

September 2012



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## Antrim/Otsego County FSA Updates

DEAR PRODUCERS: Welcome to the new GovDelivery bulletins and updates service from your County FSA office. Note that you are welcome to request to receive bulletins from more than one county and can add or remove individual subscriptions at any time.

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### Antrim/Otsego County FSA Office

**Address:**

108 Depot Street  
Bellaire, MI 49615

**Phone:** 231-533-8542

**Fax:** 231-533-6689

**Hours:** 8:00AM - 4:30PM

**County Executive Director:**

Kathy Y Kozlowski

**Farm Loan Manager**

James Monroe  
231-941-0951

**Program Technicians:**

Kathy B Johnson  
Kari E Tipton

**County Committee (COC)**

Roger Bolhuis, Chairman  
John Makarewicz, Vice Chair  
Anthony Prusakiewicz Jr.,  
Member  
Daniel Slivinski, Member  
Kevin Bargy, Member  
Deborah Milbocker, Advisor

### NAP Coverage for 2013

The noninsured crop disaster assistance program (NAP) is a program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed. These benefits are only available for crops for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is not available.

Application for coverage must be filed by the applicable crop's application closing date. September 30, 2012 is the closing deadline to purchase your 2013 NAP coverage on Fall Seeded Small Grains, Alfalfa, and Forage Crops.

Production records for all crops must be reported to FSA no later than the acreage reporting date for the crop for the following year. FSA requires that any production reported in a loss year be verifiable according to Agency specifications. NAP Losses must be reported within 15 days of loss.

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### New Fall Deadline Reporting Date

Starting this fall you will be required to report any fall seeded small grains, fall planted wheat, as well as any perennial Forage (hay) you may have. The new deadline to report these crops is November 15, 2012, a change from the previous July 15th planting deadline. Please call the FSA office to set up an appointment to come in and do your fall certification.

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### IRS FORM 1099-G AND 1099-MISC REPORTING

Beginning with calendar year 2012 IRS reporting, Kansas City will be issuing only one IRS Form 1099-G and/or one IRS Form 1099-MISC to each multi-county producer whose total reportable payment for each tax identification number are equal to or greater than \$600.00. This is a change from receiving one 1099 from each county.

Also beginning with calendar year 2012 IRS reporting, Kansas City will no longer generate and mail IRS Form 1099-G and/or IRS Form 1099-MISC to producers if the total of reportable payments for each tax identification number is LESS THAN \$600.00.

Producers receiving less than \$600.00 in combined payments need to consult a tax advisor to determine if these payments must be reported on their tax return.

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## CROP DISASTER INFORMATION

Effective June 29, 2012, the United States Department of Agriculture designated 72 Michigan counties as natural disaster areas with Disaster Designation S3259. Specific counties were designated as natural disaster areas for losses due to the combined effects of blizzards,

excessive snow, excessive heat, excessive rain, high winds, hail, freeze, frost, tornadoes, flooding and lightning that occurred January 1, 2012 through May 11, 2012.

Counties in Northwest Michigan included in the above designation are Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Emmet, Charlevoix, Kalkaska, Otsego, and Wexford counties.

The deadline for filing an EM loan application for this designation (S3259) is March 1, 2013.

**DROUGHT DESIGNATION:**

With an effective date of August 29, 2012, Secretarial Disaster Designation S3370 has been approved for 83 Michigan counties affected by the drought and excessive heat that occurred March 1, 2012 and is continuing. The Northwest Michigan counties that have been included in the natural disaster designation are Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Emmet, Charlevoix, Kalkaska, Otsego, and Wexford Counties as well as 74 other Michigan counties.

The disaster designations make available low interest (recently reduced to 2.25%) loans to farm operators in the designated areas. Farm operators who suffered a 30% loss in crop production caused by the weather conditions and meet other eligibility requirements may qualify for Emergency (EM) loan assistance from FSA. The deadline for filing an EM loan application for Drought Designation S3370 is April 29, 2013.

**RECENT CHANGES MADE IN EM LOANS:**

On August 22, 2012, Secretary Vilsack announced that modifications will be made to the emergency loan program allowing them to be made earlier in the season. In the past, emergency loan eligibility was determined after the production cycle. Producers will no longer have to wait until the end of the production cycle to obtain a loan. This change will support producers who currently need assistance to help offset high production costs. Vilsack also announced that a special provision will be made to the federal crop insurance program through RMA that will allow producers to hay or graze cover crops without forfeiting crop insurance eligibility on planted 2013 spring crops. This change is beneficial to livestock producers making forage and feed available this fall and winter. However, before making any plans to plant crop cover, producers should consult with their insurance agent, according to RMA.

These changes were made in order to provide greater flexibility for livestock producers facing forage and feed shortages as a result of the drought.

**KEEP GOOD RECORDS....especially for Disaster Purposes:**

The drought and extreme temperatures continue to negatively affect local crops and livestock. Although we have had some recent rain, it may have come too late for some crops. Many of the disaster assistance programs authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill expired on September 30, 2011. This included the SURE program for crops and programs like LIP and LDAP for livestock. However, there are some actions that you should take now to document losses.

- If you have extra feed costs due to drought, be sure to keep good records of feed, including hay and silage that was purchased. There should be a dated receipt with details on the number of bales purchased or the tons of silage purchased.
- Keep good records of any livestock losses. This should include dates of death, pictures, and documentation from a third-party source such as a veterinarian or a neighbor.
- Keep good records of crop loss. Get appraisals from a licensed crop adjuster on your crop if you are not harvesting it as grain. You will also need this if you are applying for an emergency loan.
- If you have a failed crop that you are not going to harvest, fill out a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, at the FSA office. The notice of loss changes your crop status from "planted" to "failed." It allows us to keep an accurate record of crop losses in the county. This form is required for anyone who has a NAP policy and has a crop loss. It may be also be required if you have crop insurance.

Consider purchasing a Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy for 2013 crops. NAP provides coverage for all crops that are not covered by crop insurance. This includes hay and other forage crops, and fruit and vegetable crops.

If you have any questions please call your local FSA office in Bellaire (231) 533-8542, Traverse City (231) 941-0951, or Petoskey (231) 347-2133 or contact the Farm Loan Program staff headquartered in the Traverse City USDA Service Center (231) 941-0951. You can also visit the USDA'S Drought Page at [www.usda.gov/drought](http://www.usda.gov/drought) for more information on the current drought conditions.

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