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Farm Service Agency Electronic News Service

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Platte County FSA Updates

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Greetings!

As we continue to endure restrictions due to COVID, please note that while our door is still locked, you can call the office to schedule an in-person appointment with a staff member. We are also available via telephone or email, so please feel free to call us if there's anything we can assist you with.

We will be hiring a Program Technician in our office in the near future. Please watch for a GovDelivery bulletin letting you know how you or someone you know can apply to work in our office.

There have been some changes to General and Grasslands CRP. We are still waiting for software updates to see exactly how these changes will effect new offers. Stay tuned for more information and possibly some producer meetings to discuss the changes.

Our office continues to receive phone calls regarding the Pandemic Assistance for Producers Initiative and the American Rescue Plan Act. There are a number of parts to each of these, and not all parts are being implemented by Farm Service Agency. To learn more about each of these, please click on these links: Pandemic Assistance for Producers and American Rescue Plan Act.
Wool Triggers Loan Deficiency Payment in Platte County

If you raise sheep in Platte County, you may be eligible for loan deficiency payments (LDPs) from the USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA). LDPs and marketing assistance loans (MALs) are marketing tools that are available during or after shearing. MALs help producers meet cash flow needs without selling commodities when market prices are at harvest-time lows. Producers who are eligible for marketing loans, but choose to forgo the loan, are eligible for LDPs if the posted county price falls below the county loan rate. Producers can purchase a commodity certificate that may be exchanged for the outstanding loan collateral. Daily LDP rates are available online at fsa.usda.gov. Rules related to payment limitations, actively engaged in farming and cash-rent tenant no longer apply to LDPs.

For more information, contact your Platte County USDA Service Center at 307-322-4050 ext. 2 or visit fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport.

Maintaining Good Credit History

Farm Service Agency (FSA) loans require applicants to have a satisfactory credit history. A credit report is requested for all FSA direct farm loan applicants. These reports are reviewed to verify outstanding debts, see if bills are paid timely and to determine the impact on cash flow.

Information on your credit report is strictly confidential and is used only as an aid in conducting FSA business.

Our farm loan staff will discuss options with you if you have an unfavorable credit report and will provide a copy of your report. If you dispute the accuracy of the information on the credit report, it is up to you to contact the issuing credit report company to resolve any errors or inaccuracies.

There are multiple ways to remedy an unfavorable credit score:

- Make sure to pay bills on time
Setting up automatic payments or automated reminders can be an effective way to remember payment due dates.

- Pay down existing debt
- Keep your credit card balances low
- Avoid suddenly opening or closing existing credit accounts

FSA’s farm loan staff will guide you through the process, which may require you to reapply for a loan after improving or correcting your credit report.

For more information on FSA farm loan programs, contact the Farm Loan Team in the Platte County USDA Service Center at 307-322-4050 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

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).