



Laramie County FSA News

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<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

July - 2008

Farm Program Information

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) Signup for 2008

The CCC-509, DCP contract, can be signed now through September 30, 2008. DCP signup will be taken by appointment only. The 2008 DCP shall be administered exactly like the 2007 DCP, **except** that a producer on a farm may **not** receive direct or counter-cyclical payments if the sum of the base acres on the farm is 10 acres or less with exceptions of a socially disadvantaged or a limited resource farmer or rancher.

Advance direct payments for 2008 can be requested at signup at 22 percent of the direct payment total. Direct payment acres are calculated at 85 percent of the base acres for 2008 (This is the same as 2007).

2008 Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Provisions

Each participant receiving a payment **must** have a current certification of AGI or CCC-526 on file. For 2008 DCP only, a producer, by acknowledging receipt of CCC-509 Appendix, subparagraph 3 I, dated June 20, 2008, will certify that there has not been a material change in the producer's AGI that would affect eligibility. However, if changes have occurred in the farming, ranching, or forestry operation that would affect the financial status of the producer, the producer **must** complete a revised CCC-526, dated June 12, 2008. The \$2.5 million AGI limitation that applied to the 2007 DCP contract will also apply to the 2008 contract.

2008 Direct DCP Payments

The 2008 advance Direct DCP payments will be issued, if requested, as soon as practical after contract approval. The final Direct DCP payments will be issued in October 2008.

New FSA-211 or Other Power of Attorney Required for 2008 DCP

Producers and landowners (grantors) who previously executed FSA-211, Power of Attorney, authorizing an attorney-in-fact to act on their behalf for anything other than "**all current and future programs**", will need to execute a new FSA-211.

Reporting Acreage Planted

Acreage reporting is a requirement of the farm program. **The deadline of July 1 was extended to August 15th. Please call for an appointment. Acreage reports filed after August 15th, will be charged a minimum of \$46 per farm.**

Farm Reconstitutions

The deadline to request a farm combination or division is August 1. Reconstitution of a farm is considered to be requested when all required signatures are obtained on form FSA-155 and proof of ownership (deed) is submitted.

Requests for reconstitution of a farm having less than 10 acres of base will not be approved unless the farm is combined due to a land sale.

Requesting Failed Acreage Credit

To be approved as failed acreage, the acreage must have been reported as failed acreage before the disposition of the crop; and the acreage must have been planted under normal conditions but failed as the result of a natural disaster and not a management decision. ***--Exception:** For insured crops, acreage must have been reported as failed acreage before the final crop reporting date and the producer must provide the County Office crop insurance data to support the data reported on FSA-578.--*

Deceased Producer Payments For 2008

Effective immediately, Estates may not be paid when using the ID number of the deceased. They must obtain an Entity Identification Number (EIN). Previously FSA was allowed to pay a producer that passed away, using his social security number. With the new farm bill, producers will be required to get an EIN for an estate before payment can be made.

Disaster Programs Signup

Livestock Compensation Program

Signup deadline for the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) has been announced. **Applications for LCP must be filed by close of business July 18, 2008.** There are no late filed provisions.

Crop Disaster Program

Signup deadline for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) has not been announced but do not delay in filing an application. Deadlines will be announced soon and there are no late filed provisions.

2008 Crop Year Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) and Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP)

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act), Pub. L. 110-234, was enacted into law May 22, 2008. The 2008 Act authorizes 2008 crop MAL's and LDP's on barley, canola, corn, crambe, dry peas, flaxseed, grain sorghum, honey, lentils, mohair, mustard seed, oats, rapeseed, rice, safflower, sesame seed, small chickpeas, soybeans, sunflower seed, wheat, and graded and non-graded wool.

Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL)

Nine-month commodity loans can be made to eligible producers. The current interest rate for loans disbursed in July is 3.375 percent for farm-stored or warehouse stored commodities. Laramie County 2008 loan rates are: winter wheat - \$2.64/bu, barley - \$1.90/bu, corn - \$2.05/bu, oats - \$1.31/bu, sunflowers - \$9.23/cwt, and spring wheat - \$2.63/bu. Please call the office for more information if you are interested. The loan process does take some time. The office is required to do a lien search, obtain lien waivers from lenders, and file a lien against your crop before a check can be issued. Hay, silage, and unshorn pelts derived from the eligible loan commodities are eligible for LDP, but **not** for MAL's.

