



NEWSLETTER



SERVICE CENTER NEWS

Campbell County Wyoming

February 2011

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

District Board Members

Richard Bonine, Jr
Travis Hakert
Jason Oedekoven
Brenda Schladweiler
Richard VanCampen

DCP Signup Deadline Approaching!

Signup for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues until **June 1, 2011**.

Call the FSA Office to schedule an appointment.

2011 Acreage Reports

Soon it will be time to complete 2011 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, 2011.

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 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. ***The deadline for 2010 small grain LDPs is March 31, 2011.*** Contact the County office if you have any questions.

Federal Crop Insurance Deadline for Spring Planted Crops

The deadline to purchase Federal Crop Insurance on insurable spring planted crops/small grains is March 15, 2011.

SALES CLOSING DATE FOR SPRING PLANTED NAP CROPS

For spring planted small grains, intended for harvest as hay, and spring planted crops which are not insurable, NAP coverage must be purchased no later than April 1, 2011.

2011 Wool, Mohair & Pelt Loans or LDP's Sign-Up

Producers have until **January 31, 2012** to request a 9 month Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) or agree to forego the loan for a Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) on their Wool, Mohair or Unshorn Pelts for 2011 crop year. A CCC-633 EZ Loan Deficiency Payment Agreement must be filed before beneficial interest is lost on a commodity. After this agreement is completed a producer may request an LDP on the date beneficial interest is lost or the date of delivery to a storage facility or stored at home where beneficial interest is maintained. Eligible producers of unshorn pelts may also apply for Loan Deficiency Payments. An unshorn pelt is defined as the removed skin and attached wool from a slaughtered lamb that has never been shorn. To be eligible for an LDP for unshorn pelts, producers must have owned the unshorn lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter and sell the unshorn lamb for immediate slaughter. Immediate slaughter is considered slaughter of the lamb within a 7 to 10 day period, after the loss of beneficial interest. Eligible producers are considered to have lost beneficial interest on the date of delivery or the date of the receipt of payment, whichever comes earliest. The completion of a CCC-633EZ LDP Agreement is also required on unshorn pelts before beneficial interest is lost.

The FSA office is accepting page 1 of the CCC-633EZ, Loan Deficiency Payment Agreement for 2011. MAL and LDP requests for 2011 graded and ungraded wool, mohair and unshorn pelts will be accepted through January 31, 2012. This form will be mailed out to producers in the near future and must be completed prior to loss of beneficial interest as explained above. If you do not receive this form in the mail, please contact the FSA office.

Note:

- Unshorn pelts are eligible for LDP only.
- Wool Loan, Loan Repayment and LDP rates are announced weekly on graded and ungraded wool/mohair. Rates may be viewed at the internet site: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/mktpriclean2.xls.

ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS

Bank Account Changes - All payments issued by the county FSA office will be by direct deposit (electronic funds transfer) to a pre-designated checking or savings account with your financial institution. Forms are available at the FSA office to sign up for direct deposit if you haven't yet. For those already signed up, it is important that we are notified anytime there is a change in your account number or financial institution. If we aren't notified, future payments can be delayed or lost for a period of time.

Payments Reported to IRS

As required by law, FSA must report all program payments, earned by producers, to the Internal Revenue Service. Producers who received payments in 2008 should receive a notice (CCC-1099-G) near the end of January. This notice states the amount of the program payments they received. If you have any questions about your payment amounts, please contact the County FSA Office.

Signature Authority for Spouses - For FSA and CCC programs, husbands and wives can sign documents on behalf of each other for programs in which either has an interest unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to this office. Spouses may not grant Power of Attorney or sign claim settlements for each other.

Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) – AFIDA requires foreign persons or entities who acquire, transfer, or hold interest in agricultural land to report these holdings and transactions to the Secretary of Agriculture. Such holdings and changes must be reported within 90 days of any purchase, sale or change in status or ownership of land. Foreign agriculture investors must report investments to the local FSA office on form FSA-153.

Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELIC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification - Producers are reminded that eligibility to receive any USDA loans or other program benefits is subject to compliance with provisions certified to on the form AD-1026. See 'Breaking Up New Sod'.

BREAKING UP NEW SOD

If you will be breaking up new land, sod or very old cropland that has gone back to pasture, you need to contact this office prior to planting a crop. To be in compliance with sodbuster provisions you must notify this office, Farm Service Agency, of the area to be broken out and must file a revised form AD-1026. We will then delineate the "field" boundary and refer the new land to NRCS for a determination of highly erodible. If the land to be broken up and farmed is highly erodible you must comply with the conservation plan developed by NRCS. Contacting NRCS and getting their concurrence to break up this land without first contacting this office to complete the necessary paperwork does not constitute compliance with sodbuster provisions. Producers who violate sodbuster provisions risk becoming ineligible for program benefits through USDA. If you will be breaking up new land you must contact FSA first to start the compliance paperwork. If in doubt about the land you will be breaking up call us. Basically, if you have not been reporting this acreage on a crop report and we do not have it identified as an existing field you need to notify FSA and file form AD-1026.

Farm Loan Programs

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available. If you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan, ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee. Direct farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained from FSA for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum of \$1,119,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that the application and loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Rural Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000. Many farm and even city families have found the Youth Loan program an excellent means to introduce the next generation to the business of agriculture. Is there someone in your family who may qualify?

SURE Signup

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) began Jan. 10, 2011. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. For SURE, all crops must be covered by crop insurance, NAP or be eligible for waivers.

A farm enrolled in SURE is eligible when either:

- a portion of the farm is located in a county covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration (USDA Secretarial Declarations only) or a contiguous county; or,
- the actual production is less than 50% of the normal production.

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

Losses of livestock due to adverse weather **must** be reported to the FSA office within 30 days of when the loss is apparent by filing a Notice of Loss application. A Notice of Loss filed must be finalized by completing an Application for Payment by January 30 of the next year.

Applications for livestock losses require documentation of beginning and ending inventory, records showing the date of death for normal death loss and show losses due to the weather event, along with records showing the number of livestock in inventory on the date of the weather event. Beginning and ending inventory require third party verification, such as, vet records, loan documents, shipping records, brand inspections, etc.

USDA Announces Dates of Sorghum Checkoff Referendum

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 2011 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture has finalized procedures for the upcoming referendum on the continuation of the Sorghum Checkoff Program and is announcing the dates it will conduct the referendum.

For the program to continue, the Sorghum Promotion, Research, and Information Order requires that a referendum be conducted no later than 3 years after the start of assessments, which began on July 1, 2008. The order requires a simple majority vote in the referendum for the program to continue.

USDA will conduct the referendum Feb. 1-28, 2011, at local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices for producers and the Agricultural Marketing Service office, referenced below, for importers. Ballots may be obtained in person, by mail or facsimile at county FSA offices, or via the Internet at www.ams.usda.gov/sorghumpage.

Any eligible person engaged in the production or importation of sorghum from July 1, 2008, to Dec. 31, 2010, is eligible to participate. Individuals are required to provide documentation such as a sales receipt or remittance form that shows they engaged in the production or importation of sorghum.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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GILLETTE, WY 82716-4127

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb. 1 – 28, 2011 – Dates of Sorghum Check-off Referendum – See Article

Feb. 21, 2011 – President’s Day Holiday – County Office Closed

Mar. 31, 2011 – Deadline for MAL and LDPs on 2010 small grains

Apr. 1, 2011 – Sales Closing Date for Spring planted NAP crops

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.

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