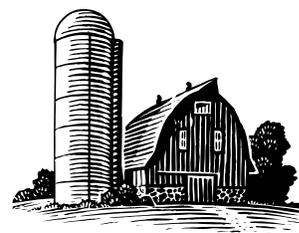




Lincoln County Newsletter



August 2008

Lincoln County
FSA Office
625 S Washington
PO Box 369
Afton, WY 83110

Phone: (307) 886-9001
FAX: (307) 886-3744

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee:
Ken Cook
Chad Dana
Blair Hillstead
Trudi Julian
– Minority Advisor

Office Staff
Suellen Bagley
Dee Harbach

FSA Home Page
www.fsa.usda.gov

USDA Home Page
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2008 Crop Year Buy-in Fee for Disaster Assistance Programs

On June 18, 2008, the Farm Bill was signed into Public Law and created five new disaster programs, collectively referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. Those programs include:

- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

In order to be eligible for SURE, TAP and ELAP, producers must obtain a crop insurance policy for each insurable commodity and/or a Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy for each non-insurable commodity on all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest.

In order to be eligible for LFP, producers must timely obtain a crop insurance policy for insured crops or timely file the required paperwork for NAP for the grazed land. Any insurance already purchased to meet the eligibility requirements for these programs must be at a minimum level of 50 percent yield coverage and at 55 percent of the insurable price.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) is exempt from the risk management purchase requirement and therefore, does not require a waiver.

For the 2008 crop year only, producers who were eligible to obtain at least CAT level crop insurance or NAP, but did not, can "buy-in" to be eligible to participate in the applicable Disaster Assistance programs by paying the administrative fee that would have been applicable if the producer had timely applied for CAT or NAP. The cost of the "buy-in" equals \$100 per crop, but not more than \$300 per producer per county, or \$900 total per producer, for all counties, less any previously paid fees for CAT and/or NAP. The buy-in fees do not provide any CAT crop insurance coverage or NAP coverage but do allow producers to gain eligibility to participate in the applicable Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs.

Ultimately, any producer who does NOT have insurance on all commodities in all counties who wish to become eligible for any of the Disaster Assistance Programs must visit their administrative county FSA office and fill out form CCC-752 and/or form CCC-753. The county offices will determine the appropriate buy-in fee required. The deadline for the buy-in is **Sept. 16, 2008**.

There will be NO "buy-in" period for the 2009 crop year. All producers will be required to purchase insurance on all commodities in all counties for 2009 and subsequent years in order to be eligible for Disaster Assistance programs in the future.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY
LINCOLN COUNTY FSA
625 WASHINGTON, Suite A
PO BOX 369
AFTON, WY 83110

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Within 15 days of noticing a loss file CCC - 576 NAP Notice of Loss

August 15----- Last day for Crop Reports

September 1----- Labor Day (Office Closed)

September 16----- Last day for disaster assistance “buy-in”

September 30----- Last day for DCP Signup

December 1----- Last day to purchase NAP coverage

Any Time----- Continuous CRP

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited based apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication or program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (Voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program

USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occurs due to natural disasters.

Please contact a crop insurance agent if you have questions regarding whether a crop is insurable in your county. For further information on whether a crop is eligible for NAP coverage, please contact your local FSA office.

The 2009 crop year NAP policy fee is \$250 per crop, not to exceed \$750 per producer per county with a total fee not to exceed \$1,875 per producer for all counties.

The deadline to obtain NAP coverage on perennial (including pasture) and fall seeded crops in Lincoln County is December 1st, 2008