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A "Corrected" Message from the Ohio FSA State Office

* We apologize for resending the state newsletter, but a mistake was found in our state office message below regarding the ARC/PLC information after the newsletter was issued, so we are resending the newsletter with the corrected message.*

Some folks are looking forward to the next general signup opportunity for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). The signup period started Jan. 31, 2022 and will run through March 11, 2022. Landowners who are interested are reminded this is a competitive process, not a first-come, first-served process. Those interested in applying should not wait until the deadline to contact their FSA County Office, please schedule an appointment now. Additional conservation information is provided in our newsletter.
The Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program has expanded the program to allow dairy producers to better protect their operations by enrolling supplemental production.

Recently the USDA has extended the deadline to enroll in Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) and Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage (SDMC) for program year 2022. The deadline to apply for 2022 coverage is now March 25, 2022. Signup enables producers to get coverage through this important safety-net program for another year as well as get additional assistance through the new Supplemental DMC. Dairy producers interested in signing up, should contact their County FSA office.

Now is the time to make your decision about whether you will use ARC or PLC for your operation in 2022. March 15 is THE LAST day to make what is likely one of the most important business decisions you will make for your farming operation this year. With less than 25 business days remaining before March 15, we need producers to contact their FSA County office to setup an appointment today. There will not be an extension of this deadline. Producers who fail to elect either Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) by March 15, 2022, will have their 2022 election default back to the 2021 election.

Ohio FSA has over 98,000 farms to assist before March 15, and as of today, our records show that 49,000 farms out of an expected 98,000 farms have completed ARC or PLC enrollment for the 2022 crop year. Please call your FSA county office and make an appointment soon to ensure your elections are made and contracts signed well ahead of the deadlines. We also would note the deadline for enrollment is March 15, 2022, even if you don't make any new elections. Staff can also work with producers via phone, email and through Box and OneSpan, our electronic options for sharing and signing FSA forms.

The Spot Market Hog Pandemic Program (SMHPP) application deadline is Feb. 25, 2022. This program is designed to assist producers who sold hogs through a negotiated sale from April 16, 2020, to Sept. 1, 2020. If you are a hog producer who sells on the spot market, please contact County FSA office to learn more about this ad-hoc assistance program.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, our Ohio service centers continue to operate with limited visitors, by appointment only. COVID-19 continues to impact several of our office operations, reducing staffing to 25 percent with no visitors allowed until COVID incident rates decline in those areas. Please call before visiting to find out if your FSA County office is open to limited visitors. If you feel an in-person appointment is needed to conduct your business rather than by phone or online, please reach out to your FSA County office so they can assist in scheduling an appointment. As a reminder, all visitors and staff are required to wear a mask in a federal facility. Our local staff appreciate your efforts to protect them and their families. Your patience is appreciated as we continue to operate under COVID protocol.

Additional program details and more in-depth information is provided in our newsletter.

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**USDA Announces Conservation Reserve Program Signups for 2022**

*General Signup Opened Jan. 31*
Agricultural producers and landowners can sign up soon for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), a cornerstone conservation program offered by the USDA FSA. The **General CRP signup will run from Jan. 31 to March 11**, and the **Grassland CRP signup will run from April 4 to May 13**. There are currently 22.1 million acres enrolled, and FSA is aiming to reach the 25.5-million-acre cap statutorily set for fiscal year 2022.

**CRP Signups**

General CRP helps producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland.

Meanwhile, Grassland CRP is a working lands program, helping landowners and operators protect grassland, including rangeland and pastureland and certain other lands, while maintaining the areas as working grazing lands. Protecting grasslands contributes positively to the economy of many regions, provides biodiversity of plant and animal populations and provides important carbon sequestration benefits to deliver lasting climate outcomes.

Alongside these programs, producers and landowners can enroll acres in Continuous CRP under the ongoing sign up, which includes projects available through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE).

**More Information on CRP**

Landowners and producers interested in CRP should contact their local [USDA Service Center](https://www.fsa.usda.gov) to learn more or to apply for the program.

