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**A Message from the Ohio FSA State Office**

The month of March has arrived and even though spring officially starts on the 20th, it’s nice to know that winter is almost over, and spring is in the air. March brings us the promise of warmer sunny days and although farmers don’t have an “off” season, springtime is when the work really ramps up for the year. So please keep safety in mind as you work around the weather.

We have a great deal of activity going on in our county offices, please take a moment to consider whether you have business that needs to be addressed with your [FSA County office](https://www.usda.gov/fsa).
FSA is accepting contract offers for General Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres through March 11. CRP provides landowners with annual rental payments for putting environmentally sensitive acres into resource-conserving practices. Grassland CRP signup will follow the General signup and is scheduled to open April 4 and run through May 13, 2022. Contact your FSA County office for additional information about the CRP process.

This is our last chance to remind producers about the upcoming deadline for the ARC and PLC program election and enrollment. These programs may or may not trigger for a 2022 crop payment, but if you haven’t completed your enrollment (the signing of a new contract for 2022) by March 15, you won’t be eligible if payments do trigger. We need all signatures on contracts by the deadline. Please contact your FSA office immediately to complete the process.

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) is offering a premium benefit for those who have planted, and reported, cover crops by March 15. The Pandemic Cover Crop Program (PCCP) was first implemented last year, and it was recently announced for this season as well. FSA’s role in this assistance program is to receive your report of cover crop acres by March 15. For more details, read the article below, and if you have any questions, check with your crop insurance agent.

Producers that are interested in growing hemp this upcoming 2022 growing season are reminded that NAP coverage for hemp is available with the 2022 crop year for licensed producers of commercial hemp meeting specific requirements, in addition to the general requirements that apply to all eligible crops. NAP provides coverage against loss for hemp grown for fiber, grain, seed or CBD for the 2022 crop year where no permanent federal crop insurance program is available. Producers should speak with their FSA County office about purchasing coverage, as additional restrictions may apply. The deadline to sign-up for NAP coverage is March 15, 2022.

The USDA has extended the signup for the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program and expanded the program to allow dairy producers to better protect their operations by enrolling supplemental production. This signup period runs to March 25, 2022, contact your FSA County office for additional information or to signup.

Lastly, we wanted to provide an update on the status of our USDA Service Centers across the state. Thankfully as covid numbers continue declining, our FSA offices have been able to reopen to in-person traffic by appointment only. Please remember to call ahead, to schedule an in-person or phone appointment. Our office continues to work with customers via virtual/online meetings, email and other digital options. To conduct business, please contact your FSA County office.

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

USDA Announces the Appointment of Theodore Finnarn to Serve on the FSA State Committee in Ohio

The USDA FSA recently announced the appointment of Theodore Finnarn to serve on the FSA state committee in Ohio which ensures the effective and efficient delivery of FSA federal farm programs to the state’s agricultural producers.

Members of the FSA state committee are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and are responsible for the oversight of farm programs and county committee operations, resolving
program delivery appeals from the agriculture community, maintaining cooperative relations with industry stakeholders, keeping producers informed about FSA programs and operating in a manner consistent with USDA equal opportunity and civil rights policies.

Finnarn, of Greenville, Ohio (Darke County), is a fourth generation farmer, raising registered Shorthorn and Whiteface beef cattle. As an Ohio lawyer, he has spent many years serving the needs of and providing counsel to the agricultural producers in Darke County. Admitted to the Ohio State Bar in 1976 he is a private practitioner but has served stints as judge and public defender. Finnarn is actively in civic and agricultural organizations including Darke County Extension and Ohio Farm Bureau.

More appointments will follow as USDA seats the three to five member Ohio FSA state committee. The state committee chairperson will be named when all committee members have been appointed.

Conservation Reserve Program Signup for 2022 Closes Mar. 11, Other Sign-up Options Available

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).

Landowners and producers interested in CRP should contact their County FSA office to learn more or to apply for the program -- for General CRP before the March 11 signup deadline, and for Grassland CRP before the May 13 signup deadline.

Agricultural Producers Have Until March 15 to Enroll in ARC/PLC Programs

Agricultural producers who have not yet enrolled in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for the 2022 crop year have until March 15, 2022, to sign a contract. The USDA offers these two safety net programs to provide vital income support to farmers experiencing substantial declines in crop prices or revenues.

Producers can elect coverage and enroll in ARC-County or PLC, which are both crop-by-crop, or ARC-Individual, 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 March 15, 2022, deadline, 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 crop. Producers who do not complete enrollment by the deadline will not be enrolled in ARC or PLC for the 2022 crop year and will not receive a payment if triggered.

