

Colfax County News

February 2008



Livestock Compensation Program

USDA's Farm Service Agency provides benefits to livestock producers who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs directly resulting from natural disasters occurring between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007. Livestock producers may elect to receive compensation for losses in counties declared secretarial or presidential disaster areas. Eligible livestock are beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine sheep, goats, or swine that have been physically present in an eligible county, have been maintained for commercial use as a part of a farming operation on the beginning date of the disaster. To be eligible producers must have owned or cash-leased eligible livestock for the applicable disaster period. Livestock Assistance Grant Program Payments received in 2006 will be deducted from your payments. Sign-up for LCP began September 10, 2007 and livestock producers must submit applications in their administrative county FSA office. A deadline date has not yet been set.

NAP Responsibilities

Once your application for coverage has been accepted and you have paid the administrative fees. THE PRODUCER must file an acreage report (FSA-578) and that must be returned before February 15 of that year. If you are late filed, you must pay the late filing charge of .08 per acre for the first field not to exceed \$35 and .08 per acre for each additional field not to exceed \$15.00. Acreage and shares of covered crops must be reported on the acreage report. Acreage planted after the crops final reporting date is not eligible for coverage. Production will be used to establish yields for the covered crops. Participants must maintain records (contemporaneous diaries) supporting the certified production for 3 years. In a loss year, production certifications must be submitted to support any claim for benefits. Acceptable production records must be verifiable, dated, and show disposition. Production must be reported at the end of the production year. Notice of loss must be filed by the producer no later than 15 days after an apparent loss and if you are reporting a loss for the season, 15 days after the last harvest date. Inspections may be required when filing notice of loss. Application for payment must be filed after all the above procedures are completed and applicable payment will be issued. Losses must be over 50%. For losses of native grass, you must file no later than November 1 and the loss for the particular year must be over 50%.

Remember the procedure, file an application, report acreage before February 15, file notice of loss within 15 days of loss, and sign an application for payment.

Farm Records Update

If you have bought or sold land or if you have acquired or dropped rented acreages from your operations, please make sure that you report all changes to the office as soon as possible. You need to provide a copy of your deed or recorded land contract for purchased property. If you have leased land or state land, you must provide copies of these leases each time they are renewed. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all lands you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and penalties.

Special Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the Farm Service Agency office at (505) 445-9471 ext 2 and will be happy to make the necessary arrangements to best serve you.

Monthly County Committee Meetings

The County Committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held at the Federal Building 245 Park Ave Room 206 at 1:00 P.M.

Office Closure

This office will be closed on Monday February 19, 2008 in observance of Presidents Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday February 20, 2008.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA, Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice or TDD).

To file a complaint, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5962 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
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