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- **UPCOMING DEADLINES**
- FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections
- USDA Offers Targeted Farm Loan Funding for Underserved Groups and Beginning Farmers

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**Campbell County FSA Updates**

**Campbell County FSA Office**

601 4-J Court, Ste. B
Gillette, WY 82716-4127

Phone: 307-682-8843
Fax: 855-4153431

**Acting CED:**
Rob Weppner

**Farm Loan Manager:**
Rob Weppner

**Program Technicians:**
Judy Bishop
Amber Fowlkes
Claudette Vander Voort

**County Committee:**
Chuck Tweedy, Chairman
Jody Chese, Vice-Chair
Travis Buesnitz, Member

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**UPCOMING DEADLINES**

**Reporting Fall Planted Crops – Deadline November 15** The deadline to report fall planted crops is fast approaching…November 15th. Please contact the FSA office get an appointment to complete your fall acreage report.

**2020 NAP Coverage Deadline – December 1** December 1 is the deadline to purchase your 2020 Non-insured Disaster Assistance (NAP) coverage. Contact the County FSA office to arrange a time to complete your purchase.

**ARC/PLC 2019 and 2020 Program Election and Enrollment - Ongoing** The FSA office is continuing to complete 2019 and 2020 enrollment for the ARC/PLC program. Call the FSA Office to make an appointment for this program.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Nov. 11, 2019 — County Office Closed – Veterans Day Holiday

Nov. 15, 2019 – Deadline to timely report fall seeded crops

Nov. 28, 2019 – County Office Closed – Thanksgiving Day Holiday

Dec. 1, 2019 – Deadline to Purchase 2020 NAP Coverage
Next County Committee Meeting: Oct. 30th @ 1 pm
Dec. 6, 2019 – Deadline to Enroll in 2019 Market Facilitation Program

IMMEDIATELY -- File Notification of Loss Forms within 15 Days of Loss of crops and/or livestock.

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FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections

The 2019 Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections began on Nov. 4, when ballots will be mailed to eligible voters. The deadline to return the ballots to local FSA offices, or to be postmarked, is Dec. 2, 2019.

County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs; conservation programs; incentive indemnity and disaster programs for some commodities; emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws.

To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm, may also be eligible to vote.

Eligible voters in local administrative area LAA #1, who do not receive a ballot can obtain one from their local USDA Service Center.

Newly elected committee members will take office Jan. 1, 2020.

The candidate in this year’s election is:

Jody Spellman Cheser is nominated in LAA #1, Campbell County, to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Jody and Dan Cheser reside near Arvada and have been raising beef cattle and Boer goats; for both meat and weed control grazing for the past 12 years.

She is an active member of the Campbell County CattleWomen.

Jody is the current COC member for LAA #1 and is willing to serve if re-elected.

More information on county committees, such as the new 2019 fact sheet, can be found on the FSA website at fsa.usda.gov/elections or at a local USDA Service Center.

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USDA Offers Targeted Farm Loan Funding for Underserved Groups and Beginning Farmers

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers that FSA offers targeted farm ownership and farm operating loans to assist underserved applicants as well as beginning farmers and ranchers.

USDA defines underserved applicants as a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities.
For farm loan program purposes, targeted underserved groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Underserved or beginning farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank can apply for either FSA direct loans or guaranteed loans. Direct loans are made to applicants by FSA. Guaranteed loans are made by lending institutions who arrange for FSA to guarantee the loan. FSA can guarantee up to 95 percent of the loss of principal and interest on a loan. The FSA guarantee allows lenders to make agricultural credit available to producers who do not meet the lender's normal underwriting criteria.

The direct and guaranteed loan program provides for two types of loans: farm ownership loans and farm operating loans. In addition to customary farm operating and ownership loans, FSA now offers Microloans through the direct loan program. The focus of Microloans is on the financing needs of small, beginning farmer, niche and non-traditional farm operations. Microloans are available for both ownership and operating finance needs. To learn more about microloans, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/microloans](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/microloans).

To qualify as a beginning producer, the individual or entity must meet the eligibility requirements outlined for direct or guaranteed loans. Additionally, individuals and all entity members must have operated a farm for less than 10 years. Applicants must materially or substantially participate in the operation.

For more information on FSA’s farm loan programs and targeted underserved and beginning farmer guidelines, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans) or contact Rob Weppner, Farm Loan Manager at 307-682-8843 Ext 2.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Rob Weppner at 307-682-8843 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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