

Valley County FSA Office  
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### County Committee Members

Mike Wesen, Chairman  
Richard Fulton, Vice-Chairman  
Arden Unrau, Member  
Theresa Shipp, Advisor

### FSA Office Personnel

Mike Hagfeldt, County Executive Director  
Stephanie Meier, Program Technician  
Roberta Hopstad, Program Technician  
Sheri Daggett, Program Technician  
Darlene Otten, Program Technician  
Britney Cornwell, Program Technician  
Karen Bergtoll, Temporary Office Manager  
Sharon Baillargeon, Farm Loan Manager  
Jaylein Nickels, Farm Loan Officer  
Jodie Berg, Farm Loan Program Technician  
Scott Geda, Farm Loan Officer Trainee

### Dates to Remember:

**June 15** – COC nominations begin  
**July 15** – Acreage Report deadline  
**July 15** – Final NAP production reports due for 2009  
**July 15** – Final date to file 2009 crop application for NAP payment  
**July 15** – Deadline to Report Production for ACRE  
**August 1** – Farm Reconstitution Request Deadline  
**August 2** – Last Day for FSA to Accept COC Election Nominations



# Valley County June 2010 Newsletter

## USDA Helps Retiring Farmers Transition their Land to Beginning Farmers in New Farm Bill Program

Contact Person: Britney Cornwell

The Transition Incentives Program (TIP) is a new program under the Conservation Title of the 2008 Farm Bill. This program is to encourage retired or retiring owners or operators to transition their land to socially disadvantaged or beginning farmers or ranchers.

Sign up has begun for producers who want to apply for TIP. If all program requirements are met, TIP provides annual rental payments to the retiring farmer for up to two additional years after the date of the expiration of the CRP contract, provided the transition is not to a family member. To learn more about program, producers interested in applying and participating in TIP should visit their USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office or [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

To be eligible, TIP requires that the retired or retiring farmer or rancher:

- Have land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) that is in the last year of the contract
- Agree to allow the beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher to make conservation and land improvements.
- Agree to sell, or have a contract to sell, or agree to long-term lease (a minimum of 5 years) the land under CRP contract to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher by Oct. 1 of the year the CRP contract expires.

## 2010 County Loan Rates for Wheat, Feed Grains, and Oilseeds Announced

Contact Person: Sheri Daggett

The commodity loan rates for the 2010 crops for Valley County are:

Hard Red Winter (bu)	\$2.40	Corn (bu)	\$2.03
Hard Red Spring (bu)	\$3.67	Barley (bu)	\$1.75
Durum (bu)	\$6.02	Oats (bu)	\$1.32
Canola (cwt)*	\$9.66	Lentils (cwt)*	\$10.41
Flax (cwt)*	\$9.86	Peas (cwt)*	\$5.20
Mustard (cwt)*	\$10.39	Small Chickpeas(cwt)*	\$7.43
Safflower (cwt)*	\$8.33	Large Chickpeas cwt)*	\$11.28
Sunflower (cwt)*	\$9.56	Soybeans (bu)	\$4.47

\*per one hundred pounds

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## Eligible Fungicide Purchases for the Durum Wheat Quality Program (DWQP)

Contact Person: Sheri Daggett

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 authorized the Durum Wheat Quality Program (DWQP) to partially compensate producers for the cost of fungicides applied to durum wheat to control Fusarium head blight (FHB), commonly known as wheat scab.

To be considered an eligible fungicide for DWQP, the fungicide must have been registered with the Environmental Protection Agency and be compliant with State pesticide regulations. Information on eligible pesticides is available on state environmental web sites. EPA maintains State resource locators and contact information for pesticide state programs at:

[www.epa.gov/pesticides/safety/applicators/statepro.htm](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/safety/applicators/statepro.htm).

Durum wheat producers must provide verifiable documentation for having purchased eligible fungicides used to control FHB on 2010 durum wheat. This may include original commercial sales and purchase receipts for an eligible fungicide or original invoices from licensed custom applicators that explicitly specify the cost of an eligible fungicide.

