

March 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

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- [Message from the CED](#)
- [Update Your Records](#)
- [Livestock Losses](#)
- [Youth Loans](#)

Washakie-Hot Springs County FSA Updates

Washakie-Hot Springs County FSA Office

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County Committee:

Julie Haun, Chairperson
Kirk Tolman, Vice-Chairperson
Jim Butterfield, Member

Message from the CED

Greetings Washakie and Hot Springs County Producers,

It looks and feels like spring is here. Please remember the following items in preparing for your 2020 production season.

Please put August 26th on your calendar as that will be the Washakie-Hot Springs County Women's Ag Expo.

Wool producers remember to sign up for the Wool Loan Deficiency Program while you still have beneficial interest in the commodity, which is defined as having title, possession and control of the commodity, and you are still responsible for loss of or damage to the commodity.

2019 ARC or PLC program signup – the deadline is March 16, 2020.

Emergency loans are available in Washakie, Hot Springs and Big Horn Counties. If you have any questions, please give this office a call at 307-347-2456 ext. 2.

If you lose livestock due to an eligible adverse weather event or an eligible predator attack or an eligible disease, file a notice of loss within 30 days from the date the loss became apparent to you. See the Livestock Indemnity Program article below.

Everett Jones, Member
Arnold Pennoyer, Member

Enjoy the beautiful spring weather!

Lisa Bower
County Executive Director

Next County Committee Meeting: TBD

Update Your Records

FSA is cleaning up our producer record database. If you have any unreported changes of address, zip code, phone number, email address or an incorrect name or business name on file they need to be reported to our office. Changes in your farm operation, like the addition of a farm by lease or purchase, need to be reported to our office as well. Producers participating in FSA and NRCS programs are required to timely report changes in their farming operation to the County Committee in writing and update their CCC-902 Farm Operating Plan.

If you have any updates or corrections, please call your local FSA office to update your records.

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 within 30 calendar days of when the loss is first 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% and Non-Adult Beef Cattle (less than 400 pounds) = 4.3%. 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.

Additional Information about LIP is available at your local FSA office or online at: www.fsa.usda.gov.

Youth Loans

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:

- 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
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- 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 Lisa Bower at 307-347-2456 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).