

July 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

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Goshen County FSA Updates

Goshen County Farm Service Agency

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County Committee:

CED Comments & Upcoming Deadlines

In response to COVID-19, the Goshen County FSA Staff are now meeting with producers by appointment only. Please contact the office by phone prior to your arrival so we can check our schedule and see if we can fit you in.

CFAP has been at the forefront of our minds currently. To date, we have paid out over \$3 million in benefits to the producers of Goshen County. If you have cattle, sheep, hogs, or corn, please contact the office for an application!

We continue to watch the drought monitor closely as much of the county is experiencing drought conditions. If you have NAP coverage, please contact the office to file a Notice of Loss within 15 days of the loss becoming apparent. Additionally, emergency grazing on CRP becomes available if the county is classified as D2. Please check future bulletins for more information or program eligibility.

Additionally, we are accepting nominations for LAA 2 for the Goshen County Committee. Dave Unverzagt has faithfully served on the committee for 9 years and is term limiting out. Please

Lon Eisenbarth
Dixie Roth
David Unverzagt

contact the office for a nomination form. **All forms are due by August 1, 2020.**

Next County Committee Meeting: TBD

Upcoming Deadlines/ Important Dates

August 14- Updated Acreage Reporting Deadline

August 28- CFAP Application Deadline

September 7- Office Closed- Labor Day

ELAP Covers Losses from Additional Cost of Transporting Water to Livestock

Assistance is available to livestock producers through the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) for producers who have incurred additional operating costs for transporting water to livestock due to an eligible drought.

An eligible drought means that part or all of a county is designated D3 (extreme drought) or higher as indicated by the U.S. Drought Monitor (droughtmonitor.unl.edu). Producers must file a notice of loss on form CCC-851 the earlier of 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent to the producer, or by Jan. 30, 2020. Additionally, the deadline to submit an application for payment for 2020 ELAP assistance is Feb. 1, 2021.

To qualify for ELAP, eligible livestock must be: adult or non-adult dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo and beefalo, as well as alpacas, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, reindeer, or sheep.

Additionally, the livestock must have been owned 60 calendar days prior to the beginning of the drought and be physically located in the county designated as a disaster area due to drought. Adequate livestock watering systems or facilities must have existed before the drought occurred and producers are only eligible if they do not normally transport water to the livestock.

Livestock that were or would have been in a feedlot are not eligible for transporting water. ELAP covers the additional cost of transporting water and does not cover the cost of the water itself.

Producers will have to provide documentation to FSA that shows the method used to transport the water, the number of gallons of water transported and the number of eligible livestock to which water was transported.

Livestock producers should contact FSA to make an appointment to sign up for ELAP and to learn more about eligibility, application and documentation requirements.

Document the Drought: USDA U.S. Drought Monitor Offers Producers a Voice to Report Drought Impacts

The U.S. Drought Monitor's reporting feature offers producers an opportunity to submit drought impact and condition reports.

The USDA, in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, produced the U.S. Drought Monitor to include a reporting feature that allows producers to report local drought impacts and conditions.

The report allows producers to:

- Provide a written description of drought impacts on livelihood, activities, etc.;
- Select categories to show losses and gains as a result of the drought;
- 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 (includes an option to keep information confidential).

The reporting tool for producers to record the effects of the drought can be accessed at the following link: <https://droughtimpacts.unl.edu/ConditionMonitoringObservations.aspx>

More information including state specific drought impact maps can be found on the U. S. Drought Monitor homepage: droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home.aspx

Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

1. Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
2. Be 10 years to 20 years of age
3. Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
4. Be unable to get a loan from other sources
5. Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
6. Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Courtney Yelton at 307-532-4880 x2 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).