County offices will not accept fungicide purchase documentation until DWQP applications are filed.

Contact your local FSA office for further details and signup dates or go online at [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov).

## ACRE REPORTING Deadline July 15, 2010

Contact Person: Darlene Otten

Producers participating in the ACRE Program must annually report acreage and production to FSA.

***Failure to file a 2009 FSA-658 (Record of Production and Yield) by July 15, 2010 on a farm enrolled in ACRE will result in the farms and producers being ineligible for any ACRE payments for that applicable contract period.*** In addition, the actual yield per planted acre will be zero.

## 2010 Acreage Reporting Deadline is July 15, 2010

Contact Person: Roberta Hopstad

Acreage reports are required by the final reporting date for:

- ❖ Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and ACRE payments
- ❖ Price Support loans and loan deficiency programs, including Wool, Mohair and Honey
- ❖ NAP crops
- ❖ CRP acreages
- ❖ Disaster Programs such as SURE, LFP, ELAP

NAP crops that are disaster affected prior to July 15, must have an acreage report on file before a CCC-576 Notice of Loss can be accepted. A Notice of Loss must be filed within 15 days after the loss becomes apparent.

## COC Election Approaching

Contact Person: Darlene Otten

**Beginning June 15, 2010, nominations are being accepted for candidates for County Committee (COC) positions.**

A county or area served by the COC is divided into local administrative areas (LAA). Each LAA is represented by one member on the county committee. Only one LAA holds an election each year.

This year the LAA open in Valley County is "A". LAA-A's North boundary is the Canadian Line; West boundary is Phillips County Line; South boundary is the Ossette (pronounced AH-SET) road and West to the Phillips County Line and East to the Daniels County Line.

The nominee must sign the nomination form in order to be nominated as a COC member.

Nomination forms are also available at the county office or by logging on to the Montana FSA website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>.

Please remember that as a county committee member you are the local voice of how FSA programs are administered to meet your local community and resource needs.

Nomination forms must be submitted to the FSA county office by **August 2, 2010**. Ballots will be sent to eligible voters beginning November 5, 2010. The final day for voters to submit their voted ballots is December 6, 2010.

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**Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE)**

Contact Person: Sheri Daggett

Sign-up has begun for the 2008 crop year for SURE. Please contact the County Office if you feel you had a crop loss in 2008.

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) provides financial assistance for crop production and or quality losses due to a natural disaster. SURE will issue payments to an eligible producer in the amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the program Guarantee and the total Farm Revenue and pay up to 90 percent of the crop's Normal Production on the farm.

**Program Guarantee:** *Acres x Yield x Price x Coverage Level x Price Election x Statue % x Share = program guarantee.*  
The program guarantee for the farm cannot be greater than 90 percent of the total of the normal production of the farm.

**Total Farm Revenue:** *Acres x Actual Yield = Actual Production x NASS Price*

National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) Price is the 12 month marketing year for each commodity. For actual production, data will be used from the Risk Management Agency (RMA) and NAP.

If the program guarantee is more than the total farm revenue then the producer will be paid at 60 percent of the difference.

**Prevented Planting Acreage Claims**

Contact Person: Roberta Hopstad

Producers requesting prevented planting acreage credit must report the crop acreage to FSA and complete a CCC-576 (Notice of Loss) within 15 calendar days after the crop's final planting date.

The Valley County Committee will make a determination of eligible prevented planting acres on a case-by-case basis.

Reporting prevented planting acreage by filing a Notice of Loss form with FSA is required for acreage planting history for SURE or ACRE Programs.

**Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)**

Contact Person: Britney Cornwell

LIP provides assistance to eligible livestock owners for eligible livestock deaths in **excess of normal mortality** due to an adverse weather occurrence such as lightning, fire, drought, etc. For 2010 losses, producers must file a Notice of Loss with your local FSA Office within 30 days after the loss of livestock is apparent.