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**USDA Offers Options for Signing and Sharing Documents Online**

Farmers working with FSA can now sign and share documents online in just a few clicks. By using Box or OneSpan, producers can digitally complete business transactions without leaving their homes or agricultural operations. Both services are free, secure, and available for multiple FSA programs.

Box is a secure, cloud-based site where FSA documents can be managed and shared. Producers who choose to use Box can create a username and password to access their secure Box account, where documents can be downloaded, printed, manually signed, scanned, uploaded, and shared digitally with Service Center staff. This service is available to any FSA customer with access to a mobile device or computer with printer connectivity.

OneSpan is a secure eSignature solution for FSA customers. Like Box, no software downloads or eAuthentication is required for OneSpan. Instead, producers interested in eSignature through OneSpan can confirm their identity through two-factor authentication using a verification code sent to their mobile device or a personalized question and answer. Once identity is confirmed, documents can be reviewed and e-signed through OneSpan via the producer’s personal email address. Signed documents immediately become available to the appropriate Service Center staff.
Box and OneSpan are both optional services for customers interested in improved efficiency in signing and sharing documents with USDA, and they do not replace existing systems using eAuthentication for digital signature. Instead, these tools provide additional digital options for producers to use when conducting business with FSA.

FSA staff are available to help producers get started with Box and OneSpan through a few simple steps. Please contact your FSA County office and let the staff know you’re interested in signing and sharing documents through these new features. In most cases, one quick phone call will be all that is needed to initiate the process.

Visit farmers.gov/mydocs to learn more about Box and OneSpan, steps for getting started, and additional resources for conducting business with USDA online.

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Ohio NRCS FY22 Funding Available Until February 18 to Protect and Restore Wetlands and Wildlife Habitat

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) continues to accept applications for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program Wetland Reserve Easement Program (ACEP-WRE). The program provides financial and technical assistance to Ohio landowners wishing to protect and restore critical wetlands by enrolling property into conservation easements. Applications for ACEP-WRE are taken on a continuous basis, however, landowners are encouraged to contact their local NRCS Service Center prior to the February 18, 2022 deadline for fiscal year 2022 funding.

Many of Ohio’s landowners can take advantage of this program, as eligible lands include farmed or converted wetlands that can successfully be restored; croplands or grasslands subject to flooding; and previously restored wetlands and riparian areas that connect protected wetland areas.

“Restored wetlands help to improve water quality downstream, enhance wildlife habitat, reduce impacts from flooding and provide recreational opportunities,” said Barbara Baker, Assistant State Conservationist for Natural Resources in Ohio. “The Wetland Reserve Easement program offers landowners a great opportunity to turn unproductive agricultural land into a vibrant ecosystem with many ecological and economic benefits.”

**Wetland Reserve Easements**

In the 1700s, wetlands covered 5 million acres of Ohio, primarily in the northwestern part of the state, referred to as the “Great Black Swamp.” Competing land uses resulted in a 90% loss of wetlands by the late 1900s. Since 2005, NRCS has assisted landowners in restoring more than 28,000 acres of wetlands in Ohio.

Ron Weisenburger, a private landowner in Putnam County, worked with NRCS to convert some of his old farmland into a wetland, prairie and wooded area using the ACEP-WRE program.

“Enrolling my land into the program made economic and environmental sense to me,” Weisenburger said. “The fields weren’t producing enough crops and I wanted to get an actual
investment from the land. My family loves to hunt, and by restoring wetlands, I’m creating wildlife corridors and a place for my family to enjoy.”

ACEP-WRE enrollment options include permanent easements, 30-year easements, and 30-year contracts. NRCS staff are available to help landowners plan and implement individual projects and the agency will pay a percent of the purchase value as well as restoration costs for each easement option.

More Information

For more information, please visit ACEP-WRE in Ohio or contact Michael Hasty, Ohio ACEP-WRE easement coordinator, at 614-255-2442 or michael.hasty@usda.gov.

Deadline Extended to March 25 to Enroll in 2022 DMC and SDMC

USDA has extended the deadline to enroll in Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) and Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage (SDMC) for program year 2022. The deadline to apply for 2022 coverage is now March 25, 2022. As part of the ongoing efforts to support dairy farmers and rural communities, USDA’s FSA opened DMC and SDMC signup in December 2021 to help producers manage economic risk brought on by milk price and feed cost disparities.

