



NEWSLETTER



SERVICE CENTER NEWS

Campbell County Wyoming

MAY 2013

Farm Service Agency County Committee

307-682-8843, ext. 2
Amanda Sorenson, Chairperson
Wendy Bethea, Vice-Chairperson
Chuck Tweedy, Regular Member

Natural Resources Conservation Services

307-682-8842, ext. 3
Tim Kellogg, District Conservationist
Katie Carpenter, Rangeland Mgmt Specialist
Tyrel West, Civil Engineer
Barb Litzinger, Ultima Admin Assistant

Campbell County Conservation District

307-682-1824
Tim Morrison, District Manager
Debbie Hepp, Program Assistant
Crystal Kellebrew, Admin. Assistant
Kevin Quick, Water /Range Technician

Office Staff, ext 2

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

RMBO/NRCS/BLM

Brandon Elkins, PR Restoration Range Con

District Board Members

Travis Hakert
Jonathan Mau
Bob Maul
Brenda Schladweiler
Lindsay Wood

COC Election Nomination Period

June 17 through August 1, 2013, is the period for nominating farmers and ranchers as candidates for the Local County Committee. This year's election will be held in Local Administrative Area (LAA) #1. FSA encourages all eligible producers to nominate themselves, or another eligible producer, to run for office. Nomination forms (FSA-669A's) are available:

- At <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>, and scroll down to the links under "Election Materials" and CLICK "2013 Nomination Form"
- By picking up FSA-669A at your local FSA Office
- By calling your local office and requesting FSA-669A be emailed to you.

2013 DCP Signup Period

Program sign-ups for DCP and ACRE continue for 2013 crops. **The DCP sign-up period will end on Aug. 2, 2013; and the ACRE sign-up period will end on June 3, 2013.**

The 2013 DCP and ACRE program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that all eligible participants in 2013 may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. Compliance requirements remain the same as in previous years regarding weed control on contract acres. As in 2012 there will be no advance payments. ***Due to reduced budget, DCP contracts will not be mailed. Call the office to set up an appointment to sign your contract***

2013 Spring Acreage Reporting Deadline

Deadline July 15, 2013

All acreage must be reported for a farm, including crops on non-cropland such as hayed or grazed grassland and other cover crops. It is also important to accurately report crops' intended use. Intended use is used to determine eligibility in many FSA programs and cannot be revised after the deadline.

Producers should contact their local FSA county office if they are uncertain about reporting deadlines. In order to meet FSA program eligibility requirements, producers must submit timely filed acreage reports. Reports filed after the established deadlines must meet certain requirements to be accepted and may be charged late fees.

For more information on FSA crop reporting requirements and other programs, visit your local FSA office or visit us online at www.fsa.usda.gov/wy.

Reporting NAP Losses (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program)

The noninsured crop disaster assistance program (NAP) is a federally funded program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed. These benefits are only available for crops for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is not available.

Production records for all crops must be reported to FSA no later than July 15 of the following year. FSA requires that any production reported in a loss year be verifiable according to Agency specifications. NAP losses must be reported within 15 days of the loss.

2012 APH's Signature Deadline.

For those producers that had NAP coverage for 2012 on their grass hay or grain hay crops, your APH (Actual Production History) forms are ready for signature. Due to drought conditions in 2012, most producers filed losses on these crops and were assigned a replacement yield. The 2012 APH forms **MUST** be signed by **July 15, 2013**. Please stop in the office to get these signed.

LDPs

Form CCC-633EZs were mailed out for signatures. If you received this form, you need to make certain you have completed and returned the form to our office prior to losing beneficial interest in your 2013 wool. If beneficial interest is lost in the commodity prior to filing the form and the price is low enough that LDPs (Loan Deficiency Payments) occur, you will not be eligible for payment. As of May 15, 2013, the price of wool is high enough that LDPs are not available.

USDA Announces 45th General Sign-Up for the Conservation Reserve Program

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), began May 20 and ends on June 14, 2013

Currently, about 27 million acres are enrolled in CRP. Producers that are accepted in the sign-up can receive cost-share assistance to plant long-term, resource-conserving covers and receive an annual rental payment for the length of the contract (10-15 years).

Contracts on 3.3 million acres of CRP are set to expire on Sept. 30, 2013. Producers with expiring contracts or producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP.

Additional sign-ups for continuous CRP programs such as Highly Erodible Land Initiative and Initiative to Restore Grasslands, Wetlands and Wildlife will be announced in spring 2013.

For more information on CRP and other FSA programs, visit a local FSA service center or www.fsa.usda.gov.

Continuous CRP

Landowners and producers can now enroll in Continuous CRP. Continuous CRP contract duration is between 10 and 15 years. Interested parties should contact their local FSA Office for more information

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Due to a reduced budget, many forms that were mailed to you, in prior years, can no longer be mailed. Please, pay special attention to deadlines that affect your operation, as there may not be additional reminders of these dates. Feel free to check with the county office to ensure all your required documents have been received.

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program for 2011 Losses

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program is authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) to provide assistance to producers suffering crop losses due to natural disasters. SURE is available for crop losses due to natural disaster occurring through Sept. 30, 2011. SURE is available to eligible producers on:

- farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred at least a 10 percent crop production or quality loss, or both, for at least 1 crop of economic significance, except grazed crops
- farms on which the actual production on the farm, is less than 50 percent of the farm's normal production

To be eligible for SURE, a producer must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for all crops through the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and obtained Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage, if available, from the Farm Service Agency. Forage Crops intended for grazing are not eligible for SURE benefits.

Signup for the SURE Program for 2011 crop losses began on October 22, 2012, and will end June 7, 2013.

Please call the FSA office if you have further questions or if you feel you may be eligible for this program.

Targeted Funds to Socially Disadvantaged and Beginning Farmers

Each year Congress targets a percentage of farm ownership and farm operating loan funds to socially disadvantaged (SDA) and beginning farmers. For more information, refer to the FSA Fact Sheet, "Loans for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers."

Down payment Program

FSA has a special loan program to assist SDA and beginning farmers in purchasing a farm. Retiring farmers may use this program to transfer their land to future generations.

To qualify:

- The applicant must make a cash down payment of at least 5 percent of the purchase price.
- The maximum loan amount does not exceed 45 percent of the least of (a) the purchase price of the farm to be acquired; (b) the appraised value of the farm to be acquired or; (c) \$500,000 (Note: This results in a maximum loan amount of \$225,000).
- The term of the loan is 20 years. The interest rate is 4 percent below the direct FO rate, but not lower than 1.5 percent.
- The remaining balance may be obtained from a commercial lender or private party. FSA can provide up to a 95 percent guarantee if financing is obtained from a commercial lender. Participating lenders do not have to pay a guarantee fee.
- Financing from participating lenders must have an amortization period of at least 30 years and cannot have a balloon payment due within the first 20 years of the loan.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 27, 2013 – County Office closed – Memorial Day Holiday
June 7, 2013 – SURE Signup ends
June 14, 2013 – CRP Signup ends
July 4, 2013 - County Office closed – Independence Day Holiday
July 15, 2013 – Spring Planted Crop Acreage Reporting Deadline
Aug 2, 2013 – DCP Signup ends

IMMEDIATELY --File Notification of Loss Forms within 15 Days of Loss of crops
--Notify County office of any changes in Direct Deposit information,
--Payment limitation changes, Farm records changes, Banking info 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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“Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities and wish to file either an EEO or program complaint, please contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish). Persons with disabilities, who wish to file a program complaint, please see information above on how to contact us by mail directly or by email. If you require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) please contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).”

“If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or e-mail at program.intake@usda.gov.”