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News Release

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Livestock Indemnity Program Signup to Begin

July 7, 2009 – The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) has announced the signup for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) will begin Monday, July 13. If you had livestock losses from storms occurring during calendar year 2008 or from Jan. 1, 2009 to July 12, 2009, you may be eligible to receive benefits from the LIP program.

A notice of livestock loss must have been filed within 30 days of when the loss was apparent to be eligible to receive payments through LIP. FSA encourages producers to contact their local county FSA office prior to signing up for program benefits on July 13th.

A list of eligible livestock is available on the Montana FSA website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt> or at the local FSA county office. Eligible livestock includes all types and weight ranges. All eligible livestock must have been maintained for commercial use as part of the farming operation. Eligible livestock must be owned by an eligible livestock owner on the day the livestock died.

To Apply:

- A notice of loss must be filed 30 days after the loss is apparent
- Proof of death of livestock must be provided and may include but is not limited to any or a combination of veterinary records, tax assessor records, private insurance documents.
- Documentation must provide sufficient data that identifies the kind/type/weight range of the livestock and the number of livestock
- A third party certification may be accepted only when the participant certifies in writing that no other form of proof of death is available and includes the number of physical location of livestock in inventory at the time the death occurred. Documentation must also be provided to support the number of livestock in the inventory at the time the deaths occurred. The third party providing the verification must be a reliable source and shall not be a relative associated with the operation or a hired man.

The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and/or application for payment for either 2008 or 2009 livestock losses:

Date of Livestock Death	Final Date to File a Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application for Payment
Calendar Year 2008	Sept. 13, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009
Jan. 1, 2009 to July 12, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009	Jan. 30, 2010
July 13, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2009	30 days after death is apparent	Jan. 30, 2010

LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality on or after Jan. 1, 2008 and before Oct. 1, 2011 due to adverse weather, such as blizzards, disease, extreme cold, extreme heat, floods, hurricanes, and wildfires. The Montana State Committee will establish the normal mortality rates for each livestock kind/type and weight range.