Enrollment for 2022 DMC is currently at 55% of the 2021 program year enrollment. Producers who enrolled in DMC for 2021 received margin payments each month, January through November for a total of $1.2 billion, with an average payment of $60,275 per operation.

The DMC program, created by the 2018 Farm Bill, offers reasonably priced protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all-milk price and the average feed cost (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer.

Supplemental DMC will provide $580 million to better help small- and mid-sized dairy operations that have increased production over the years but were not able to enroll the additional production. Now, they will be able to retroactively receive payments for that supplemental production.

After making any revisions to 2021 DMC contracts for Supplemental DMC, producers can sign up for 2022 coverage. DMC provides eligible dairy producers with risk management coverage that pays producers when the difference between the price of milk and the cost of feed falls below a certain level. So far in 2021, DMC payments have triggered for January through November for more than $1 billion.

For DMC enrollment, producers must certify with FSA that the operation is commercially marketing milk, sign all required forms and pay the $100 administrative fee. The fee is waived for farmers who are considered limited resource, beginning, socially disadvantaged, or a military veteran. To determine the appropriate level of DMC coverage for a specific dairy operation, producers can use the online dairy decision tool.

USDA has also changed the DMC feed cost formula to better reflect the actual cost dairy farmers pay for high-quality alfalfa hay. FSA now calculates payments using 100% premium
alfalfa hay rather than 50%. In December 2021, following publication of the new feed cost policy, $102 million was paid to producers as a result of the revised high quality alfalfa feed cost formula.

The amended feed cost formula will make DMC payments more reflective of actual dairy producer expenses and DMC payments. Higher DMC feed cost calculations due to the premium alfalfa adjustment could more frequently trigger DMC indemnity payments for dairy operations having DMC coverage in 2022.

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**USDA Provides Additional Pandemic Assistance to Hog Producers**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced a new program to assist hog producers who sold hogs through a negotiated sale during the period in which these producers faced the greatest reduction in market prices due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Spot Market Hog Pandemic Program (SMHPP) is part of USDA’s Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative and addresses gaps in previous assistance for hog producers. USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) will accept applications Dec. 15, 2021 through Feb. 25, 2022.

SMHPP provides assistance to hog producers who sold hogs through a negotiated sale from April 16, 2020 through Sept. 1, 2020. Negotiated sale, or negotiated formula sale, means a sale of hogs by a producer to a packer under which the base price for the hogs is determined by seller-buyer interaction and agreement on a delivery day. USDA is offering SMHPP as packer production was reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic due to employee illness and supply chain issues, resulting in fewer negotiated hogs being procured and subsequent lower market prices.

The Department has set aside up to $50 million in pandemic assistance funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act for SMHPP.

**SMHPP Program Details**

Eligible hogs include hogs sold through a negotiated sale by producers between April 16, 2020, and Sept. 1, 2020. To be eligible, the producer must be a person or legal entity who has ownership in the hogs and whose production facilities are located in the United States, including U.S. territories. Contract producers, federal, state and local governments, including public schools and packers are not eligible for SMHPP.

SMHPP payments will be calculated by multiplying the number of head of eligible hogs, not to exceed 10,000 head, by the payment rate of $54 per head. FSA will issue payments to eligible hog producers as applications are received and approved.

**Applying for Assistance**

Eligible hog producers can apply for SMHPP starting Dec. 15, 2021, by completing the FSA-940, Spot Market Hog Pandemic Program application. Additional documentation may be required. Visit [farmers.gov/smhpp](http://farmers.gov/smhpp) for a copy of the Notice of Funds Availability, information on applicant eligibility and more information on how to apply.
FSA Offers Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) for Livestock Losses

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to eligible producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather, disease and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, wildfires, extreme heat or extreme cold.

For disease losses, FSA county committees can accept veterinarian certifications that livestock deaths were directly related to adverse weather and unpreventable through good animal husbandry and management.

In addition, LIP provides assistance for injured livestock that are sold within 30 days of an eligible loss condition at a reduced price due to adverse weather or attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law.

