

California Wheat

Made with the Golden Touch!

CWC Wheat Bulletin

May 13, 2010

Attention Durum Growers

USDA recently announced loan rates for 2010. Durum growers may have an opportunity to collect a Loan Deficiency Payment, based on the difference between the loan rate and the posted county price on the date the producer loses "beneficial interest." Durum growers are encouraged to visit their local FSA offices **before harvest** to make sure they have signed the necessary form (CCC-633EZ Page 1) and to find out how to qualify for a payment. In a recent letter to growers, FSA Imperial County Executive Director Rosa Singh states, "*The following fact sheets "Nonrecourse Marketing Assistance Loans/Loan Deficiency Payments" (November 2009) and "Beneficial Interest Requirements for Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments" (October 2006) provide additional information and can be found on the FSA website: www.fsa.usda.gov. You can also check daily LDP rates on this website.*" For example, today's effective LDP rate for durum in Kings County is \$.98/bushel.

UC Davis Small Grains Field Day May 19

The University of California Cooperative Extension and Department of Plant Sciences, UC Davis, is pleased to announce the Small Grains and Alfalfa Field Day to be held on the Agronomy Farm, UC Davis Agronomy Field Headquarters, Hutchison Road, Davis. The purpose of this field meeting is to look at and discuss research trials and crop production issues in California related to forages and cereal grains. This will include variety trials, pest and disease updates, and weed control. The program for wheat and other small grains begins at 8:30 and goes through lunch. The alfalfa program is in the afternoon. For a detailed agenda and directions, please see the CWC website (News / Info).

CWC Market Development in Taiwan

CWC Executive Director Janice Cooper and Lab Director Sam Huang visited Taiwan last week to encourage the Taiwan Flour Mills Association to buy more California wheat. In a tour organized by US Wheat Associates, Cooper and Huang visited six major flour mills in various parts of Taiwan and held a seminar for close to 40 TFMA members detailing the high quality and end use functionality of California hard red and white wheat. TFMA purchases wheat in bulk on behalf of its 26 flour mill members; individual mills also buy wheat by container. Taiwan imports about 1 million metric tons per year. Several California wheat handlers have already been contacted by interested Taiwanese mills and TFMA as a result of CWC efforts.

Miller Milling Plant Manager to Join CWC

Damon Sidles, plant manager from Miller Milling in Fresno has been appointed by CDFA to serve as the Alternate Public Member. The Commission looks forward to his input and expertise.

California Wheat Crop Estimate for 2010

According to NASS, California winter wheat production will increase 5% over 2009. Acreage harvested as grain or seed is estimated up at 380,000 acres, but estimated yield as of May 1 is down 10 bushels for total production of 26.6 million bushels. Durum, at 11 million bushels, is forecasted down 35% from 2009. Yield is up 5%, although estimated harvested acreage is down substantially due to lower planted acres.

Cal Poly Student Wins USW Internship

Congratulations to Cal Poly undergrad Jiana Escobar from Gilroy on being selected by US Wheat for a summer communications internship in Washington, DC.