

January 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

# BULLETIN

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## Crook County FSA Updates

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### **Crook County FSA Office:**

PO Box 1070  
117 South 21st Street  
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Phone: 307-283-2870  
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### **County Executive Director:**

Sarah Hanlon

### **Farm Loan Manager:**

Rob Weppner, 307-682-8843

### **Program Technicians:**

Susan Johnson  
Pam Schurman

### **County Committee:**

Ivan Cranston  
Jeanne Habeck  
Alan Ista  
Colter Ellsbury

## County Office Notes

Hi Everyone!

If you have been trying to reach the office in the past couple of days, I apologize for any inconvenience you may have experienced. We had a fairly major technology glitch that left us without phones or internet at the office since Wednesday. So, if you were unable to reach us this week, please try again! We seem to be mostly back to normal.

ARC/PLC producers, remember that election and contract enrollments for 2019 must be complete by March 15th. Call the office for an appointment to complete this process, soon.

As we approach the start of calving season, please remember to keep records pertaining to adverse weather and livestock losses. Please call the office within 30 days of the loss to report livestock losses timely. We are in the process of setting dates and times for producer information meetings throughout the county for our Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). So please watch your newsletters for dates, times, and locations once those are finalized. These meetings are a good way to learn more about program requirements and get questions answered to help your application process go smoothly.

If you are a wool producer, please contact the office to learn more about the Loan Deficiency Program (LDP) that is mentioned below. Payments will likely

**Next County Committee Meeting:**

be available for 2020 wool products, but there are steps that need taken before you lose "beneficial interest" (control/custody) of the wool.

TBD

If you missed our Wednesday Workshop this month, our next one will be Wednesday, April 8th, at 2:00 PM at the Sundance State Bank Meeting Room. There will be a focus on our livestock programs including LIP, as well as other information for current programs.

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## USDA Safety Net Program Enrollment for 2019 and 2020

Agricultural producers now can enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs – two U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) safety net programs – for the 2019 and 2020 crop year.

*ARC provides income support payments on historical base acres when actual crop revenue declines below a specified guaranteed level. PLC provides income support payments on historical base acres when the effective price for a covered commodity falls below its reference price. The 2018 Farm Bill reauthorized and updated both programs.*

Signup for the 2019 crop year closes March 15, 2020, while signup for the 2020 crop year closes June 30, 2020. Producers who have not yet enrolled for 2019 can enroll for both 2019 and 2020 during the same visit to an FSA county office.

ARC and PLC have options for the farm operator who is actively farming the land as well as the owner of the land. Farm owners also have a one-time opportunity to update PLC payment yields beginning with crop year 2020. If the farm owner and producer visit the FSA county office together, FSA can also update yield information during that visit.

Covered commodities include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium and short grain rice, safflower seed, seed cotton, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat.

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## Wool Triggers Loan Deficiency Payment in Crook County

Wool producers in Crook County may be eligible for loan deficiency payments (LDPs) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), which help producers under certain market conditions.

Marketing assistance loans (MALs) and LDPs are marketing tools available to producers beginning upon harvest or shearing. MALs help producers meet cash flow needs without selling commodities when market prices are at harvest-time lows.

Producers who are eligible for marketing loans, but choose to forgo the loan, are eligible for LDPs if the posted county price falls below the county loan rate. Producers also can purchase a commodity certificate that may be exchanged for the outstanding loan collateral. Producers can check their daily LDP rates online at [fsa.usda.gov](https://fsa.usda.gov).

LDPs are no longer subject to payment limitations, actively engaged in farming and cash-rent tenant rules.

### Eligibility Requirements

For a commodity to be eligible for a loan, LDP, or certificate, the producer must have beneficial interest in the commodity, defined as having title, possession and control of the commodity, and responsible for loss of or damage to the commodity. All related application forms must be completed at the local FSA office prior to loss of beneficial interest. Other eligibility requirements may apply; consult your local FSA office for more information.

Marketing assistance loans are available for the following commodities: wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, extra-long staple cotton, long grain rice, medium grain rice, soybeans and other oilseeds (including sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe and sesame seed), dry peas, lentils, small chickpeas, large chickpeas, graded and non-graded wool, mohair, unshorn pelts, honey and peanuts.

### **More Information**

For more information, visit [fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport](https://fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport). To find your local USDA service center, visit [farmers.gov/service-locator](https://farmers.gov/service-locator).

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## **Beginning Farmer Loans**

FSA assists beginning farmers to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size farm.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center or contact Rob Weppner, Farm Loan Manager at 307-682-8843 Ext 2. You may also visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](https://www.fsa.usda.gov).

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Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact [Sarah Hanlon](#) at [307-283-2870](tel:307-283-2870) extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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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).