Decision Tools

In partnership with USDA, two web-based decision tools are available to assist producers in making informed, educated decisions using crop data specific to their respective farming operations:

- **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 that allows producers to estimate payments and yield updates and expected payments for 2022.

For more information on ARC and PLC, producers can visit the [ARC and PLC webpage](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc) or contact their local USDA Service Center.

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**Producers with Crop Insurance to Receive Premium Benefit for Cover Crops**

*File acreage report by March 15, 2022 to receive the benefit.*

Agricultural producers who have coverage under most crop insurance policies are eligible for a premium benefit from the USDA if they planted cover crops during the 2022 crop year. To receive the benefit from this year’s Pandemic Cover Crop Program (PCCP), producers must report cover crop acreage by March 15, 2022.

PCCP, offered by USDA’s Risk Management Agency (RMA), helps farmers maintain their cover crop systems, despite the financial challenges posed by the pandemic and is part of USDA’s [Pandemic Assistance for Producers](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Pandemic- Assistance) initiative, a bundle of programs to bring financial assistance to farmers, ranchers and producers who felt the impact of COVID-19 market disruptions.

PCCP provides premium support to producers who insured their crop with most insurance policies and planted a qualifying cover crop during the 2022 crop year. The premium support is $5 per acre, but no more than the full premium amount owed.

**How to Receive the Premium Benefit**

Producers automatically receive the benefit if they filed the Report of Acreage form (FSA-578) by March 15, 2022 with their FSA County office. To file the report, producers should contact their [FSA County office](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/locations) to make an appointment.

For more information, view RMA’s [PCPP factsheet](https://www.rma.usda.gov/programs-services/cover-crops/pcpp-factsheet) or visit the [farmers.gov/cover-crops](https://farmers.gov/cover-crops) website.
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 web tool 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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**Linkage Requirements for Payments Received Under WHIP+ and/or QLA**

If you received a payment under the Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program+ (WHIP+) or the Quality Loss Adjustment Program (QLA) for crop production and/or quality losses occurring in 2018, 2019, or 2020 crop years, you are required to meet linkage requirements by obtaining federal crop insurance or Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage at the 60/100 level, or higher, for both the 2022 and 2023 crop years.
When applying for WHIP+ or QLA, form FSA-895 (Crop Insurance and/or NAP Coverage Agreement) was submitted acknowledging the requirement to obtain federal crop insurance, if available, or NAP coverage if federal crop insurance is not available. The coverage requirement is applicable to the physical location county of the crop that received WHIP+ and/or QLA benefits.

Producers should not delay contacting their federal crop insurance agent or local county FSA Office to inquire about coverage options, as failure to obtain the applicable coverage by the sales/application closing date will result in the required refund of WHIP+ benefits received on the applicable crop, plus interest. You can determine if crops are eligible for federal crop insurance or NAP by visiting the RMA website.

For more information, producers can visit their FSA County Office.

First Meeting of Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production to Take Place March 23-24, 2022

The public is encouraged to attend and submit comments by March 18, 2022

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will host the first public meeting of the inaugural Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production on March 23-24, 2022. The public – including urban producers– is encouraged to attend.

The new federal advisory committee is part of USDA’s efforts to support urban agriculture, creating a network for feedback. Members were announced last month, and include agricultural producers, and representatives from the areas of higher education or extension programs, non-profits, business and economic development, supply chains and financing.

About the Meeting

USDA’s Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production is coordinating the meeting, which runs from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET on March 23 and 24, 2022. To attend, register by March 18, 2022.

At the meeting, committee members will discuss administrative matters and consult on the National Institute of Food and Agriculture’s Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Urban, Indoor and Emerging Agriculture grants.

Members of the public who wish to submit comments or questions related to urban agriculture may submit them via www.regulations.gov. Comments must be submitted by March 18, 2022.

For special accommodations, please contact Leslie Glover at (602) 395-9536 or UrbanAgricultureFederalAdvisoryCommittee@usda.gov. Additional details are available in the Federal Register notice and online at farmers.gov/urban or on the committee’s webpage.

USDA and Urban Agriculture

The Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production is 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 policy development related to zoning and other urban production needs.
• 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 and Innovative Production website at www.usda.gov/partnerships/advisory-committee-urban-ag-innovative-production.

**Deadline to Enroll in 2022 DMC and Supplemental DMC is March 25**

*Producers encouraged to enroll as soon as possible.*

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.

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.

For more information or to signup, producers should visit their FSA County Office by March 25.

