

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Laramie County Service Center Updates - February 2023

Farm Service Agency | Natural Resources Conservation Service | Risk Management Agency

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Laramie County Comments

Happy February Laramie County Farmers and Ranchers!

ARC/PLC contracts are due by March 15th. If you have not signed up yet; please contact the office to do so.

We also would like to remind our livestock producers that we have the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) that can provide assistance for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality that were caused by adverse weather, disease and certain animals that are protected by federal law. You do need to file a notice of loss within 30 days of when the loss was apparent, so please remember to call in!

We are sad to say that Catelyn will be moving to the Kimball County FSA Office. We will miss her dearly, but we wish her all the best! If you would like to stop in and see her before she goes; her last day in Laramie County is February 10th.

Thank you for everything you do!

-Laramie County FSA

The Laramie County FSA & NRCS offices will be closed on February 20th in observance of George Washington's Birthday Holiday (President's Day).

Important: County Offices are encouraged to remind producers of deadlines; however, a failure to provide a reminder to any producer will **not** constitute or be construed to be misaction/misinformation.

Note: As allowed by time and resources, County Offices may attempt to contact producers in advance of critical deadlines by using reminder letters and/or telephone contacts. Those contacts or attempted contacts, if made, **must** be documented.

FSA will assist persons by providing program information in a variety of ways. However, because of limits on FSA resources, publication efforts by FSA may or may **not** be by direct mail or on an individual basis. FSA meets its publication responsibilities by making broad program announcements in the press, print, and electronic media, FR documents, radio and television announcements, and through posting program information in USDA Service Centers.

The reality of limited resources has increased the participant's responsibility for being aware of program provisions. FSA cannot be responsible for reaching out to every potential program participant with all program information. Participants must seek information on program details and not wait for FSA to individually write or communicate with them about program provisions.

Keeping Livestock Inventory Records

Livestock inventory records are necessary in the event of a natural disaster, so remember to keep them updated.

When disasters strike, the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) can help you if you've suffered excessive livestock death losses and grazing or feed losses due to eligible natural disasters.

To participate in livestock disaster assistance programs, you'll be required to provide verifiable documentation of death losses resulting from an eligible adverse weather event and must submit a notice of loss to your local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss of livestock is apparent. For grazing or feed losses, you must submit a notice of loss to your local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent and should maintain documentation and receipts.

You should record all pertinent information regarding livestock inventory records including:

- Documentation of the number, kind, type, and weight range of livestock
- Beginning inventory supported by birth recordings or purchase receipts.

For more information on documentation requirements, contact your Laramie County USDA Service Center at 307-772-2314 ext.2 or visit <u>fsa.usda.gov</u>.

FSA Offers Joint Financing Option on Direct Farm Ownership Loans

The USDA Farm Service Agency's (FSA) <u>Direct Farm Ownership loans</u> can help farmers and ranchers become owner-operators of family farms, improve and expand current operations, increase agricultural productivity, and assist with land tenure to save farmland for future generations.

There are three types of Direct Farm Ownership Loans: regular, down payment and joint financing. FSA also offers a Direct Farm Ownership Microloan option for smaller financial needs up to \$50,000.

Joint financing allows FSA to provide more farmers and ranchers with access to capital. FSA lends up to 50 percent of the total amount financed. A commercial lender, a State program or the seller of the property being purchased, provides the balance of loan funds, with or without an FSA guarantee. The maximum loan amount for a joint financing loan is \$600,000, and the repayment period for the loan is up to 40 years.

The operation must be an eligible farm enterprise. Farm Ownership loan funds cannot be used to finance nonfarm enterprises and all applicants must be able to meet general eligibility requirements. Loan applicants are also required to have participated in the business operations of a farm or ranch for at least three years out of the 10 years prior to the date the application is submitted. The applicant must show documentation that their participation in the business operation of the farm or ranch was not solely as a laborer.

For more information about farm loans, contact the Platte County USDA Service Center at 307-322-4050 x2 or visit <u>fsa.usda.gov</u>.

Save Time - Make an Appointment with NRCS

Producers are encouraged to call their local NRCS office to schedule an appointment to ensure maximum use of their time and to make sure NRCS staff is available to tend to their important business needs. Please call your local NRCS office ahead to set an appointment and to discuss any records or documentation that

might be needed during your appointment. To find your local NRCS office, visit: farmers.gov/service-center-locator.



Laramie County

USDA Service Center

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Theron Anderson Dave Bowman T.J. Hollingsworth Heidi Romsa **Mason Peebles**

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Next COC Meeting: February 9, 2023