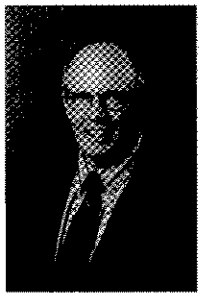
Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Committee in Oregon

The Secretary of Agriculture appoints the individuals who serve on the Oregon Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Committee. The State Committee members oversee the activities of the Agency, including carrying out the state agricultural conservation programs, resolving appeals from the agriculture community, and helping to keep producers informed about FSA programs. State Committee members fill a key role in working with the USDA to help farmers and ranchers build and maintain successful operations that produce the safe, nutritious food supply that America needs while spurring economic development in our Nation's rural communities.

The individuals appointed to serve on the FSA Oregon State Committee include:

Sam Asai

Asai is the president and CEO of Ace-High Orchards, Inc in Hood River, Oregon. In this position he manages his family owned farm and food service business that provides specialty fruits to many organizations throughout the greater Portland metropolitan area. Sam has had nearly twenty years of experience as an FSA administrator serving on the Wasco/Hood River FSA County Committee and the Oregon FSA State Committee. Sam is a certified public accountant and member of the Japanese American Citizens League. Sam received his Masters of Business Administration degree and Bachelors of Science in Accounting and Finance degree from Oregon State University.



Vern Frederickson

Frederickson, of Boardman, Oregon, owns and operates Frederickson Farming-Oregon Hay Products with his wife and brother. He has served on the Board of Directors for Morrow County Grain, Oregon Washington Pea Growers, Morrow County Soil and Water, Morrow County FSA Committee, Blue Mountain Potato Growers, and the Lower Umatilla Basin Ground Water Taskforce.

Bob VanderZanden

VanderZanden is a full-time farmer whose farm produces grass seed, clover seed and grain. His farm also operates a processing plant and a direct venue for selling cut flowers to the public. He was the chairman for the Oregon ABT growers Association and lead negotiator for the Oregon Grass Seed Bargaining Association. Bob has more than a decade of experience serving as a member of the Oregon FSA State Committee.

Jason Smith

Smith has been a rancher and livestock owner his whole life and is the Range and Agriculture manager for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. He owned and managed the Deschutes Crossing Restaurant and was President of the Warm Spring Rodeo Association for 2 years. Smith has been an Inter-Tribal Ag Council board member for 4 years and Soil and Water Conservation District board member for 6 years.

USDA's Farm Service Agency works to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural Americans. Some of the agency's efforts include facilitating income support, disaster assistance and conservation programs, providing operating loans for the procurement of farm equipment, seed and fertilizer, as well as offering ownership loans to help new and veteran producers purchase a farm. FSA also works to procure various commodities to benefit low-income families through domestic food assistance programs.