

October
2020



Crook County Farm Service Agency:

P.O. Box 1070
117 South 21st Street
Sundance, WY 82729

Phone: (307) 283-2870, ext. 2
Fax: (855) 415-3442

Hours: 8am-4:30pm Mon - Fri

County Executive Director:

Sarah Hanlon
sarah.hanlon@usda.gov

Program Technicians:

Pam Schurman
Anna Schurman

Farm Loan Manager:

Rob Weppner
rob.weppner@usda.gov
Phone: (307) 682-8843, ext. 2

County Committee:

Ivan Cranston, Chairperson
Alan Ista, Vice-Chairperson
Colter Ellsbury, Member
Jeanne Habeck, Advisor

Next Committee Meeting:

December 14, 2020 @ 11 am
at the Sundance USDA
Service Center

Text Notifications:

To receive reminders by text message, **text:**

WYCROOK to
372-669 (FSANOW)

We send no more than 2 per month.

Message From Your County Office

Hi, everyone!

We have had a lot going on lately. So, this section is going to focus on the basics, deadlines, and notices of loss. We are also now administering CFAP 2.0 to assist with COVID-19 related market disruptions.

Deadlines and Dates:

- November 16, 2020: Fall Acreage Reporting Deadline, this includes all fall seeded crops, and honey.
- November 16, 2020: Production reporting, this date is also the final date to report 2020 production for fall seeded crops and honey.
- December 1, 2020: Deadline to obtain NAP coverage on fall planted crops, honey, as well as perennial hays and grazing.
- December 11, 2020: Application deadline for CFAP 2.0

Notices of Loss:

- NAP (Noninsured crop disaster Assistance Program): Must be filed within 15 days of loss being apparent
- LIP (Livestock Indemnity Program): Must be filed within 30 days of loss being apparent
- ELAP (Emergency Livestock Assistance Program): Must be filed within 30 days of loss being apparent for livestock, 15 days for honeybees.

Sheep Producers:

- LDP (Loan Deficiency Payment): Wool is still eligible for LDP payments. If you have not already claimed this payment please contact us to do so. As I have previously mentioned, this program is not a loan. It is triggered by commodity prices in relation to loan rates. Some parts of this application must be completed before the wool is sold.

Drought:

Many of you have been asking me about our ad hoc drought programs. Most of these programs work in conjunction with the drought monitor which can be found at <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/> Until we are in D2 or higher drought conditions for specific lengths of time, during our programmatic "grazing season," we do not qualify for these programs. We did not meet these requirements.

If you feel that the drought monitor does not match the conditions you are seeing, this year or in the future, I would recommend you take the time to file an impact report, <https://droughtimpacts.unl.edu/Home.aspx> This is likely the best way to contribute information to assist the folks who compile this information.

USDA to Provide Additional Direct Assistance to Farmers and Ranchers Impacted by the Coronavirus

USDA announced up to an additional \$14 billion for agricultural producers who continue to face market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19. Signup for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP 2.0) runs through December 11, 2020. Producers are eligible to receive both CFAP 1.0 and CFAP 2.0 benefits.

Background: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will use funds being made available from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and CARES Act to support row crops, livestock, specialty crops, dairy, aquaculture and many additional commodities. USDA has incorporated improvements in CFAP 2 based from stakeholder engagement and public feedback to better meet the needs of impacted farmers and ranchers.

Producers can apply for CFAP 2 at USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices. This program provides financial assistance that gives producers the ability to absorb increased marketing costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Producers will be compensated for ongoing market disruptions and assisted with the associated marketing costs. CFAP 2 payments will be made for three categories of commodities – Price Trigger Commodities, Flat-rate Crops and Sales Commodities.

Price Trigger Commodities: Price trigger commodities are major commodities that meet a minimum 5-percent price decline over a specified period of time. Eligible price trigger crops include **barley, corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, and all classes of wheat**. Payments will be based on 2020 planted acres of the crop, excluding prevented planting and experimental acres. For broilers and eggs, payments will be based on 75 percent of the producer's 2019 production.

Eligible beef cattle, hogs and pigs, and lambs and sheep payments will be based on the maximum owned inventory of eligible livestock, excluding breeding stock, on a date selected by the producer, between Apr. 16, 2020, and Aug. 31, 2020.

Flat-rate Crops: Crops that either do not meet the 5-percent price decline trigger or do not have data available to calculate a price change will have payments calculated based on eligible 2020 acres. These crops include alfalfa, oats, hemp, millet, mustard, safflower, sesame, triticale, rapeseed, and several others.

Sales Commodities: Sales commodities include other commodities not included in the price trigger and flat-rate categories, such as goat milk, mink (including pelts), mohair, wool, and honey. It also includes other livestock (excluding breeding stock) not included under the price trigger category that were grown for food, fiber, fur, or feathers, including, but not limited to: **alpacas, bison, buffalo, beefalo, goats, llamas**, pheasants, quail, rabbits, and turkeys. Payment calculations will use a sales-based approach, where producers are paid based on five payment gradations associated with their 2019 sales.

Applying for Assistance: Applications will be accepted through Dec. 11, 2020.

Additional commodities are eligible in CFAP 2 that weren't eligible in the first iteration of the program. If your agricultural operation has been impacted by the pandemic since April 2020, we encourage you to apply for CFAP 2. A complete list of eligible commodities, payment rates and calculations, along with additional information and application forms can be found on farmers.gov/cfap.

Attention all Buyers of Agricultural Products

It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's Office to determine if there are liens against the Seller of the product. If a lien is found, you are required to place the lien holder's name on the check as well as that of the Seller. Ag Products include but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc.), machinery, equipment and all other crops. Failure to place the lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the Buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a Buyer! You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at 1-307-777-7311.

FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections

The 2020 Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections will begin on Nov. 2, 2020, when ballots are mailed to eligible voters. The deadline to return ballots to local FSA offices, or to be postmarked, is Dec. 7, 2020.

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 #2, who do not receive a ballot can obtain one from their local USDA Service Center. Newly elected committee members will take office Jan. 1, 2021.

The candidates in this year's election are:

Colter Ellsbury is nominated in LAA #2, Crook County, to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Colter has been a livestock producer for 12 years. He is currently serving as a member of the Crook County FSA Committee.

Jeanne Habeck is nominated in LAA #2, Crook County, to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Jeanne and her husband, Philip, have been hay producers and have a cow/calf and backgrounding operation for the past 27 years. She is a member of Crook County Cattlewomen, and has been serving as a non-voting advisory member for the Crook County FSA Committee.

More information on county committees, such as the new 2020 fact sheet, can be found on the FSA website at fsa.usda.gov/elections or at a local USDA Service Center.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Sarah Hanlon at 307-283-2870, extension 2, or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

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Do you receive our emails?

Paper newsletters do not come very often. We do send updates every month via GovDelivery emails. If you are not receiving these emails, please call the office, so we can correct your information and keep you updated. You can also visit:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFSA/subscriber/new?preferences=true>
to update your email and subscription preferences.

Do you receive our texts?

The other way to receive notifications for immediate deadlines is via text notification. These will only be sent for the counties you enroll in, not from national or state offices. We send no more than 2 per month.

To start receiving these notifications, text:

WYCROOK to 372669 (FSANOW)

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).