

Roosevelt County FSA Office
508 East 6th Street
P.O. Box 519
Culbertson, MT 59218
Phone: (406) 787-6262
Fax: (406) 787-6132

County Committee Members

Mary Nesbit
William Clay Petersen
Ted Toavs

FSA Office Personnel

Carol Y. Ritter-Fellman, CED
Julie Williams, Chief PT
Darcia Larsen, PT
Dale Friedrich, PT
Julane Poland, PT
Judy Grimsrud, PT
Jill Davidson, PT

Agricultural Lending Opportunities

Questions regarding obtaining credit to start or enlarge a farming or ranching operation; financing agricultural operating expenses; or livestock, machinery purchases should be directed to:

Pat Turner, Loan Manager
Bruce Johnson, Loan Officer
Patti McGinnis, Technician
at 406-433-2103 Ext. 108

Dates to Remember:

Aug. 2 – Sept. 30 – Managed Haying Period (New Rules)
Aug. 2 – Sept. 30 – Summer/Fall Managed Grazing Period
Oct. 7 & 8 – Women Stepping Forward for Agriculture Symposium



FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Roosevelt County August 2009

Message from the State Executive Director - Bruce Nelson

I began as the State Executive Director for the Farm Service Agency on July 13th. After eight years of involvement in other venues, I am excited to assume my duties as the State Executive Director for the Farm Service Agency in Montana.

My most recent position was serving as the Chief of Staff to Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer. I have stepped down from my executive roles at Triangle N Farms since becoming FSA State Executive Director.

In every state the agricultural community is unique and has varied needs and concerns and my role, will be to work with USDA to ensure the needs of Montana agricultural producers are met.

Our primary mission at FSA is to assist Montana farmers and ranchers secure the greatest possible benefit from programs administered by FSA such as farm loans, commodity price support, disaster relief, conservation, or other available resources.

The hard working men and women of Montana's 49 FSA county offices are at the forefront of our efforts and remain the primary contact for program participation. We encourage you to speak with the staff at your local FSA office on how we can be of service.

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) Has Begun

Signup for LIP began July 13th. If you had livestock losses from storms occurring during calendar year 2008 or 2009, you may be eligible to receive benefits from the LIP program.

To Apply:

- A notice of loss must be filed according to the following table.
- Proof of death of livestock must be provided and may include but is not limited to any or a combination of veterinary records, tax assessor records, private insurance documents.
- Documentation must provide sufficient data that identifies the kind/type weight range of the livestock and the number of livestock.
- A third party certification may be accepted only when the participant certifies in writing that no other form of proof of death is available and includes the number of physical location of livestock in inventory at the time the death occurred. Documentation must also be provided to support the number of livestock in the inventory at the time the deaths occurred. The third party providing the verification must be a

LIP (cont.)

reliable source and shall not be a relative associated with the operation or a hired man.

The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and/or application for payment for either 2008 or 2009 livestock losses:

| Date of Livestock Death | Final Date to File a Notice of Loss | Final Date to Submit an Application for Payment |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Calendar Year 2008 | Sept. 13, 2009 | Sept. 13, 2009 |
| Jan. 1, 2009 to July 12, 2009 | Sept. 13, 2009 | Jan. 30, 2010 |
| July 13, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2009 | 30 days after death is apparent | Jan. 30, 2010 |

LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality on or after Jan. 1, 2008 and before Oct. 1, 2011 due to adverse weather, such as blizzards, disease, extreme cold, extreme heat, floods, and wildfires. The Montana State FSA Committee established the normal mortality rates for each livestock kind/type and weight range.

CRP Managed Haying & Grazing Ends September 30.

Managed Grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres begins August 2 and ends September 30, 2009. All livestock must be removed by September 30.

Managed Haying on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres ends September 30, 2009. All bales must be removed by September 30th.

Changes to Payment Eligibility, Payment Limitation and AGI for CRP Participants

The 2008 Farm Bill made specific changes to payment eligibility, payment limitation, and average AGI requirements for participants in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP):

- Annual payments are limited to \$50,000, both directly and indirectly, to a person or legal entity by direct attribution;
- Permitted entity rules no longer apply;
- The average AGI limitation is now a \$1million average gross nonfarm income limitation.
- The payment eligibility requirements of "actively engaged in farming" and the cash rent tenant rule are no longer applicable for participation in CRP for contracts approved **after** September 30, 2008.

Policy Changed on Dry Peas Intended Use

Producers of dry peas intended for forage for hay (FG), grazing (GZ), and GM (green manure) are now allowed to include acreage of those intended uses in determining pulse crop base history.

