



June

**Campbell County
Farm Service Agency:**

601 4-J Court, Suite B
Gillette, WY 82716-4127

Phone: 307-682-8843
Fax: 855-415-3431

Hours: 8am –4:30pm M-F

County Executive Director:
Pamela S Smith

Program Technicians:
Judy Bishop
Amber Fowlkes
Claudette Vander Voort

Farm Loan Manager:
Rob Weppner

County Committee:
Chuck Tweedy, Chair
Travis Busenitz, Vice Chair
Jody Cheser, Member

Next Committee Meeting:
June 24, 2020 @1pm

Message From Your County Office

Nominations Open for the 2020 County Committee Elections

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages all farmers, ranchers, and FSA program participants to take part in the Campbell County Committee election nomination process.

FSA's county committees are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA and allow grassroots input and local administration of federal farm programs.

Committees are comprised of locally elected agricultural producers responsible for the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties. Committee members are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. If elected, members become part of a local decision making and farm program delivery process.

A county committee is composed of three to 11 elected members from local administrative areas (LAA). Each member serves a three-year term. One-third of the seats on these committees are open for election each year.

County committees may have an appointed advisor to further represent the local interests of underserved farmers and ranchers. Underserved producers are beginning, women and other minority farmers and ranchers and landowners and/or operators who have limited resources.

All nomination forms for the 2020 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by Aug. 1, 2020 (or next business day). For more information on FSA county committee elections and appointments, refer to the FSA fact sheet: *Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a COC Member* available online at: fsa.usda.gov/elections.

Wool Loan Deficiency Payments

There is currently (6/17 through 6/23/2020) an LDP rate of \$0.30 per pound available on 2020 Wool. This rate is monitored by the County Office on a weekly basis and subject to change each Tuesday night. Call the County Office for the current rate.

A producer who is eligible to obtain a loan, but agrees to forgo the loan, may obtain an LDP if such a payment is available.

FSA is now accepting requests for 2020 Wool LDPs. Requests for loans and LDPs shall be made on or before the final availability date for the respective commodities.

To be considered eligible for an LDP, producers must have form [CCC-633EZ, Page 1](#) on file at their local FSA Office before losing beneficial interest in the wool. Pages 2, 3 or 4 of the form must be submitted when payment is requested.

For more information and additional eligibility requirements, please contact your USDA Service Center or FSA's website fsa.usda.gov.

USDA Reminds Producers to Complete Crop Acreage Reports

The Campbell County office for USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is currently open to phone and scheduled appointments only but can still work with producers on timely filing crop acreage reports. FSA staff can provide assistance over the phone, by email and scheduled appointments.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Campbell County:

July 15, 2020 spring planted crops, including but not limited to wheat, oats, barley, millet, sorghum sudan grass, triticale, perennial forage crops and native range.

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers must file an accurate crop acreage report by the applicable deadline. FSA staff is still able to assist producers in completing acreage reports, including providing maps.

The Campbell County FSA office will provide maps to producers through mail or email with instructions for completing the maps. After planting is complete, producers should return completed maps and the acreage reporting sheet by mail or email by July 15, 2020.

After completed maps and all acreage reporting information is received, FSA will make software updates and mail or email producers the completed *Report of Acreage* form (FSA-578) to sign. Producers must return the signed form certifying their acreage report to the FSA office through mail or email by July 15, 2020.

The following exceptions apply to acreage reporting dates:

If the crop has not been planted by the acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.

If a producer acquires additional acreage after the acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

Producers should also report crop acreage they intended to plant, but due to natural disaster, were unable to plant. Prevented planting acreage must be reported on form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date as established by FSA and USDA's Risk Management Agency.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP-covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

For questions, please contact FSA's Campbell County office at (307) 682-8843, extension 2.

FSA Offers Joint Financing Option on Direct Farm Ownership Loans

The USDA Farm Service Agency's (FSA) [Direct Farm Ownership loans](#) are a resource to help farmers and ranchers become owner-operators of family farms, improve and expand current operations, increase agricultural productivity, and assist with land tenure to save farmland for future generations.

