



NEWSLETTER



May 2012

**Power County
FSA Office**

2769 Fairgrounds RD
American Falls ID 83211

208 226-5139 phone
208 226-3122 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/ST

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

County Staff

Deb Duba CED
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Jenny Peirsol PT

Dustin Carter
Farm Loan Officer

DCP/ACRE Sign-Up Deadline June 1, 2012

Enrollment for the 2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) and ACRE will **end June 1, 2012**. If you have not signed up for 2012, *please call the office to make an appointment*.

Conservation Reserve Program – NO RESULTS OF GENERAL SIGNUP 43-Probably won't know until after June 1!

Participants in the CRP program are reminded that the Primary Nesting Season is April 1 to August 1. Spot spraying for weed control is the only activity that can be done on CRP acres during this time frame. Please contact the office before performing any spraying.

2010 SURE Sign-Up Deadline June 1, 2012

Sign-up for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment (SURE) program for the 2010 crop year began Nov. 14, 2011, and will end on **June 1, 2012**. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. A farm is eligible when either:

- A portion of the farm is located in a county, or a contiguous county, covered by a qualifying Secretarial disaster declaration.
- An overall loss greater than 50 percent of the actual production on the farm compared to expected production for the farm for that year.

For producers to be eligible for SURE, they must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for all crops through either the Federal Crop Insurance Act or FSA's Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). Producers must suffer a 10 percent production loss due to a natural disaster to at least one crop of economic significance on their farm in order to be eligible for SURE.

County Committee Nominations

The County Committee nomination period runs from **June 15, 2012** through **August 1, 2012**. The 2012 election is for area #1 which is the area north of the river to the county line. The position is currently held by Kevin Ramsey.

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers. FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties.

Continued from Page 1 Nominations

They work to ensure FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

New Crop Reporting Deadline- Spring Seeded July 15th

The annual, timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans and Load Deficiency Payments.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) also must be reported.

Crop reports must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Producers need to file their acreage reports by **July 15th, 2012** for spring seeded crops and by **June 30th** for fall seeded wheat.

Prevented Planting:

Prevented planting needs to be reported no later than **15 calendar days** after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage:

Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

NAP Records

Production records for individual crops need to be filed at the FSA office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up-to-date. Records submitted must be reliable or verifiable. Records need to show crop disposition. We recommend producers submit production records as soon as harvest is complete. All prior year production records must be submitted by **July 15th, 2012**.

NAP Loss Filing

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County Office **within 15 days** of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses becomes apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS OR RANCHERS COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: www.farmerclaims.gov

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Farm Loan Programs

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. Those producers who are having trouble getting credit for their farm or who regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask a lender about an FSA loan guarantee to help with a setback or if a lender has been reluctant to extend or renew a loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000. This makes the maximum combination of direct and guaranteed loan indebtedness \$1,514,000.

To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Farm Reconstitutions

At FSA, farms are “constituted” to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. If an owner or operator cannot agree about program participation, like in the case of the new ACRE program, then producers should inquire about a reconstitution of the farm at the local FSA office.

The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by **Aug. 1, 2012**, for farms enrolled in specific programs.

GovDelivery – Free Reminders

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices are moving into paperless operation to save your tax payer dollars. Producers can now enroll in the new **GovDelivery** system to receive instant electronic deadline reminders, bulletins and newsletters direct to your email address. Now you don't have to wait for a printed newsletter only occasionally sent through the mail.

Producers can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by visiting this free enrollment website: www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe. You can also call your local Farm Service Agency office. Give it a try right now. All you need is an email address for yourself or a family member where you can receive the useful email updates.

Conservation Compliance (HEL & Wetland)

Producers intending to remove fence rows, convert woodlots to cropland, install new drainage, or improve or modify existing drainage, must notify the FSA and update Form AD-1026. FSA will notify NRCS and NRCS will make HEL and wetland technical determinations. Farmers with HEL determined soils are reminded of tillage, crop residue and rotation requirements per their conservation plan. Failure to obtain ADVANCE approval for any of these situations can result in the loss of eligibility and all federal payments.

Succession in Interest for 2012 DCP/ACRE

If you have made any changes that affect your interest in base acres since you signed your last DCP/ACRE contract, you must report these *successions-in-interest* to the county committee by **Sept. 30th**. Changes that qualify as a succession-in-interest include:

- A sale of land
- A change of operator or producer, including an increase or decrease in the number of partners
- A foreclosure, bankruptcy or involuntary loss of the farm.
- A change in producer shares to reflect changes in the producer's share of the crop(s) that were originally approved on the contract.

If a succession-in-interest takes place and is not timely reported and a new contract signed prior to September 30, neither the original contract or the resulting contract are eligible for payment. The contract would be terminated resulting in a loss of program benefits for all producers involved.

Power County FSA Office
 2769 Fairgrounds RD STE B
 American Falls ID 83211-5418



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PLEASE NOTE:

The Farm Service Agency is no longer mailing newsletters monthly. Due to budget constraints a very limited number will be sent by mail. General information regarding FSA programs is available at the following website: www.fsa.usda.gov You may also access the GovDelivery website online at www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe to request email notifications of newsletters and other information or you may call us to provide your email address and we will subscribe for you. Power County Newsletters are posted to the web at www.fsa.usda.gov/id under the newsletter link on the left. Our goal is to keep you as informed as possible of programs available to you and important deadlines that may affect your farming operation.

Please call us at 208-226-5139 ext 2 if you have any questions.

Selected Interest Rates for May 2012	
Farm Operating - Direct	1.5%
Farm Ownership - Direct	3.5%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.5%
Emergency	3.75%
Farm Storage Facility – 7 year	1.5%

Dates to Remember	
May 28	Memorial Day, Federal Offices Closed
June 1	2012 DCP/ACRE Enrollment closes
June 1	SURE Sign up ends
June 15-Aug 1	COC Nominations Accepted
June 30	Crop Reporting Deadline Fall Wheat
July 15	Crop Reporting Deadline Spring Crops
Aug. 1	Reconstitution request deadline
September 30	Final date for DCP/ACRE revisions