Lincoln County FSA News

NOVEMBER 2011

Lincoln County FSA
625 S Washington
PO Box 369
Afton, WY 83110
307-886-9001 phone
307-886-3744 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/wy

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Jason Thornock
Chad Dana
Blair Hillstead
Trudi Julian

COC Meeting
December 12, 2011

Office Staff
Dee Harbach, CED
Suellen Bagley, PT
Kresta Hedges, PT

Farm Loan Manager
Brian Harrell
307-856-7524

NRCS
DeMont Grandy,
District Conservationist
Cokeville 307-279-3256
Dayle Funka,
Soil Conservationist
Afton 307-886-9001

Why Buy NAP or RMA Coverage?

For those producers that had hail and flood damage this past year and did not have crop insurance and were not eligible for disaster payments, you may want to consider getting either NAP or RMA coverage. We do not yet know what the 2012 Farm Bill is going to cover but the past Farm Bill required NAP or RMA crop insurance coverage to be eligible for disaster programs.

FSA provides coverage for non-insurable forage crops including grazing and small grain hay under NAP. FSA's NAP coverage is provided for crops not covered by RMA.

Is it worth the money you pay for the coverage? By purchasing NAP coverage , you would be eligible for a loss payment through NAP if you have at least a 50% loss, while additionally meeting linkage requirements for disaster programs. The NAP application fee is $250 per crop per county with a maximum fee of $750 per county. If you have multiple counties, the fee cannot exceed $1,875. The deadline to purchase 2012 NAP coverage for non-insurable biennial and perennial forage crops including grazing is **December 1, 2011**. for all other crops the application closing date is April 1, 2012.

RMA provides coverage at various costs and loss levels. Producers are encouraged to visit a crop insurance agent soon to learn specific details for the 2012 crop year. Federal crop insurance program policies are sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance companies and agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers throughout the United States or on the RMA website at http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents.

NAP Production Records

All 2011 NAP producers, now is the time to submit production evidence for your 2011 crops. Submitting production evidence for harvested crops, such as bale counts and weights are necessary to maintain accurate yields for coverage. Accurate yields are essential in calculating payments for losses.

Buyers of Agricultural Products

It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's Office to determine if there are liens against the seller of the product. If a lien is found you are required to place the lien holders name on the check, as well as, that of the seller. Ag Products include, but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc.), machinery, equipment and all other crops. **Failure to place the lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a buyer!**

You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at (307) 777-7378.

LINCOLN COUNTY FSA

Loan Deficiency Payments & Marketing Assistance Loans

Each crop year Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's) and Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL's) may be available for eligible Lincoln County commodities: barley, oats, wheat, wool, mohair, and honey. Hay, silage and unshorn pelts derived from these commodities are eligible for an LDP, but not for marketing assistance loans. To apply for benefits, file an LDP Agreement and Request (CCC-633EZ page 1 form) before losing beneficial interest (selling or contracting the commodity).

USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) makes available nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for certain commodities. CCC establishes loan rates for these commodities annually at the national level, and adjusts the rates locally. Marketing loans provide interim financing for eligible producers, allowing them to store their crops at harvest (when prices tend to be low), then market their crops when prices rise. An LDP is the difference between the loan rate at a given location and the announced market price for the applicable commodity.

Notice to Hispanic and/or Women Farmers or Ranchers Compensation for Claims of Discrimination

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register you name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: www.farmerclaims.gov

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.

Farm Storage Facility Loans

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including barley, oats, wheat, hay, and renewable biomass .

Farm Storage Facility Loans are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying and handling equipment or the remodeling of existing facilities. Eligible facilities include but are not limited to: new conventional-type cribs or bins and new or remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures.

The terms for loan amounts are as follows:

- $100,000 or less the term is 7 years only
- $100,000.01 to $250,000, the borrower can specify 7 or 10 years
- $250,000.01 to $500,000, the borrower can specify 7, 10, or 12 years

To be eligible for a Farm Storage Facility Loan, the borrower must:

- be a producer of a facility loan commodity
- demonstrate a need for increased storage capacity
- show the ability to repay FSFL through the financial analysis process
- meet all other eligibility requirements.

All Farm Storage Facility Loans are secured by a promissory note and security agreement. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85 percent of the net cost of the storage or handling equipment, up to $500,000 for each borrower. A minimum down payment is also required and multi-peril crop insurance coverage for all crops. The interest rate changes monthly so please contact our office.

County Committee Election

This year's County Committee Election is being held for the Lower Valley Administrative Area, where Chad Dana is currently serving as the representative to the county committee.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters on November 4th. Instructions for voting will be included. Completed ballots must be returned to the county office or postmarked by December 5th. Ballots will be counted on December 12th. Please take time to vote and select your representative on the County Committee. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office January 1, 2012.

Farm Reconstitutions

In program terminology, farms are *constituted* to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is necessary. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. The following are the different methods used when doing a farm recon:

Estate Method — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

Designation of Landowner Method — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

DCP Cropland Method — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

Default Method — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

If payments have already been issued on a particular farm, the reconstitution will be effective for the next year, unless the payments are refunded. Request for recons should be filed by June 1.

Reporting Crop Losses for NAP

For those of you with a NAP crop policy – you are reminded that if you suffer a crop loss, you must complete a Notice of Loss form (CCC-576) with this office no later than 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence or from the date that damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent. A Notice of Loss must be provided for each weather related event or adverse natural occurrence that causes damage to or loss of the specific crop or commodity. A timely filed Notice of Loss is required on all crops, including grasses. When a loss is sustained an appraisal should be completed by FSA personnel. This appraisal should be done before grazing occurs or before the land is put to another use.

eNewsletters and eUpdates through GovDelivery

The FSA is providing more cost-effective and resource-conserving options to deliver news, deadlines and bulletins. You have the option to receive information instantly and electronically from your state or local FSA office directly to your farm or ranch. Several states already have GovDelivery for news releases. Take a look at your current state and county options for electronic delivery by visiting the FSA home page at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Click on the small E-MAIL UPDATES icon and once you enroll in GovDelivery, you can select electronic subscriptions via e-mail. For more information contact your local FSA office and watch for more news and opportunities to sign up to receive your news quicker and at less cost via email.

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

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

November 4	Voter ballots sent to all eligible producers for COC election
November 11	Veterans Day—Office Closed
November 24	Thanksgiving—Office Closed
December 1	NAP application closing date for biennial and perennial forage crops
December 5	Voter ballots to be returned to county office or postmarked for COC election
December 12	County office to county ballots for COC election
December 26	Christmas (Observed) —Office Closed
Within 15 days of noticing a loss file CCC - 576 NAP Notice of Loss	
Within 30 days of noticing a livestock or feed loss file FSA-914 LIP Notice of Loss or FSA-918 ELAP Notice of Loss	

2011 Disaster Programs

Producers that have filed a notice of loss for 2011 disaster programs (LIP and ELAP) are encouraged to submit the final documentation and file the application for payment to complete the process.