

August 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

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- [Niobrara County Notes](#)
- [Disaster Assistance for 2020 Livestock Forage Losses](#)
- [Preauthorized Debit Available for Farm Loan Borrowers](#)

Niobrara County FSA Updates

Name County Farm Service Agency

Niobrara County FSA Office

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Fax: (855) 415-3433

County Executive Director:

Laura Kessler

Program Technicians:

Kimberly Nusbaum
Eilish Hanson

Niobrara County Notes

Greetings Niobrara County Farmers and Ranchers!

It has been a tough summer! We are still experiencing extremely dry conditions, hail, and have had some fires around the county. Please remember, if you have lost grazing days to hail or fire on your pastures, keep in mind that we have a program that can potentially compensate you for those grazing days lost. Please remember to file a notice of loss within 30 days.

We have now been at the D2 level on the U.S. Drought Monitor for 8 consecutive weeks, that opens eligibility the Livestock Forage Program (LFP). This is a program to help with drought conditions. Please call the office to schedule an appointment to apply. See article below.

The County office is currently in the middle of requesting Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) for drought to help with cost sharing on establishing water development. This would include items such as drilling wells, laying pipe, and putting in water tanks to pasture that have no reliable water source. Please let the office know if you are in a situation where you are experiencing water issues due to the

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

County Committee:
Jason ZumBrunnen
Joe Kruse
Kurt Gaukel

Carol Geisinger, COC
Advisor

Next County Committee Meeting: September 16, 2020

drought. If the office gets approved and funded for the program, we will have an idea of all those affected.

The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) deadline has been extended to September 11, 2020. If you have not applied and think you are eligible, please call the county office.

Please keep submitting reports on the Drought Impact Reporter via the U.S. Drought Monitor, so that the authors of the Drought Monitor are aware of our deteriorating conditions. Reports can be submitted at the following website location:

<https://droughtimpacts.unl.edu/ConditionMonitoringObservations.aspx>

Please note the following important dates and deadlines:
September 7, 2020 – Office Closed – Labor Day Holiday

September 11, 2020 – CFAP Deadline

October 12, 2020 – Office Closed – Columbus Day Holiday

Within 15 days of noticing crop loss – File NAP Notice of Loss

Within 30 days of noticing livestock, pasture, or feed loss – File LIP/ELAP Notice of Loss

Disaster Assistance for 2020 Livestock Forage Losses

Producers in Niobrara County are eligible to apply for 2020 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) benefits on native and improved pasture.

LFP provides compensation if you suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or fire on federally managed land.

County committees can only accept LFP applications after notification is received by the National Office of qualifying drought or if a federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normal permitted livestock on federally managed lands due to qualifying fire. You must complete a CCC-853 and the required supporting documentation no later than January 30, 2021, for 2020 losses.

For additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact the **Niobrara** USDA Service Center at **307-334-2953, Ext. 2** or visit fsa.usda.gov.

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.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Laura Kessler at 307-334-2953 Ext. 2 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).