For livestock death losses, eligible livestock owners must file a notice within 30 calendar days of when the loss is first apparent. Producers should document the adverse weather conditions and date(s) of weather events.

Participants must provide all supporting documentation to their local FSA office no later than 60 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the eligible loss condition occurred. Livestock owners and contract growers must record all pertinent information, including the number and kind of all livestock adversely impacted. Some examples of required supporting documentation include:

- Beginning Inventory Records
- Proof of death loss documentation
- Purchase and sales records
- Calving records (include date of birth, date of death and cause of death)
- Preg test records (completed by 3rd party)
- Copy of growers contracts
- Proof of normal mortality documentation

USDA has established normal mortality rates for each type and weight range of eligible livestock. These established percentages reflect losses that are considered expected or typical under “normal” conditions.

2021 Livestock Losses: In addition to filing a timely notice of loss, producers must submit an application for payment and all supporting documentation by March 1, 2022.

Additional information about LIP is available at your FSA County office.
USDA Encourages 2022 ARC and PLC Enrollment

FSA is encouraging producers to contact their local USDA Service Centers to make or change elections and to enroll for 2022 ARC or PLC, providing future protections against market fluctuations. The election and enrollment period runs until March 15, 2022.

Producers can elect coverage and enroll in ARC-CO or PLC, which are both crop-by-crop, or ARC-IC, which is for the entire farm. Although election changes for 2022 are optional, producers must enroll through a signed contract each year. Also, if a producer has a multi-year contract on the farm and makes an election change for 2022, it will be necessary to sign a new contract.

If an election is not submitted by the deadline of March 15, 2022, the election remains the same as the 2021 election for crops on the farm. Farm owners cannot enroll in either program unless they have a share interest in the farm.

Covered commodities include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, safflower seed, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed, and wheat.

Web-Based Decision Tools

In partnership with USDA, the University of Illinois and Texas A&M University offer web-based decision tools to assist producers in making informed, educated decisions using crop data specific to their respective farming operations. Tools include:

- [Gardner-farmdoc Payment Calculator](#), a tool available through the University of Illinois allows producers to estimate payments for farms and counties for ARC-CO and PLC.
- [ARC and PLC Decision Tool](#), a tool available through Texas A&M tallows producers to estimate payments and yield updates and expected payments for 2022.

Crop Insurance Considerations

ARC and PLC are part of a broader safety net provided by USDA, which also includes crop insurance and marketing assistance loans.

Producers are reminded that ARC and PLC elections and enrollments can impact eligibility for some crop insurance products.

Producers on farms with a PLC election have the option of purchasing Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO) through their Approved Insurance Provider; however, producers on farms where ARC is the election are ineligible for SCO on their planted acres for that crop on that farm. Unlike SCO, the Enhanced Coverage Option (ECO) is unaffected by an ARC election. Producers may add ECO regardless of the farm program election.

For more information on ARC and PLC, visit the [ARC and PLC webpage](#) or contact your FSA County office.

FSA Reminds Producers of Approaching NAP Deadlines for 2022 Crops

FSA reminds producers who are interested in the 2022 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), of the need to apply for coverage by the following crop deadline dates.

- **March 15, 2022** is the deadline for 2022 NAP coverage on forage sorghum, oats, potatoes, Soybeans, Sunflowers and all spring planted specialty crops grown for food.

**NAP Buy-Up Coverage Option**

NAP offers higher levels of coverage, from 50 to 65 percent of expected production in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price. Producers of organics and crops marketed directly to consumers also may exercise the “buy-up” option to obtain NAP coverage of 100 percent of the average market price at the coverage levels of between 50 and 65 percent of expected production. NAP basic coverage is available at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production. Buy-up coverage is not available for crops intended for grazing.

**NAP Service Fees**

For all coverage levels, the NAP service fee is the lesser of $325 per crop or $825 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of $1,950 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties.

**NAP Enhancements for Qualified Military Veterans**

Qualified veteran farmers or ranchers are eligible for a service fee waiver and premium reduction, if the NAP applicant meets certain eligibility criteria.

Beginning, limited resource and targeted underserved farmers or ranchers remain eligible for a waiver of NAP service fees and premium reduction when they file form CCC-860, “Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource and Beginning Farmer or Rancher Certification.”