Depending on the applicant's needs, there are three types of Direct Farm Ownership Loans: regular, down payment and joint financing. FSA also offers a [Direct Farm Ownership Microloan](#) option for smaller financial needs up to \$50,000.

Joint financing allows FSA to provide more farmers and ranchers with access to capital. FSA lends up to 50 percent of the total amount financed. A commercial lender, a State program or the seller of the property being purchased, provides the balance of loan funds, with or without an FSA guarantee. The maximum loan amount for a Joint Financing loan is \$600,000 and the repayment period for the loan is up to 40 years.

To be eligible, the operation must be an eligible farm enterprise. Farm Ownership loan funds cannot be used to finance nonfarm enterprises and all applicants must be able to meet general eligibility requirements. Loan applicants are also required to have participated in the business operations of a farm or ranch for at least three years out of the 10 years prior to the date the application is submitted. The applicant must show documentation that their participation in the business operation of the farm or ranch was not solely as a laborer.

For more information about FSA Loan programs, contact your local FSA office or contact Rob Weppner, Farm Loan Manager at 307-682-8843 or by email at rob.weppner@usda.gov.

Farmers and Ranchers in Wyoming Can Now Apply for Financial Assistance through USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

Online Tools and Toll-Free Number Available to Assist Producers

Agricultural producers can now apply for USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), which provides direct payments to offset impacts from the coronavirus pandemic. The application and a payment calculator are now available online, and USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) staff members are available via phone, fax and scheduled office visits to help producers complete applications. The agency set up a call center (877-508-8364) in order to simplify how they serve new customers across the nation.

Applications will be accepted through August 28, 2020. Through CFAP, USDA is making available \$16 billion for vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline due to COVID-19 and face additional significant marketing costs as a result of lower demand, surplus production, and disruptions to shipping patterns and the orderly marketing of commodities.

We also want to remind producers that the program is structured to ensure the availability of funding for all eligible producers who apply. In order to do this, producers will receive 80 percent of their maximum total payment upon approval of the application. The remaining portion of the payment, not to exceed the payment limit, will be paid at a later date nationwide, as funds remain available.

Producers can download the CFAP application and other eligibility forms from farmers.gov/cfap. Also, on that webpage, producers can find a payment calculator to help identify sales and inventory records needed to apply and calculate potential payments.

Applying for Assistance

Producers of all eligible commodities will apply through their local FSA office. Those who use the online calculator tool will be able to print off a pre-filled CFAP application, sign, and submit to your local FSA office either electronically or via hand delivery. Please contact your local office to determine the preferred method. Find contact information for your local office at farmers.gov/cfap.

Documentation to support the producer's application and certification may be requested after the application is filed. FSA has streamlined the signup process to not require an acreage report at the time of application and a USDA farm number may not be immediately needed.

More Information

To find the latest information on CFAP, visit farmers.gov/cfap or [call 877-508-8364](tel:877-508-8364).

USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone and scheduled office visits only, and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are **urged to call their Service Center to schedule an appointment**. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Reporting 2020 Production of NAP Crops

As soon as you have completed harvesting your NAP crops, you need to call for an appointment to report your 2020 NAP crop production. Producers were provided maps of your fields to record your production on. Please contact the county office if you have any questions regarding production reporting.

USDA Farm Service Agency
Campbell County Office
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Timely Reporting of NAP losses

Losses of crops covered by the Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), should be reported within 15 days of noticing the loss. These crops may include native range, grass hay crops, small grains planted with the intended use of hay (ie: millet, wheat, oats, or barley hay).

*Producers suffering losses on hay crops should report the loss to the county office so that a loss adjuster's visit can be scheduled **PRIOR to grazing** the fields.*

If you feel you have suffered a loss of grazing or hay production, please call the county office to set up a time to come in to report your loss.

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).