Hello to all Park County farmers and ranchers! I hope this finds you healthy, and everyone is having success with calving, lambing, and planting.

The office will be closed to the public due to the ongoing world-wide health concerns. We are continuing to service our producers via telephone, email, and/or postal mail.

As many of you are aware, funds have been set aside in the recently passed CARES funding package for agricultural producers. At this time, the office has not received any guidance or information on how those funds will be distributed and or/when. I will be sending out information as soon as information becomes available.

Just a few reminders:

- If you lose livestock due to an eligible weather event, make sure you notify the office within 30 calendar days of knowing the loss.
- Sheep producers – there is currently a Loan Deficiency Program payment eligible on wool. You need to make sure to complete the CCC-633EZ page 1 with the County Office prior to losing beneficial interest in the wool.
- Please remember to keep updated livestock inventory records. These records are necessary in the event of a natural disaster.
If you suffered QUANTITY losses on your crops in 2019, please call me, as you might be eligible for payment. QUALITY loss regulations have NOT been published yet.

As always, please contact the office if you have any questions.

Darla

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**Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 25, 2020</td>
<td>Park County FSA Office is closed for Memorial Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 30, 2020</td>
<td>Enrollment deadline for <strong>2020 Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs (ARC/PLC)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>July 4, 2020</td>
<td>Park County FSA Office is closed for Independence Day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15, 2020</td>
<td><strong>Acreage (Crop) Reporting</strong> deadline for Spring Planted Crops and Perennial Forage</td>
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- **NAP Notice of Loss for Crops** must be filed the earlier of **15 days** of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent, or 15 days of the final harvest date.
- **LIP Notice of Loss for Livestock Losses** must be filed within **30 calendar days** of when the loss is first apparent.
- **Leases and/or Land Ownership including operational changes** must be reported within **30 calendar days** of change to avoid late fees, repayment of funds issued and/or ineligibility for program participation.

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**USDA Offers Targeted Farm Loan Funding for Underserved Groups and Beginning Farmers**

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers that FSA offers targeted farm ownership and farm operating loans to assist underserved applicants as well as beginning farmers and ranchers.

USDA defines underserved applicants as a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For farm loan program purposes, targeted underserved groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Underserved or beginning farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank can apply for either FSA direct loans or guaranteed loans. Direct loans are made to applicants by FSA. Guaranteed loans are made by lending institutions who arrange for FSA to guarantee the loan. FSA can guarantee up to 95 percent of the loss of principal and interest on a loan. The FSA guarantee allows lenders to make agricultural credit available to producers who do not meet the lender's normal underwriting criteria.
The direct and guaranteed loan program provides for two types of loans: farm ownership loans and farm operating loans. In addition to customary farm operating and ownership loans, FSA now offers Microloans through the direct loan program. The focus of Microloans is on the financing needs of small, beginning farmer, niche and non-traditional farm operations. Microloans are available for both ownership and operating finance needs. To learn more about microloans, visit [fsa.usda.gov/microloans](http://fsa.usda.gov/microloans).

To qualify as a beginning producer, the individual or entity must meet the eligibility requirements outlined for direct or guaranteed loans. Additionally, individuals and all entity members must have operated a farm for less than 10 years. Applicants must materially or substantially participate in the operation.

For more information on FSA’s farm loan programs and targeted underserved and beginning farmer guidelines, visit [fsa.usda.gov/farmloans](http://fsa.usda.gov/farmloans).

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Darla Rhodes at 307-754-9411 extension 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).