It is the producer's responsibility to maintain the quality of the grain in storage.

Both husband and wife must sign the loan document. A notarized or FSA witnessed FSA Power of Attorney Form, FSA-211, may be filed giving the husband and/or wife authority to sign for each other.

Measurement services are available to measure the grain in your storage facility. The cost is \$30 per farm plus \$16 per hour / \$8 for every 30 minutes after the first hour with a minimum charge of 1 hour. Fees must be paid for the measurement before the loan check can be disbursed. **We strongly recommend that producers get a measurement service to avoid penalties for overstating grain in storage.**

Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) will be available if posted county price goes below the loan rate. To date there are no LDP's available.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Haying or Grazing of CRP

On May 27, 2008, USDA announced that certain acreage enrolled in CRP would be available for hay and forage after the ending of the primary nesting season. The primary nesting season ends July 15th. CRP participants may request to voluntarily modify CRP contracts for critical feed use, such as haying and grazing. Please call for an appointment.

No payment reduction for 2008 CRP payment

- Administrative Fee of \$75.00
- Anyone may pay the administration fee
- Needs an approved modified conservation plan filed with NRCS
- Any field may be hayed or grazed regardless of whether it was hayed or grazed in previous years.
- It has not been determined yet if critical feed use will be counted towards managed haying and grazing frequency requirements
- CRP-1M and the modified conservation plan must be signed by all participants including those with a zero share
- Anyone may harvest hay or graze eligible acres
- CRP participants may sell the hay or grazing rights
- Hay and livestock needs to be removed before November 10, 2008.
- Haying or grazing may begin July 16, 2008 after filing CRP-1M and Conservation Plan

Early Land Preparation on CRP Acres

CRP cover may be destroyed on certain acreage before CRP-1 expiration to prepare a seedbed for fall/spring seeded crops. Producers need to submit a request to start this activity and obtain an approved conservation plan.

General Policy for Fall-Seeded Crops-

Beginning July 1 of the final year of CRP-1, CRP cover may be destroyed.

- Participants are required to submit their request on form CRP-1G
- obtain an approved conservation plan
- will not be assessed a payment reduction for CRP destroyed July 1 or after

Beginning May 1 of the final year of CRP-1, CRP cover may be destroyed.

- Participants are required to submit their request on form CRP-1G
- obtain an approved conservation plan
- will be assessed a payment reduction
- Yearly annual rental payment will be prorated for all CRP acreage that is destroyed between the periods of May 1 through June 30.

CRP participants requesting to destroy CRP cover and fail to plant a fall-seeded crop in a normal manner will be considered in violation of the CRP-1 contract. If violation occurs producers could be required to refund all CRP annual rental payments, plus interest, and liquidated damages. Please visit with your local county office to determine eligibility requirements for this activity.

General Policy for Spring-Seeded Crops-

Beginning July 15 of the final year of CRP-1, CRP participants may apply chemicals to prepare certain CRP acreage for spring-seeded crops. Destruction of CRP cover by any other means is not permitted.

- Participants are required to submit their request on form CRP-1G
- obtain an approved conservation plan
- will not be assessed a payment reduction for acreage sprayed after July 15.

Please visit with your local county office to determine eligibility requirements for this activity.

**USDA / FSA
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Committee Election

Committee Nominations Open for LAA #3

Nominations of candidates for the Farm Service Agency county committee election representing producers in Local Administrative Area (LAA) number 3 will be accepted through August 1, 2008. Producers who are eligible to vote in LAA 3 and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates.

Laramie County FSA will be holding an election for a person to represent LAA 3. LAA 3 includes all of Laramie County west of County Road 136.

All farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers are encouraged to participate. The county committee provides local input on commodity price support loans and payments; establish allotment and yields; conservation programs; disaster assistance payments and programs.

Dates to Remember.

July 4	Independence Day Holiday – Office Closed
August 1	Committee Nomination Deadline
August 1	Deadline to request a farm reconstitution
August 15	Deadline to report crop planted
September 30	Deadline for farm program (DCP) signup

County Committee: Mike Peterson, Mark Child, Dave Bowman **Advisor:** Louise Jacobsen

Office Staff: Doris Scheel, Denise Hunt, Mark Lanning,

/S/ Gary Gompert, CED – Email gary.gompert@wy.usda.gov

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