



Baraga County News

Baraga County USDA Service Center

Baraga County FSA
16403 Ojibwa Ind. Park
Baraga, MI 49908
906-353-8225 (phone)
906-353-8231 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/mi

Hours

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

County Committee

Sheila Perttula
Norman Shimp
Joseph Robillard
Bruce King
August Semmerling
Roger Duschene Adv.

Staff

Mike Applekamp, CED
Tammy Clisch, P.T.
Leona Delene, Temp.

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Gogebic,
Houghton,
Keweenaw &
Ontonagon
Counties



COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS RESULTS FOR 2010

Congratulations to Joseph Robillard for being re-elected to represent producers from Baraga County which is Local Administrated Area 3 (LAA3).

Brenda Turunen was elected as first alternate of LAA3. Thank you for your interest in serving the FSA community of Baraga County.

Farm Service Administration (FSA) appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballots. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

IMPORTANT NEW REQUIREMENT

Farm Service Agency is partnering with the Internal Revenue Service to reduce fraud in farm programs and streamlining payment limits for family farmers.

To retain 2009 and earn 2010 program benefits a new form must be filed directly with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

All entities must submit form CCC-928. Individuals and members of entities must submit form CCC-927. Forms are available in our office. Our office does not submit or maintain completed forms.

The deadline for filing these forms is 60 days from the signature date requesting benefits not to exceed

June 15th each year. This is to ensure that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

NAP ENROLLMENT

Producers must apply for coverage before a disaster strikes. Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) applications for coverage must be filed using Form CCC-471 and pay the applicable service fees by the closing date. Application closing dates vary by crop. Baraga County producers can contact the FSA Office for specific crop application sales closing dates at: (906-353-8225).

Producers are reminded about the need for insurance coverage on crops in order to remain eligible for the agency's Disaster Assistance Programs such as SURE, LFP, TAP, and ELAP. Producers must purchase at least catastrophic (CAT) level of insurance for all insurable crops.

ACRE

The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. The June 1, 2010, signup deadline is mandatory for all participants. USDA will not accept any late-filed applications.

A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year

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national price for each eligible commodity. For 2010, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2008 and 2009 crop years.

2010 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2010. The Baraga Area FSA urges producers to visit the FSA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

SURE

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster that incurred in the crop years 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. However, crop insurance or NAP coverage is no longer required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage.

Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

At least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition.

Crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm.

Producers in counties declared disaster counties by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties, or those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are eligible to receive SURE payments for crop produced or crop quality losses. Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss.

Dates to Remember	
June 1st	Deadline for DCP/ACRE Sign-up
July 15th	Deadline for reporting spring seeded crops
September 30th	Deadline to purchase NAP for Mixed Forage

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