

August 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

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Carbon/Albany County FSA Updates

Carbon/Albany County Farm Service Agency **Message from the CED**

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County Executive Director:
Sheryl Hunter

Farm Loan Manager:
Dixie Mount: 307-322-4050

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Anelyse Perue

County Committee: Ryan Wilson,
Cheryl Munroe, Mary Ann Boles, Robin
Carter, Savannah Chant

Our office is open to scheduled appointments, provided you do not feel ill, been exposed to COVID, or have any symptoms. Please call the office to make an appointment to complete any FSA business if you want to meet in person. We are also still accepting applications by phone, fax, email and US Postal Service.

We continue to watch the drought monitor closely as most of the county is experiencing severe drought conditions. We encourage producers to let the office know about yield losses, pasture performance and take pictures to document the drought. I am enlisting your assistance to report directly to the US Drought Monitor at the following website <https://droughtreporter.unl.edu/submitreport> to describe your current conditions and how it is impacting you. The report allows producers to:

- Provide a written description of drought impacts on livelihood, pasture conditions, purchasing livestock feed above normal, livestock water issues, sickness in livestock, selling livestock, etc.

**Next County Committee
Meeting: Sept. 9 at 10 AM**

- Select categories to show losses and gains as a result of the drought such as significant decrease in hay production or grain producer losses
- Report on the duration of drought event
- Select *Affected Places* – geographic areas ranging from an entire state to a small area within a state
- Submit images that document the drought and its impact
- Provide contact information (with the option to keep information confidential)

We are still accepting applications to the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). This program provides direct financial assistance to those whose operations have been negatively impacted by the global pandemic. Commodities that are most likely to be eligible for this program in our county are cattle, sheep, 2019 corn, 2019 oats, and 2019 millet. USDA recently **extended the application deadline to Sept. 11**. If you haven't already spoken to us about this program, please call our office to find out if your operation could benefit from it. You also can learn more by visiting the farmers.gov/cfap website.

Upcoming dates to remember:

September 7- Office closed for Labor Day

September 11 – deadline to apply for CFAP benefits

December 1- Deadline to obtain 2021 NAP coverage on perennial hays, grazing, and honey.

15 days after becoming apparent- file your Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) Notice of Loss

Preauthorized Debit Available for Farm Loan Borrowers

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) has implemented pre-authorized debit (PAD) for Farm Loan Program (FLP) borrowers. PAD is a voluntary and alternative method for making weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual payments on loans.

PAD payments are pre-authorized transactions that allow the National Financial and Accounting Operations Center (NFAOC) to electronically collect loan payments from a customer's account at a financial institution.

PAD may be useful if you use nonfarm income from regular wages or salary to make payments on loans or adjustment offers or for payments from seasonal produce stands. PAD can only be established for future payments.

To request PAD, customers, along with their financial institution, must fill out form RD 3550-28. This form has no expiration date, but a separate form RD 3550-28 must be completed for each loan to which payments are to be applied. A fillable form can be accessed on the USDA Rural Development

(RD) website at rd.usda.gov/publications/regulations-guidelines. Click forms and search for “Form 3550-28.”

If you have a “filter” on the account at your financial institution, you will need to provide the financial institution with the following information: Origination ID: 1220040804, Agency Name: USDA RD DCFO.

PAD is offered by FSA at no cost. Check with your financial institution to discuss any potential cost. Preauthorized debit has no expiration date, but you can cancel at any time by submitting a written request to your local FSA office. If a preauthorized debit agreement receives three payment rejections within a three-month period, the preauthorized debit agreement will be cancelled by FSA. The payment amount and due date of your loan is not affected by a cancellation of preauthorized debit. You are responsible to ensure your full payment is made by the due date.

For more information about PAD, contact the Platte County USDA Service Center at 307-322-4050 or visit fsa.usda.gov

Report Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Losses

NAP provides financial assistance to you for crops that aren't eligible for crop insurance to protect against lower yields or crops unable to be planted due to natural disasters including excessive wind and qualifying drought (**includes native grass for grazing**).

To receive payment, you had to purchase NAP coverage for 2020 crops and file a notice of loss the earlier of 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent or 15 days of the final harvest date.

For hand-harvested crops and certain perishable crops, you must notify FSA within 72 hours of when a loss becomes apparent.

Eligible crops must be commercially produced agricultural commodities for which crop insurance is not available, including perennial grass forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, bioenergy, and industrial crops.

For more information on NAP, contact your Natrona/Converse County USDA Service Center at 307-261-5436 or visit fsa.usda.gov/nap.

CFAP Program Changes and Signup Deadline Extended

It was announced in an official news release on August 11, 2020, that additional crops/commodities would be eligible for the Corona Virus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). Of note to Carbon and Albany County producers was the inclusion of “all sheep”, prior to this change, only sheep under 2 years of age had been eligible.

Also announced in the same news release, was the fact that the CFAP applicants will receive 100% of their eligible calculated payment. The additional 20% payments were disbursed last week.

The deadline to apply for benefits under the Corona Virus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) has been extended to September 11, 2020.

Producers with sheep should call their local FSA office to set up an appointment to amend their application so they may receive payment on the livestock not reported earlier.

The entire news release can be viewed at farmers.gov/cfap. If you have any questions, please contact your local FSA Office.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Sheryl Hunter at 307-326-5657 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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).