

The new 2014 Farm Bill includes many changes and some programs will require action by owners and producers within the next few months to make certain decisions on each FSA farm. The primary goal of the Farm Bill is to provide a farm income safety net that helps manage risk associated with low yields and/or low revenue while working in combination with primary and/or supplemental crop insurance coverage.

The new replacement Farm Service Agency (FSA) programs include the **Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC)** and **Price Loss Coverage (PLC)** Programs. So, you will have a one-time opportunity to update yields (decision by the owner), reallocate base crop acreage (decision by the owner) by February 27, 2015, and to choose between ARC or PLC programs (decision by producer). Two different online tools have been developed by Texas A&M and the University of Illinois to help you explore the different programs and estimate the potential safety net payments your FSA farm(s) might receive during the life of the Farm Bill (through 2018). Potential participants do have time to research both the ARC and PLC programs prior to selecting a program. You will then have to sign up at your local FSA office before the March 31, 2015 deadline.

**Online information and decision making tool resources:**

USDA Farm Service Agency – this is the main web page for **ARC** / **PLC** Program info.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=arpl&topic=landing>



Click on this icon then scroll down to find the links (listed below) for the 2 decision aid tools. Try both tools and decide which one works best for you:

**NAAFP Decision Tool (National Association of Agricultural and Food Policy)** - developed by the Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute at University of Missouri and the Food and Agriculture Policy Center at Texas A&M.

<https://usda.afpc.tamu.edu/>

**NCPE (National Coalition for Producer Education)** – led by the University of Illinois et al.

<http://fsa.usapas.com/>

Local 2014 Farm Bill & NAAFP Decision Tool Workshops – a series of computer-based workshops will be held in Malheur County to provide owners & producers with an overview of the ARC and PLC safety net programs, demonstration of the NAAFP decision tool and opportunity to practice using the tool. Participants need to **RSVP** at your local Extension Service OR Farm Service Agency office at least one business day before the workshop. It will be helpful to bring along the Owner/Operator letter you've already received from FSA and any crop insurance documents with 10 year yield data. FSA is willing to provide a copy of your letter if you contact them prior to the workshop you are attending.

**Schedule of meetings on the back (page 2)!!!!!!**

## Meeting Schedule

**December 5, 2014 Vale-Malheur ESD Office from 2-5pm. Call 541-889-9689x 2 OR 541-881-1417 to RSVP.**

Location: 363 A Street W Vale, OR 97918

**December 12, 2014 Harper High School from 2-5pm. Call 541-889-9689x 2 OR 541-881-1417 to RSVP.**

**December 15, 2014 Adrian High School Ag Room from 4-7pm. Call 541-889-9689x 2 OR 541-881-1417 to RSVP.** Location: Park near the home side of the football field by entering on the north side of the school grounds.

**December 16, 2014 Ontario- Malheur County Ext Office from 9am-noon. Call 541-889-9689x 2 OR 541-881-1417 to RSVP.** Location: 710 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Ontario, OR 97914

**December 17, 2014 Nyssa School District Boardroom from 9am-noon. Call 541-889-9689x 2 OR 541-881-1417 to RSVP.** Location: Park in the main high school parking lot and follow the District Office Signs

**December 19, 2014 Willowcreek School from 2-5pm. Call 541-889-9689x 2 OR 541-881-1417 to RSVP.**

**December 22, 2014 Jordan Valley High School from 2-5pm. Call 541-889-9689x 2 OR 541-881-1417 to RSVP.**