



United States Department of Agriculture

Goshen County FSA Office
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Torrington WY 82240-3521

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September 2016 Edition

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee:

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Lon Eisenbarth
Linda Nichol

County Executive Director:

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Farm Loan Manager:

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Office Staff

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FSA Home Page
www.fsa.usda.gov

USDA Home Page
www.usda.gov

Office Closure

The Goshen County FSA Office will be closed on September 20-22, 2016. All employees will be attending a State Training session in Casper on those days.

Commodity Loans Available

We remind you of the availability of the commodity loan program. 2016 loan rates for applicable crops in Goshen County are:

Wheat HRW	\$2.93/bu.
Wheat HRS	\$2.59/bu.
Corn	\$2.06/bu.
Barley	\$1.85/bu.
Oats	\$1.37/bu.
Sunflowers	\$10.61/cwt.

Interest rates are minimal (example: the September 2016 rate is 1.500%) and the loan will mature at the 9th month following disbursement.

2016 loans on small grains can be requested through March 31, 2017. 2016 corn/sunflower loans can be requested through May 31, 2017. The grower must maintain title and control of the commodity (beneficial interest) while the grain is under loan.

For more information, contact this office.

2012 County Committee Election

This year's election in Goshen County is in LAA 1, which covers all of Townships 26-30. Candidates for this year's election are:

- Dixie Roth

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters around November 7. Instructions for voting will be included. December 5 is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office, or postmarked. Please take some time to vote and select your representative on the County Committee.

Newly elected committee members and alternates take office January 1, 2017.

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

The Goshen County FSA Committee has requested and was approved to implement ECP for helping replace damaged/destroyed fences due to the recent wildfire in the Prairie Center area. At this time, we do not know if the funds will be obligated for this purpose. However, we can take applications for this practice in the meantime. Signup period for ECP will run through October 14, 2016.

Applications for ECP will be done by appointment. At the time of application, we will need to plot on a map where the damaged fences were so that the length can be calculated.

If interested in the details of this program and practice, please contact this office.

Farm Loan Program Information

Farm Service Agency (FSA) has loan programs that could help farmers and ranchers experiencing financial problems in today's economy of tight profit margins. Several types of loan programs are offered through FSA.

Under the Guaranteed Loan program, FSA guarantees farm ownership, term operating loans, and lines of credit used for annual operating through conventional agricultural lenders for guarantees up to 95%. The guarantee generally allows the conventional lender to provide the applicant with longer terms and lower rates of interest. All applicants must meet certain qualifying criteria to be eligible for guarantees. Farmers and ranchers interested in Guaranteed Loans should apply directly with a conventional lender, who arranges for the guarantee.

For those unable to qualify for a Guaranteed Loan, FSA offers Direct Loans, which are made and serviced by FSA officials. Funding is limited for Direct Loans, and applicants must sometimes wait until funds are available. To qualify for a Direct Farm Ownership or Operating Loan, the applicant must meet eligibility criteria and have sufficient repayment ability and loan collateral. FSA will work with you to analyze your situation, provide technical assistance, and tailor loans to meet your needs.

Youth between the ages of 10 and 21 may also apply for a direct loan up to \$5,000 associated with their 4-H, FFA, or other youth organization activities.

Farm Service Agency is an Equal Credit Opportunity Lender. Beginning farmers and members of traditionally underserved gender and ethnic groups are encouraged to apply for guaranteed and/or direct loan assistance from FSA. Each year, farm ownership and operating loan funds are temporarily set-aside to meet the needs of beginning farmers and traditionally underserved groups.

Anyone having questions, please call your local Farm Service Agency in Torrington WY at 307-532-4880.

Livestock Indemnity Payments

The 2014 Farm Bill makes the Livestock Indemnity Payments (LIP) a permanent program and provides authority to cover eligible livestock losses. LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law, including wolves and avian predators. LIP payments are equal to 75 percent of the market value of the applicable livestock on the day before the date of death of the livestock as determined by the Secretary.

Sign-up is ongoing. Additional details on the types of information required for an application will be provided as part of the sign-up process. Some eligibility restrictions may apply. Please consult this office for details and to set up an appointment

Livestock owners should record all pertinent information of livestock death losses due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law.

Documentation of the number and kind of livestock that have died, supplemented if possible by such items as:

- Photographs or video records to document the loss, dated if possible
- Purchase records, veterinarian records, production records, bank or other loan documents
- Written contracts, records assembled for tax purposes, private insurance documents, and other similar reliable documents.

Additional information regarding LIP or other FSA programs can be found by visiting a nearby FSA Service Center or online at fsa.usda.gov.

CRP Grazing and Haying

We remind anyone who has conducted grazing or haying on any CRP this year that:

- All livestock must be removed from the CRP by September 30, 2016
- All hay must be removed from the CRP by September 30, 2016

Failure to meet the applicable deadline constitutes a violation of the CRP Contract.

Crop Reporting

The annual, timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. In Wyoming, producers need to file their 2017 acreage reports for spring seeded crops and CRP by July 15, 2017.

Prevented Planting: Prevented planting needs be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage: Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

2015 and subsequent years' acreage reporting deadlines:

- **Spring seeded crops and CRP-July 15**
- **Perennial Forage, PRF, Fall Wheat, and all other Fall-Seeded Small Grains-November 15**

This means your 2017 perennial hay/forage crops and winter wheat reporting deadline will be November 15, 2016. (This includes all hay crops and pasture)

FSAfarm+, FSA's Customer Self-Service Portal

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) has launched a new tool to provide farmers and ranchers with remote access to their personal farm information using their home computers. Farmers and ranchers can now view, print or export their personal farm data all without visiting an FSA county office.

The program, known as **FSAfarm+**, provides you with secure access to view your personal FSA data, such as base and yields, Conservation Reserve Program data, other conservation program acreage, Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation status information, field boundaries, farm imagery, name and address details, contact information and membership interest and shares in the operation. This data will be available in real time, at no cost to the producer and allow operators and owners to export and print farm records, including maps. Producers also can electronically share their data with a crop insurance agent from their own personal computer.

Farm operators and owners first will need "Level 2 eAuthentication" to access the webportal. This level of security ensures that personal information is protected for each user. Level 2 access can be obtained by going to www.eauth.usda.gov, completing the required information and then visiting your local FSA office to finalize access.

For more information on **FSAfarm+**, the customer self-service portal, contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA county office, click <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP)

Growers of Hard Red Winter (HRW) Wheat in 2016 are reminded that the depressed price of that commodity means that an LDP is currently in effect. An LDP is basically a payment that makes up the difference between the current market price for a commodity and the loan rate available for that crop. LDP rates change daily due the market fluctuations.

If you have not yet applied for your LDP, don't forget this option. Many of you have signed the initial application (Page 1 of FSA form CCC-633EZ); however the final step needs to be completed before the process is finalized. For additional information, contact your local FSA office.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 FARM SERVICE AGENCY
 GOSHEN COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE
 1441 EAST M ST. SUITE C
 TORRINGTON WY 82240

Dates to Remember	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
Continuous	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Ongoing	Signup for Livestock Indemnity Payments (LIP)
Oct. 14, 2016	Deadline to apply for ECP fencing assistance
Nov. 15, 2016	Deadline to timely file 2017 acreage reports on fall-seeded crops and perennials
Oct. 10, 2016	Office closed in observance of Columbus Day Holiday
Sept. 20-22, 2016	Office closed (all employees attending training session in Casper)

/s/ Darrell L. Jones

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
 1400 Independence Avenue, SW
 Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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