Producers with pulse crop history with the additional eligible intended uses are encouraged to make their election of pulse base acreage as soon as possible.

The farm must be enrolled in DCP or elected/enrolled in ACRE by September 30th to be eligible for either program.

Women Stepping Forward for Agriculture Symposium

The 9th Annual Women Stepping Forward for Agriculture Symposium will be held at the Eagles in Lewistown, October 7 & 8.

Pre-registration information should be submitted by September 15, 2009. The cost of registration is \$60.00. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Yogo Inn.

For further information or a registration form, logon to the Montana FSA website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>.

Requesting LDPs for 2009

To request 2009 crop Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's), producers must use form CCC-633 EZ, Loan Deficiency Payment Agreement and Request. Here's an explanation for each page of the form.

Page 1 – Producer's intention to request LDPs in the future. Must be signed before beneficial interest is lost.

- Includes terms and conditions for requesting LDPs.
- Covers all farms and all eligible crops in all counties.
- The form shows intention to request an LDP in the future. It is not a request for payment. Important: Remind staff of other counties where you have farming interest.
- May be submitted by the producer for the 2009 crop year anytime after January 1, 2009.
- All producers are reminded to submit CCC-633 EZ, page 1 each crop year whether or not the producer plans to subsequently request a loan or LDP.

Page 2 – Producer's request for LDP payment on all eligible harvested commodities.

- Use after grain is harvested and in storage. If the producer maintains beneficial interest the LDP rate will be the rate in effect on the date page 2 is received in the office.
- Can be used after beneficial interest is lost. The LDP rate will be the rate in effect on the date beneficial interest was lost. Producer must provide production evidence.
- Can be used to receive LDP rate based upon date commodity was delivered to warehouse. Producer must maintain beneficial interest from harvest through delivery to the warehouse.

Page 3 – for cotton**Page 4 – Producer's request for LDP payment on sheared wool, sheared mohair or unshorn pelts.**

- Use when wool or mohair is sheared and in storage. If producer maintains beneficial interest the LDP rate is based on date page 4 is received in the county office.
- Also use if beneficial interest is lost at time of shearing. The LDP rate will be the rate in effect on the date beneficial interest was lost. Producer must provide production evidence.
- Also use for unshorn pelts. Page 4 is submitted within 60 days of slaughter. The LDP rate is based upon date of delivery to slaughter company or buyer. Additional sheared wool and mohair and unshorn pelts information may be obtained from the county office.

Page 5 – Use when additional signatures are needed.**Reminders:**

- Submit form CCC-633 EZ page 1 now.
- Submit payment requests before the final loan availability date.
- The eLDP web site can be used to request LDP if the producer has e-Authentication and page 1 has been received in the county office.
- Contact the FSA Office for details.
- Logon to the Montana FSA website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt> for access to forms and the national FSA price support website.

NOTE: Producers must have form CCC-633 EZ page 1 on file when page 2, 3, or 4 are received in the county office.

Inside this Issue

**Message from SED
LIP Signup Began
CRP Managed Haying
& Grazing Deadline
Treasury Implementation
Project Begins**

Important Dates to Remember

Sept. 30 – CRP Managed Haying & Grazing ends
Sept. 30 – NAP acreage reporting deadline for value loss crops
Oct. 7 & 8 – Women Stepping Forward for Agriculture Symposium

Treasury Implementation Project Begins

Beginning August 3, 2009, any FSA/ or Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) payments made by direct deposit will be transmitted to the Department of Treasury through Kansas City.

The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA) requires that all Federal payments be offset for delinquent Federal debt. All payments will be matched against debt referred to Treasury, including payments made by a Treasury check. Payments to assignees will be subject to the Treasury Offset Program (TOP) offset if the assignee has a delinquent Federal debt in TOP. If the TOP database finds a match for taxpayer identification number and name, the payment will be offset for the delinquent debt. The Treasury Department will notify the payment recipient of any offsets taken for debts due other agencies.

Currently, the description on the payee's bank statement reads, "USDA_FSAKCMOCDSP". After August 3, 2009, the description on the bank statement will read, "FSA TREAS 310" for all payments that are disbursed by Treasury.

If there are questions about a TOP offset, the payee may call the TOP Call Center at 1-800-304-3107 to obtain the contact information for the offsetting agency. The TOP Call Center only has access to provide the name of the offsetting agency and their contact information. The payee will need to call the offsetting agency to determine the origination of the debt.