



NEWSLETTER



May 2020

Park County Farm Service Agency

1017 Highway 14A
Powell, WY 82435

Phone: 307-754-9411
Fax: 855-415-3438

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Monday—Friday

County Executive Director:

Darla Rhodes

Program Technicians:

Tanya Butz
Marcia Shuler

Farm Loan Officer:

Tom Schambow

County Committee:

Emily Karst—Chair-person
Lynn George—Vice-chairperson
Tim Acord—Member

Next Committee Meeting:

TBD

County Office Message

Hello to all Park County producers! We hope you are staying safe and healthy during these trying times. In light of the public health concern, we are continuing to serve our producers, albeit a little differently. Our office is no longer open to the public, but is staffed at this time and assisting producers either by phone, fax, or email. Please don't hesitate to call or email us.

Many of you are busy planting, and as a friendly reminder, please don't forget to keep track of your planting dates. FSA and your crop insurance agent will need those dates. Hopefully by the time all crops are planted, the USDA Service Center will be open for business and we can complete your annual acreage report as usual.

We are accepting signups for the CRP(Grassland) and WHIP+ programs. If your losses on 2019 crops were a result of fall weather last year that affected the QUALITY of your crop, we are still waiting for the rules and regulations to be published. Please hold off on your signup for these types of losses. You can call our office and we will add your name to our list of quality losses to contact once the rules are published.

Sheep producers, please be aware that there is currently a \$0.02/pound Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) for ungraded wool right now and if your micron range tests 29 or higher, there is a \$0.22/pound payment. Please contact the office to sign the page 1 of form 633-EZ prior to the loss of beneficial interest in your wool. Once you have delivered your wool to market or have a weight, we can complete the LDP application for payment, if there is still a payment.

We have enclosed a 2020 Customer Calendar to this newsletter that will outline signup deadlines, important information on disaster programs, and other important dates and contact information for our offices. We hope you find this helpful for your operation.

CARES Act

At this time, FSA does not have specific information on the CARES act or how it will be administered by our offices. We are keeping track of producers who inquire and will make it known publicly how to apply for the program once we have details. Look for information in the newspaper, on the local radio, or in our monthly GovDelivery email.

Livestock Losses

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to eligible producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather, disease, and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law.

LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, wildfires, extreme heat, or extreme cold.

For disease losses, FSA County Committees can accept veterinarian certifications that livestock deaths were directly related to adverse weather and unpreventable through good animal husbandry and management.

For 2020 livestock losses, eligible livestock owners must file a notice of loss within 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent.

Participants must provide the following supporting documentation to their local FSA office no later than 60 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the eligible loss condition occurred.

- Proof of death documentation
- Copy of grower's contracts
- Proof of normal mortality documentation

USDA has established normal mortality rates for each type and weight range of eligible livestock, i.e. Adult Beef Cow = 2/0% and Non-Adult Beef Cattle (less than 400 pounds) = 4%. These established percentages reflect losses that are considered expected or typical under "normal" conditions.

In addition to filing a notice of loss, producers must also submit an application for payment by March 1, 2021. For more information, please contact the office at 307-754-9411.

ARC/PLC Enrollment for 2020

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages agricultural producers to enroll now in the Agriculture Risk Loss (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) Programs. The deadline for the 2020 crop year is June 30, 2020.

ARC and PLC provide financial protections to farmers from substantial drops in crop prices or revenues and are vital economic safety nets for most American farms.

The programs cover the following commodities: barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium and short grain rice, safflower seed, seed cotton, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed, and wheat.

Farm owners have a one-time opportunity to update PLC payment yields that take effect beginning with crop year 2020. If the owner accompanies the producer to the office, the yield update and enrollments may be completed during the same office visit.

ARC/PLC Acreage Maintenance

Producers enrolled in the ARC or PLC programs must protect all cropland and non-cropland acres on the farm from wind and water erosion and weeds (including noxious weeds). Producers who sign ARC/PLC contracts agree to effectively control noxious weeds on the farm according to sound agricultural practices. If a producer fails to take necessary actions to correct a maintenance program on a farm that is enrolled in ARC/PLC, the County Committee may elect to terminate the contract for the program year, and may fine the producer.

Update Your Records

FSA is cleaning up our producer record database. If you have any unreported changes of address, phone number, email address, bank account, entity name, or entity members, they need to be reported to our office. Changes in your farm land also need to be current for accurate acreage reporting and to remain eligible for many programs.

If you have any updates or corrections, please contact our office at 307-754-9411.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm Service Agency

Farm Programs

- Agricultural Risk & Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC)
- Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)
- Commodity Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL)
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP)
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)
- Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program (WHIP)

Farm Loans—No Application Deadlines

- Beginning Farmer & Rancher Loans
- Emergency Loans (Time Sensitive)
- Farm Operating Loans (Direct and Guaranteed)
- Farm Ownership Loans (Direct and Guaranteed)
- Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL)
- EZ Guarantee and Microloans
- SDA (Women/Minority) Farmer & Rancher Loans
- Youth Loans
- Various eligibility requirements are required for both Farm programs and Farm loans

Farm Program Deadlines - (dates below are subject to change) *Contact your local office for more information or to make an appointment.*

Acresage Reports:

- July 15 – Soybeans, corn, and other spring-planted feed grains, CRP, Hemp, and other crops
- November 15 – Apiculture (bees), fall-seeded small grains

CRP General Signup: December 9 through February 28

Continuous CRP Signup: August 21

CRP Grasslands: March 16 to May 15

ARC/PLC:

- July 15 – Final date to report production for the preceding crop year
- June 30 – Election and enrollment end for crop year 2020
- October of each contract year after 2020 – Election and enrollment begin for the applicable year
- March 15 of each contract year after 2020 – Election and enrollment end for the applicable year

LFP:

- Within 30 days after the end of the year in which the grazing loss occurred – submit Application for Payment and supporting documentation

2020 Customer Calendar

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Days USDA Offices Are Closed

- Jan. 1** - New Year's Day Holiday
- Jan. 20** - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Feb. 17** - President's Birthday
- May 25** - Memorial Day
- July 4** - Independence Day
- Sept. 7** - Labor Day
- Oct. 12** - Columbus Day
- Nov. 11** - Veterans Day
- Nov. 26** - Thanksgiving Day
- Dec. 25** - Christmas Holiday

Important Links

Farmers.gov - <https://www.farmers.gov/>
FSA FencePost - <http://fsa.blogg.govdelivery.com/>
USDA Blogs - <http://blogs.usda.gov/>

Questions?

Contact your local FSA office.
 A directory of USDA Service Centers can be found online at offices.usda.gov

GovDelivery Email & SMS Text Updates

Contact your local FSA office ask how you can receive important FSA updates and reminders by email and SMS text subscriptions.

Have you moved?

Changed bank accounts?

Contact your local FSA to update your records.

Stay Connected with USDA:



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

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Park County FSA Office
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USDA Service Centers Taking Precautionary Measures to Help Prevent the Spread of Coronavirus

USDA Service Centers are encouraging visitors to take proactive protective measures to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

As part of our commitment to farmers and ranchers, USDA Service Centers will continue to be open for business by phone appointment only and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While our FSA and NRCS program deliver staff at Service Centers will continue to come in to the office, they will be working with producers by phone, and using online tools whenever possible.

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).