To help producers learn more about the NAP program and how it can help them, USDA, offers an online Web tool at [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap). The webtool allows producers to determine whether their crops are eligible for coverage and gives producers an opportunity to explore a variety of options and levels to determine the best protection level for their operation.

For more information on NAP coverage or obtain coverage, please contact your FSA County office.

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**USDA Designates Wood County, Ohio, as a Primary Natural Disaster Area**

This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the USDA FSA to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through emergency loans. Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation or the
refinance of certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

**Impacted Area:** Ohio

**Triggering Disaster:** Excessive rainfall that occurred from Oct. 1 through Oct. 31, 2021.

**Application Deadline:** Sept. 19, 2022

**Primary County Eligible:** Wood

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**
- Hancock
- Lucas
- Putnam
- Seneca
- Henry
- Ottawa
- Sandusky

**More Resources**

On farmers.gov, the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet, and Farm Loan Discovery Tool can help you determine program or loan options. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your FSA County office.

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**Applications for FSA Loans**

Farmers that intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Filing early will help ensure that your loan is processed and approved as early as possible so that planting decisions can be made. Not applying early can result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications that must be processed in date order. Contact your local FSA Loan Approval Official for more details and assistance in applying.

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**FSA Reminds Producers about the Farm Storage Facility Loan Program Environmental Evaluation Requirements**

FSA’s Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program provides low-interest financing to producers to build or upgrade storage facilities and to purchase portable (new or used) structures, equipment and storage and handling trucks (including semi-trucks).

The low-interest funds can be used to build or upgrade permanent facilities to store commodities. Eligible commodities include corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, oats, wheat, barley, minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain, pulse crops (lentils, chickpeas and dry peas), hay, honey, renewable biomass, fruits, nuts and vegetables for cold storage facilities, floriculture, hops, maple sap, rye, milk, cheese, butter, yogurt, meat and poultry.
(unprocessed), eggs, and aquaculture (excluding systems that maintain live animals through uptake and discharge of water), malted small grains and maple sap or syrup. Eligible malted small grains include barley, oats, rice, rye and wheat. Qualified facilities include grain bins, hay barns and cold storage facilities for eligible commodities.

Loans up to $50,000 can be secured by a promissory note/security agreement and loans between $50,000 and $100,000 may require additional security. Loans exceeding $100,000 require additional security. For instance, the 7-year FSFL interest rate is 1.625% for February 2022.

These loans must be approved by the local FSA state or county committee before any site preparation and/or construction can be started.

An environmental evaluation must be completed by FSA prior to all loan approvals to ensure no protected resources would be adversely affected by the proposed FSFL project. Accepting delivery of equipment and/or materials, starting any site preparation, or construction before loan approval, may impede the successful completion of an environmental evaluation and may adversely affect loan eligibility.

Producers do not need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply. The loans are designed to assist a diverse range of farming operations, including small and mid-sized businesses, new farmers, operations supplying local food and farmers markets, non-traditional farm products, and underserved producers.

To learn more about the FSA Farm Storage Facility Loan, view the FSFL fact sheet for more information or contact your FSA County office for more details.

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**USDA Announces Inaugural Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture**

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack selected 12 members to serve on the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) inaugural Secretary’s Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture to provide input on policy development and to help identify barriers to urban agriculture as USDA works to promote urban farming and the economic opportunities it provides in cities across the country.

The new Secretary’s Advisory Committee is part of USDA’s efforts to support urban agriculture, creating a network for feedback. Urban agriculture plays an important role in producing fresh, healthy food in areas where grocery stores are scarce, and also provides jobs and beautifies neighborhoods.

