

NEWS RELEASE

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Farm Credit West Pays Borrowers \$53 Million in Patronage Dividends

ROSEVILLE, CA. — Farm Credit West, ACA, the nation's fourth largest agricultural lending cooperative, announced today that it will pay a record \$53 million in patronage distributions to more than 4,300 farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses in California and Nevada. The Board of Directors declared patronage distribution at 75 basis points (0.75%) relative to the average volume of eligible loan and lease assets. Paid entirely in cash, this patronage payment translates to a 75 basis point reduction in member-borrower's effective interest rate paid during 2013.

As owners of the financial cooperative, Farm Credit West's customers have the opportunity to share in the financial success of the cooperative through patronage distributions. Farm Credit West's patronage program has paid \$305 million since the program's inception in 2002. This year's patronage distribution is 34% of 2013 net income. Customers can expect to receive their distribution in late February 2014.

Board Chairman Blake Harlan noted "The board of directors is committed to ensuring the safety and soundness of the cooperative's capital and are pleased to again provide a return on the customers invested capital to the farmers and ranchers who helped earn it."

"The continued success of Farm Credit West is attributed to our "customer comes first" model, growth in agricultural lending and on our continued focus on maintaining a highly efficient operation," added Mark Littlefield, CEO of Farm Credit West. "Our patronage program distributions reflect the financial strength of Farm Credit West and in-turn our customers are rewarded in cash."

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Farm Credit West is a lending institution of the Farm Credit System with branch offices in Bakersfield, Carpinteria, Dinuba, Hanford, Santa Maria, Templeton, Tulare, Ventura, Woodland and Yuba City. The corporate headquarters is located in Roseville and Capital Markets staff are located in Paso Robles. The Farm Credit System is a nationwide network of borrower-owned lending institutions and specialized service organizations created by Congress in 1916. The System provides loans, leases, and related services to farmers, ranchers, rural homeowners, agribusinesses and agricultural and rural utility cooperatives nationwide.