

# Humboldt County Farm Bureau

*Serving Agriculture since 1913*



2020 May Newsletter | [www.humboldtcountyfarmbureau.org](http://www.humboldtcountyfarmbureau.org)

**COVID-19 update:** Good News (we hope)! Humboldt County plans to start opening businesses starting this Friday. While Agriculture is an essential business and our farmers and ranchers have been working hard through all this, it now will be easier to purchase needed supplies to keep your business running. Expanded testing will become available if needed and more food services will be available. Social distancing and masks are still required.

## **AG BUSINESSES Eligibility for Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Advance:**

In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, small business owners in all U.S. states, Washington D.C., and territories were able to apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan advance of up to \$10,000. This advance is designed to provide economic relief to businesses that are currently experiencing a temporary loss of revenue. This loan advance will not have to be repaid.

## **Enrollment Open for USDA Safety-Net Programs**

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) staff in California stand ready to help you obtain credit for spring farm operating needs, service loans or sign up for programs, including the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for 2020.

Producers simply need to enroll in the ARC or PLC program – their 2019 crop year program election applies to 2020 – by the **June 30 deadline**. If you fail to enroll, you will be ineligible to receive a payment for the 2020 crop year should one trigger.

Call your local FSA county office today to request the ARC/PLC contract for signature via mail or email, depending on your preference.

Farmers looking to mitigate the impact of risks, including low or falling commodity prices, and the effects of trade disruptions

SBA has resumed processing EIDL applications that were submitted before the portal stopped accepting new applications on April 15 and will be processing these applications on a first-come, first-served basis. SBA will begin accepting new Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and EIDL Advance applications on a limited basis only to provide relief to U.S. agricultural businesses.

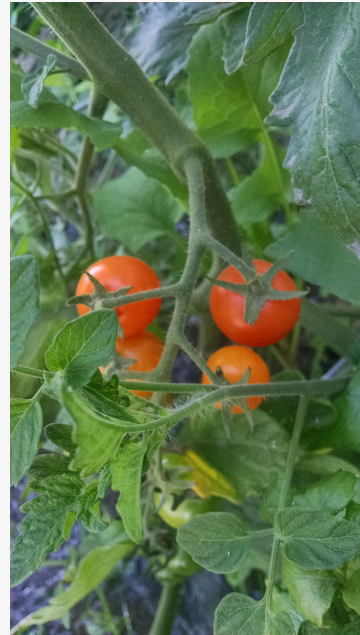
The new eligibility is made possible as a result of the latest round of funds appropriated by Congress in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Agricultural businesses includes those businesses engaged in the production of food and fiber, ranching, and raising of livestock, aquaculture, and all other farming and agricultural related industries (as defined by section 18(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 647(b)). SBA is encouraging all eligible agricultural businesses with 500 or fewer employees wishing to apply to begin preparing their business financial information needed for their application.

At this time, only agricultural business applications will be accepted due to limitations in funding availability and the unprecedented submission of applications already received. Applicants who have already submitted their applications will continue to be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. For agricultural businesses that submitted an EIDL application through the streamlined application portal prior to the legislative change, SBA will process these applications without the need for re-applying.

and natural disasters recognize that ARC and PLC provide the financial protections they need to weather substantial drops in crop prices or revenues as evidenced by record ARC and PLC enrollment for the 2019 crop year.

As of April 27, FSA records in California show 5,691 farms out of an expected 8,418 farms have completed ARC or PLC enrollment for the 2020 crop year.



### **Victory Gardens are making a comeback.**

"Victory gardens" all over the county are making a comeback. Now is the perfect time to get started. Check out the article about local resident Sam Polly's project he has going at his home in McKinleyville.

[Click here for the story.](#)



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