operation. This data will be available in real time, at no cost to the producer and allow operators and owners to export and print farm records, including maps. Producers also can electronically share their data with a crop insurance agent from their own personal computer.

Farm operators and owners first will need "Level 2 eAuthentication" to access the webportal. This level of security ensures that personal information is protected for each user. Level 2 access can be obtained by going to www.eauth.usda.gov, completing the required information and then visiting your local FSA office to finalize access.

For more information on **FSAfarm+**, the customer self-service portal, contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA county office, click <http://offices.usda.gov>.

February 2018 Interest Rates

Farm Operating Loans 3.125%

Farm Operating Microloans 3.125%

Farm Ownership Loans 3.750%

Farm Ownership Microloans 3.750%

Farm Ownership Loans Direct Down Payment for Beginning Farmer or Rancher 1.500%

Emergency Loans 3.75 %

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).

 SHARE



Questions?
[Contact Us](#)

STAY CONNECTED:



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Preferences](#) | [Delete Profile](#) | [Help](#)