

SERVICE CENTER NEWS

Campbell County Wyoming

April 2010

Farm Service Agency County Committee

307-682-8843, ext. 2
Lee Isenberger, Chairperson
David C Reed, Regular Member
Amanda Sorenson, Vice-Chairperson

Natural Resources Conservation Services

307-682-8842, ext. 3
Tim Kellogg, District Conservationist
Erika Peckham, Habitat Extension Biologist
Tyrel West, Civil Engineer

Campbell County Conservation District

307-682-1824
Michelle Cook, District Manager
Debbie Hepp, Program Assistant
Crystal Kellebrew, Admin. Assistant

Office Staff, ext 2

Susan Kramer, CED
Claudette Vander Voort, PT
Peggy Seppala, PT
Judy Bishop, PT
Rob Weppner, FLM
Stefanie Cowen, FLOT

District Board Members

Wanda Burget
Travis Hakert
Jason Oedekoven
Brenda Schladweiler
Richard VanCampen

2009 Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP)

Nine Wyoming counties, including Campbell, have been approved for assistance under the Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) due to severe grasshopper infestation in 2009. The eligible "grazing period" for this program, is May 1 to October 15, 2009. Livestock producers who lost actual grazing days during the grazing period can receive a payment equal to 60% of the cost of feed for the covered livestock or the value of the lost grazing whichever is smaller. Producers can also receive compensation for up to 60% of additional costs associated with providing feed for livestock if the feed was purchased and fed during the grazing period. Examples of additional costs include purchasing or transporting additional feed above normal quantities.

To be eligible to receive payments under ELAP applicants must have had crop insurance or Non Insured Crop Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on all commodities on all farms in which the producer has an interest, except grazing. This requirement can be waived for socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmers/ranchers.

Eligible grazing land includes:

- State or federal land, if either of the following applies -the lessee is responsible for the upkeep of fences, wells, or other maintenance; OR the grazing land is leased for cash or fixed amount for an established grazing period.
- Privately owned, cash or share leased land.

Ineligible land includes land that is leased on a basis of weight gain; cost per head, per day or month; or on an AUM-only basis, when the lessee incurs no additional expenses for maintenance of wells, fences, etc.

If you suffered grazing losses or incurred additional cost to provide feed to your livestock due to grasshoppers during the grazing period and have not completed an application with our office, please contact us to fill out an application. No application closing date has been set at this time. We don't expect to be allowed much time for taking applications once the deadline has been set. It could be as little as 14 days, so do not delay.

Please call the office to complete your application. THIS INCLUDES EVERYONE even if you have already signed an application because additional documentation is now needed to complete your application for payment.

DCP Signup Continues

Signup for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues until June 1, 2010. The June 1, 2010 deadline is mandatory for all participants. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications. **Call the FSA Office to schedule an appointment.**

2010 Acreage Reports

Soon it will be time to complete 2010 acreage reports. We are again asking that you call the office for an appointment to report your acres.

Remember to inspect your hay fields to determine whether enough alfalfa exists to make the crop insurable. Reporting your acres incorrectly could result in losing or refunding benefits. The deadline for filing this year's acreage report is July 1.

NEW CLOSING DATES FOR NAP FOR ALL CROPS

The Wyoming State FSA Committee has established a single application closing date for all crops for NAP effective for 2010 and subsequent crop years.

Beginning with the 2010 crop year, for all crops in all counties the application closing date for NAP will be April 1st of the applicable crop year. This single application closing date will simplify the program and align Wyoming with its neighboring states. The December 1st deadline for some crops no longer applies. If you have not purchased your 2010 NAP policy and would like to do so, please contact the office any time before April 1st. The service fee is \$250 per crop per county or \$750 per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$1875 per producer for individuals with farming interests in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver for service fees.

To qualify, a producer must be a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop. ***Reminder: you must have NAP or crop insurance on all crops to be eligible for disaster programs.***

NAP Production Reporting

Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our 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 and verifiable. Records need to show crop disposition. It is recommended producers submit production records as soon as possible after harvest. ***All production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date.***

2010 Loan Deficiency Payments

Producers wanting to file applications for LDP payment on wool, mohair, unshorn pelts or small grain harvested as grain or hay for 2010, need to complete and submit CCC-633EZ, page 1, ***PRIOR*** to losing "***beneficial interest***" (control) of the commodity. Contact the County office if you have any questions.

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)

USDA has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Internal Revenue Service to establish an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for the IRS review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to USDA.

The agreement ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service by June 15 to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainervlet>. It is recommended by this office that producers file for both FY 2009 and FY 2010.

2010 Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from a natural disaster. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess

of normal mortality. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2010, and before Oct. 1, 2011. The losses must be a direct result of an adverse weather condition, including but not limited to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold, & lightning. Note that drought is not a qualifying event. Eligible livestock are adult/non-adult cattle, buffalo and beefalo, equine, sheep, alpacas, emus, swine, goats, llamas, poultry and domestic elk, deer and reindeer. Ineligible livestock include animals that died as a result of disease not related to adverse weather, malnutrition or poor handling practices. Payment rates are per head by livestock kind/type and weight range.

- 1) Report all livestock losses due to weather events within 30 days of the event.
- 2) Good record keeping of **ALL** livestock death losses, by approximate date of death, livestock type & weight class, and cause of death (natural or weather related)

Benefits Received – Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) benefits totaling \$ 408,000.00 were paid to 52 producers in Campbell County for 2008 & 2009 storm losses.

2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE)

Signup for the 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) began on January 4, 2010. SURE 2008 is for those who suffered crop production losses during crop year 2008.

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

Producers with a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. Producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

If there is no Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit the county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CAMPBELL COUNTY SERVICE CENTER
601 4-J Court, Suite # B
GILLETTE, WY 82716-4127

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

April 1, 2010 – Deadline to purchase 2010 NAP Coverage on all NAP Crops and grazing

May 12, 2010 – 1:00 pm COC Meeting scheduled – Gillette Service Center

May 31, 2010 – Memorial Day Holiday – County Office closed

June 1, 2010 – Deadline for 2010 DCP Signup

July 1, 2010 – Deadline to file 2010 acreage reports

July 1, 2010 – Deadline to submit 2009 production reports

IMMEDIATELY

--File Notification of Loss Forms within 15 Days of Loss of crops

--File Notification of Loss Forms within 30 days of livestock losses due to a weather event

--Notify County office of any changes in Direct Deposit information,

--Payment limitation changes, Farm records changes, etc.

Any time

--CRP Continuous Signup

--Paid measurement services from FSA

Office Hours are from 8:00am to 4:30pm. Producers are urged to call for an appointment, so the office staff can assist you timely. Due to the computer environment, some applications/processes are unable to be completed after 4:00pm.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above dates or information in this newsletter, please contact the County office for more information (307) 682-8843, ext.2.

"The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (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's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."