**Secretary’s Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture**

The Committee is made up of agricultural producers, and representatives from the areas of higher education or extension programs, non-profits, business and economic development, supply chains and financing. Members include:

- **Bobby Wilson**, Ga., Urban Producer
Viraj Puri, N.Y., Innovative Producer
Kaben Smallwood, Okla., Innovative Producer
Sally Brown, Wash., Higher Education
John Erwin, Md., Higher Education
Carl Wallace, Ohio, Non-Profit Representative
John Lebeaux, Mass., Business and Economic Development Representative
Zachari Curtis, D.C., Supply Chain Experience
Allison Paap, Calif., Financing Entity Representative
Tara Chadwick, Fla., Related Experience
Angela Mason, Ill., Related Experience

USDA and the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production peer reviewed more than 300 nominees, and Vilsack made the final selections. Selections ensured geographic, racial and gender diversity and a broad range of agricultural experience. The new members will serve terms of one to three years.

The first meeting of this inaugural committee, which will be open to the public, will take place in late February. More details will be available in the Federal Register and at farmers.gov/urban and the new Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture website.

USDA and Urban Agriculture

The advisory committee and county committees are part of a broad USDA investment in urban agriculture. Other efforts include:

- Grants that target areas of food access, education, business and start-up costs for new farmers, and development of policies related to zoning and other needs of urban production.
- Cooperative agreements that develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost plans and food waste reduction plans.
- Investing $260,000 for risk management training and crop insurance education for historically underserved and urban producers through partnerships between USDA’s Risk Management Agency (RMA) and the University of Maryland, University of Connecticut, and Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems.
- Providing technical and financial assistance through conservation programs offered by USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).
- Organizing 11 Farm Service Agency (FSA) urban and suburban county committees. FSA will organize additional committees.

The Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production was established through the 2018 Farm Bill. It is led by NRCS and works in partnership with numerous USDA agencies that support urban agriculture. Its mission is to encourage and promote urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural practices, including community composting and food waste reduction.
More information is available at farmers.gov/urban and the new Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture website.

Additional resources that may be of interest to urban agriculture entities include grants from USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service and National Institute of Food and Agriculture as well as FSA loans.

**Dates to Remember**

**Feb. 21** ----- Washington's Birthday, a Federal Holiday. **The USDA Service Centers are Closed.**

**Feb. 25** ----- Deadline to enroll in the Spot Market Hog Pandemic Program (SMHPP).

**Mar. 1** ----- Primary Nesting Season begins.

**Mar. 1** ----- **Deadline** for the 2021 Livestock Indemnity Program Application for Payment and all supporting documentation for timely filed 2021 LIP notices of livestock losses.

**Mar. 11** ----- **Deadline** to sign-up for General CRP.

**Mar. 15** ----- Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) election and enrollment application **deadline** for 2022 crop season.

**Mar. 15** ----- **Deadline** to obtain 2022 NAP coverage on spring planted crops.

**Mar. 15** ----- **Deadline** to purchase NAP coverage for hemp. NAP will be available for 2022 to provide insurance-type coverage due to adverse weather conditions. NAP provides coverage against loss for hemp grown for fiber, grain, seed, or cannabidiol (CBD) for the 2022 crop year where no permanent federal crop insurance program is available.

**Mar. 25** ----- Final date to enroll for 2022 Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) and Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage (SDMC) as the program ends.

**Mar. 31** ----- **Final Availability** for 2021 crop wheat, barley, oats, honey loans and LDPs.

**April 4** ----- CRP Grasslands sign-up **begins**. Contact the FSA office as the **deadline is May 14, 2022.**

**Ongoing**

Reports of Failed Acreage must be filed with the County Office before disposition of the crop.

Reports of Prevented Planting Acreage must be filed with the County Office no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date for that county and producers of hand-harvested crops and certain perishable crops must notify FSA within 72 hours of when a loss becomes apparent.

Contact FSA right away for notice of loss deadlines and disaster program requirements.
# February 2022 Loan and Interest Rates

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<th>Interest Rate</th>
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<td>Farm Operating Loans, Direct</td>
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<td>Farm Ownership Loans, Direct</td>
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<td>Commodity Loans</td>
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**Ohio FSA State Office**

200 North High Street  
Room 540  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-255-2441  
Visit the Ohio FSA website at: [www.fsa.usda.gov/oh](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/oh)

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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<td><strong>Acting State Executive Director:</strong></td>
<td>Glenda Ward</td>
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<td><strong>Conservation Chief:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Production Adjustment / Compliance and Risk Management Chief:</strong></td>
<td>Matt Kleski</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>