

July 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

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Laramie County FSA Updates

Laramie County Farm Service Agency **Laramie County Comments**

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County Committee:
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Dave Bowman

Happy July Laramie County Farmers and Ranchers!

We know many of you are immersed in wheat harvest and/or haying, but we would like to remind you of a few key days coming up for FSA programs:

- July 15th-NAP (Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) production for 2019 crops due
- July 15th-Acreage Reporting deadline for 2020 spring crops
- July 16th-CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) haying/grazing can begin-make sure you have your paperwork in place with the office before you start
- August 28th-CFAP (Coronavirus Food Assistance Program) signup deadline
- September 30th-ARC/PLC (Agricultural Risk Coverage/Price Loss Coverage) yield updates/contract revisions deadline

Please also keep in mind to report any weather-related losses for NAP crops within 15 days of when the loss is apparent, and to

Brian Jacobsen
Heidi Romsa-advisor

report any natural disaster/weather-related livestock losses within 30 days.

Next County Committee Meeting: TBD

Also, wool producers: we currently have a loan deficiency payment available. Please contact us to complete the paperwork before you lose beneficial interest in your wool. The payment varies by week, so please contact us ASAP.

Thank you for all you do! Happy haying and harvesting!

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 Laramie 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.

Farm Safety

Flowing grain in a storage bin or gravity-flow wagon is like quicksand — it can kill quickly. It takes less than five seconds for a person caught in flowing grain to be trapped.

The mechanical operation of grain handling equipment also presents a real danger. Augers, power take offs, and other moving parts can grab people or clothing.

These hazards, along with pinch points and missing shields, are dangerous enough for adults; not to mention children. It is always advisable to keep children a safe distance from operating farm

equipment. Always use extra caution when backing or maneuvering farm machinery. Ensure everyone is visibly clear and accounted for before machinery is engaged.

FSA wants all farmers to have a productive crop year and that begins with putting safety first.

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.
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Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Robin B. Hudson at 307-772-2314 ext. 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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