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**USDA Extends Deadline for Spot Market Hog Pandemic Program**

*FSA Will Accept Applications Through April 15*

Hog producers who sold hogs through a spot market sale during the COVID-19 pandemic now have until **April 15, 2022**, to submit their applications for the USDA’s Spot Market Hog Pandemic Program (SMHPP). SMHPP, which is part of USDA’s Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative, originally had a deadline to submit applications by Feb. 25, 2022.

SMHPP assists hog producers who sold hogs through a spot market sale from April 16, 2020, through Sept. 1, 2020, the period during which these producers faced the greatest reduction in market prices due to the pandemic. USDA is offering SMHPP in response to a reduction in packer production and supply chain issues due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in fewer negotiated hogs being procured and subsequent lower market prices. FSA began accepting applications for SMHPP on Dec. 15, 2021.

In response to stakeholder feedback and our analysis of the program to date, USDA will be making adjustments to clarify the definition of a spot market sale and to hog eligibility, while including documentation requirements to prevent erroneous payments. USDA will also be announcing those updates soon and wants to assure hog producers that there will be ample time to submit their applications for assistance.

**Applying for Assistance**

Eligible hog producers can apply for SMHPP by completing the FSA-940, Spot Market Hog Pandemic Program application. Visit farmers.gov/smhpp to learn more. Applications can be submitted to your FSA County office.
USDA Rural Development Agency Seeks Applicants for the Rural Energy for America Program

The USDA Rural Development Agency is accepting applications for the Rural Energy For America Program. The next grant application deadline is **March 31, 2022**. This grant application deadline is for projects which request $20,000 or less and for projects which request up to $500,000.

The REAP program is designed to assist rural, small, for-profit businesses and agricultural producers install renewable energy systems or make energy efficiency improvements to their operations. These improvements can help eligible applicants control energy costs and improve the overall profitability of their operations. The grant program can cover up to 25% of the eligible project costs while the loan guarantee can cover up to 75% of the eligible project costs. Federal participation cannot exceed 75% of eligible project costs.

Grants can range from $1,500 to $500,000 with loan guarantees up to $25,000,000.

This program has helped farmers replace grain dryers; replace fans and lights for livestock operations; and install solar PV arrays to help offset electrical consumption. Small businesses have benefited through the replacement of lighting with high efficiency LED lighting; improvements to HVAC systems; and the installation of a renewable energy system to help offset electrical consumption.

Additional information can be found at: [Rural Energy for America Program](#).

Should you be interested in discussing a specific project or in receiving an application for your project, please contact one of the USDA Ohio Rural Development Specialists listed below:

- Danielle Fry, Business Program Specialist, frye@usda.gov
- Ann Stahl, Business Program Specialist, stahl@usda.gov
- Jennifer Brown, Business Program Specialist, brown@usda.gov
- Marcy Lucas, Business Program Specialist, lucas@usda.gov
- Evan Kohler, Business Program Specialist, kohler@usda.gov

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USDA Designates Henry County, Ohio, as a Primary Natural Disaster Area

This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (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:** Oct. 11, 2022

**Primary County Eligible:** Henry

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**
- Defiance
- Hancock
- Putnam
- Wood
- Fulton
- Lucas
- Williams

**More Resources**

On farmers.gov, the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](https://farmserv.usda.gov/disaster-assistance-discovery-tool), [Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/fsa/DisasterAssistance/disaster-assistance-at-a-glance), and [Farm Loan Discovery Tool](https://farmserv.usda.gov/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 local [USDA Service Center](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/contact-us).

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**USDA to Invest $1 Billion in Climate Smart Commodities, Expanding Markets, Strengthening Rural America**

*Funding Opportunity Opens to Pilot New Revenue Streams for America’s Climate-Smart Farmers, Ranchers and Forest Landowners*

USDA announced on February 7 that it is delivering on its promise to expand markets by investing $1 billion in partnerships to support America’s climate-smart farmers, ranchers and forest landowners. The new [Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/loan serv/CommodityCreditCorporation) opportunity will finance pilot projects that create market opportunities for U.S. agricultural and forestry products that use climate-smart practices and include innovative, cost-effective ways to measure and verify greenhouse gas benefits. USDA is now accepting project applications for fiscal year 2022.

For the purposes of this funding opportunity, a climate-smart commodity is defined as an agricultural commodity that is produced using agricultural (farming, ranching or forestry) practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions or sequester carbon.

