February 2019

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Farm Service Agency Electronic News Service BULLETIN

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Niobrara County FSA Updates

Niobrara County FSA Office

905 South Main Street
PO Box 720
Lusk, WY 82225

Phone: (307) 334-2953, Ext. 2
Fax: (855) 415-3433

Acting County Executive Director: Kimberly Nusbaum

Acting Farm Loan Manager: Dixie Mount (307) 233-4050

County Committee:
Jason ZumBrunnen
Joe Kruse
Kurt Gaukel

Carol Geisinger, COC Advisor

CED Message

Please be aware that upgrades have been made to our phone system, and there is now only ONE phone number that can be used to reach the Niobrara County FSA Office, 307-334-2953. Please make sure to edit where you have this number stored – in your cell phone contacts, in your address/phone book at home and anywhere else you keep phone numbers stored. Thank you, and I apologize for any inconvenience.

Please note the following important dates and deadlines:

February 14, 2019 – Deadline to apply for Market Facilitation Program
February 18, 2019 – Office Closed – President's Day

Next County Committee Meeting:
March 5, 2019

2018 County Committee Special Election

Due to an error in the mailing of ballots for the regular County Committee Election for 2018, a Special Election will be held for the County Committee Election for Local Administrative Area (LAA) #2, the northern portion of Niobrara County, including Township 35 North, and those north of there.

The following is the calendar for the Special Election being conducted:

January 31, 2019 – Ballots mailed to eligible voters

February 28, 2019 – Last day to return voted ballots to the Niobrara County FSA Office

Please contact the Niobrara County FSA Office if you have any questions about the County Committee Election process at 307-334-2953, Ext. 2.

Market Facilitation Program – Deadline Feb. 14

The last day to submit your Market Facilitation Program (MFP) application is February 14, 2019. The final day to certify 2018 production is May 1, 2019.

Producers of **corn**, cotton, sorghum, soybeans, **wheat**, dairy, hogs, fresh sweet cherries and shelled almonds may be eligible to sign up for an MFP payment. MFP is designed to help producers significantly impacted by actions of foreign governments resulting in the loss of traditional exports. Contact your local FSA county office for more details to apply or visit www.farmers.gov/MFP.

Direct Loans

FSA offers direct farm ownership and direct farm operating Loans to producers who want to establish, maintain or strengthen their farm or ranch. FSA loan officers process, approve and service direct loans.

Direct farm operating loans can be used to purchase livestock and feed, farm equipment, fuel, farm chemicals, insurance and other costs including family living expenses. Operating loans can also be used to finance minor improvements or repairs to buildings and to refinance some farm-related debts, excluding real estate.

Direct farm ownership loans can be used to purchase farmland, enlarge an existing farm, construct and repair buildings, and to make farm improvements.

The maximum loan amount for both direct farm ownership and operating loans is $300,000 and a down payment is not required. Repayment terms vary depending on the type of loan, collateral and the producer's ability to repay the loan. Operating loans are normally repaid within seven years and farm ownership loans are not to exceed 40 years.

Please contact your local FSA office for more information or to apply for a direct farm ownership or operating loan.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Kimberly Nusbaum at 307-334-2953 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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