

June 2016



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Big Horn County FSA Updates

Big Horn County FSA Office

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County Executive Director:
Brenda Miller

Farm Loan Manager:
Bill Morrison- Worland
Kathy Palazzolo- Powell

Program Technician:
Connie Werbelow

County Committee:
Michael Rasmussen- Chairman
Spencer Ellis- Vice-Chairman
Martin Mercer- Member

Next County Committee Meeting: July 20, 2016 1:30PM

Crop Report Deadline July 15th

Crop reporting deadline for spring planted crops is July 15, 2016. Crop reports (FSA-578) must account for all the acres operated by a producer and is required for participation in most FSA programs. Crop reports filed after July 15th will be assessed a late file fee.

We are also taking sign-ups for 2016 ARC/PLC. Producers who chose coverage from the safety net programs established by the 2014 Farm Bill, known as the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs, can visit FSA county offices through Aug. 1, 2016, to sign contracts to enroll in coverage for 2016. Failure to complete the annual enrollment will result in not being eligible for potential payments for 2016.

2016 County Committee Elections

County Committees provide a grassroots approach to how FSA conducts business. Committees are elected by peers in the agricultural community. Successful candidates are charged with representing producers' interests from their Local Administrative Area (LAA). County Committees are an integral part to keeping decisions affecting FSA programs as local as possible.

Big Horn County has one position up for election this year (LAA-2). This includes all ground west of the Big Horn River and south of Sheep Mountain including land south of Manderson to the Washakie County line. The position is currently held by Michael Rasmussen and nominations for other applicants will be accepted through August 1, 2016. Nominating petitions can be found on the FSA forms site: <http://fsaintranet.sc.egov.usda.gov/dam/ffasforms/currentforms.asp> the form number is FSA 699A.

Election Dates to Remember:

June 15, 2016- Informational postcards will be mailed to producers in LAA's holding elections

August 1, 2016- Final date for nominations to be received by the county office

November 7, 2016- Ballots mailed to voters in LAA's holding elections

December 5, 2016- Final date for ballots to be received by the county office

Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) Program Expands to Provide More Lending Opportunities

Producers have even more ways to take advantage of the low interest rates offered through the FSFL Program. New provisions allow:

- Microloans - loans up to \$50,000, with only 5% down payment and self-certification for storage needed.
- Portable or permanently affixed (new or used) storage and handling equipment.
- New or used storage and handling trucks (grain trucks, storage trucks with a chassis unit, skid steers, etc).

All FSFL-financed equipment, structures and storage and handling trucks must have a useful life for at least the FSFL term. Additional information about FSFL is available at your local FSA office or online at: www.fsa.usda.gov

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).