Funding will be provided to partners through the USDA’s Commodity Credit Corporation for pilot projects to provide incentives to producers and landowners to:

- implement climate-smart production practices, activities, and systems on working lands,
- measure/quantify, monitor and verify the carbon and greenhouse gas (GHG) benefits associated with those practices, and
- develop markets and promote the resulting climate-smart commodities.

Funding will be provided in two funding pools, and applicants must submit their applications via Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on:
• April 8, 2022, for the first funding pool (proposals from $5 million to $100 million), and
• May 27, 2022, for the second funding pool (proposals from $250,000 to $4,999,999).

A wide range of organizations may apply, but the primary applicant must be an entity, not an individual.

USDA is committed to equity in program delivery and is specifically seeking proposals from entities serving all types of producers, including small or historically underserved producers.

Visit usda.gov for additional information including Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities and resources to support your application.

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**USDA Updates Farm Loan Programs to Increase Equity**

*Improvements Part of USDA’s Commitment to Increase Equity in All Programs*

The USDA is updating its farm loan programs to better support current borrowers, including historically underserved producers. These improvements are part of USDA’s commitment to increase equity in all programs, including farm loans that provide important access to capital for covering operating expenses and purchasing land and equipment.

The 2018 Farm Bill authorized FSA to provide equitable relief to certain direct loan borrowers, who are non-compliant with program requirements due to good faith reliance on a material action of, advice of, or non-action from an FSA official. Previously, borrowers may have been required to immediately repay the loan or convert it to a non-program loan with higher interest rates, less favorable terms, and limited loan servicing.

Now, FSA has additional flexibilities to assist borrowers in such situations. If the agency provided incorrect guidance to an existing direct loan borrower, the agency may provide equitable relief to that borrower. FSA may assist the borrower by allowing the borrower to keep their loans at current rates or other terms received in association with the loan which was determined to be noncompliant or the borrower may receive other equitable relief for the loan as the Agency determines to be appropriate.

USDA encourages producers to reach out to their local loan officials to ensure they fully understand the wide range of loan and servicing options available that can assist them in starting, expanding or maintaining their operation.

**Additional Updates**

Equitable relief is one of several changes authorized by the 2018 Farm Bill that USDA has made to the direct and guaranteed loan programs. Other changes that were previously implemented include:

- Modifying the existing three-year farming experience requirement for Direct Farm Ownership loans to include additional items as acceptable experience.
- Allowing socially disadvantaged and beginning farmer applicants to receive a guarantee equal to 95%, rather than the otherwise applicable 90% guarantee.
- Expanding the definition of and providing additional benefits to veteran farmers.
• Allowing borrowers who received restructuring with a write down to maintain eligibility for an Emergency loan.

• Expanding the scope of eligible issues and persons covered under the agricultural Certified Mediation Program.

Additional information on these changes is available in the March 8, 2022 rule on the Federal Register.

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**Dates to Remember**

**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** ----- **Deadline** to report cover crops to FSA for Pandemic Cover Crop Program (PCCP) through RMA.

**Mar. 15** ----- **Deadline** to sign-up for General CRP.

**Mar. 15** ---- Deadline to report cover crops to FSA for Pandemic Cover Crop Program (PCCP) through RMA.

**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**.

**April 15** ---- Deadline to enroll in the Spot Market Hog Pandemic Program (SMHPP).

**May 30** ---- Memorial Day Holiday. **FSA Offices Closed**.

**May 31** ---- **Deadline to** apply for 2021 commodity loans and LDP's on feed grains, soybeans, pulse crops.

**July 4** ----- Independence Day Holiday. **FSA Offices Closed**.

**July 15** ---- Primary Nesting Season ends.

**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.

**March 2022 Loan and Interest Rates**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loan Type</th>
<th>Interest Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Farm Operating Loans, Direct</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm Ownership Loans, Direct</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limited Resource Loans</td>
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<td>Farm Ownership Loans, Down Payment</td>
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<td>Emergency Loans</td>
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<td>Farm Storage Facility Loan, 3 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commodity Loans</td>
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**Ohio FSA State Office**

200 North High Street  
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Columbus, Ohio 43215  

Phone: 614-255-2441  
Visit the Ohio FSA website at: www.fsa.usda.gov/oh

*Acting State Executive Director:* Glenda Ward  
*Administrative Officer:* Traci Garza

*Conservation Chief:* Brandi Koehler  
*Farm Loan Chief:* Darren Metzger

*Price Support Chief:* Vacant  
*Production Adjustment / Compliance and Risk Management Chief:* Matt Kleski

Ohio FSA State Committee Members  
Theodore Finnarn