



Fremont County News

Fremont County
USDA Service Center

Fremont County FSA
508 N Broadway Ave
Riverton, WY 82501
(307)856-7524 (phone)
(307)856-2383 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
John P Stoll – Chairman
Charles Murray –
Vice Chairman
Bryan Hamilton - Member

Staff
Annie Warren – County
Executive Director
Brian Harrell – Farm Loan
Manager
Cheyenne Magnan – Farm Loan
Officer
Mary Lou Wickstrom –
Technician
Carol Zogata - Technician

SUPPLEMENTAL DISASTER AS- SISTANCE PROGRAM

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create five new disaster programs, collectively referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. These programs include:

- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.

In the 2008 Farm Bill; in general, the term "farm" means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer. In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers meeting the definition of a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher, do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement.

REPORT NAP LOSSES

Remember to report losses on NAP crops within 15 days of the disaster occurrence or when the losses are apparent. **Notices of losses filed more than 15 days after occurrence** (late-filed) can still be approved by COC if verification of the specific crop and acreage can be made. It must also be determined that the loss was due to an eligible disaster condition. If both determinations cannot be made the application will be disapproved and the producer will not be eligible for NAP payment.

2010 NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occurred when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of crops that are not covered by crop insurance. The most applicable crops here in Fremont County include but are not limited to pasture/rangeland, grass hay, and alfalfa seed. The application deadline for the **2010 NAP** coverage on fall seeded and perennial crops is **December 1st, 2009**.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following:

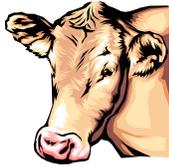
- Timely file acreage reports
- File a Notice of Loss with in 15 days of apparent loss
- Report harvested production, weight ticket, bale counts, etc.
- Report change of ownership, operation, or share

When loss has occurred, please contact our office prior to harvesting or grazing.

Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. We recommend producers submit 2009 production records as soon as harvest is complete. **All 2009 production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date of July 1st, 2009.**

2009 COMPLIANCE

Compliance and spot checks will once again be utilized during the 2009 crop year. Instead of locally selecting farms, contracts, deficiency loans, etc. for spot check and review, a nationwide selection of producers is used to achieve an adequate statistical sampling of participating producers. Spot check selections are to be conducted based on a producer's participation in Conservation Reserve Program, Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, Loan Deficiency Program, etc.



LIVESTOCK FORAGE PROGRAM (LFP)

Livestock Forage Program (LFP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffer grazing losses due to drought or fire between January 1, 2008 and October 1, 2011.

Counties are determined eligible by the US Drought Monitor. The county office may accept applications after being notified by National Office of eligibility. Listed below are the levels of eligible drought.

- D2 any area for 8 consecutive weeks = 1 month payment
- D3 any area at anytime = 2 months payment
- D3, any area for 4 weeks = 3 months payment
- D4 any area at anytime = 3 months payment

Under this program, if an eligible drought occurs anywhere in the county then the entire county will qualify for assistance.

Drought eligibility criteria also require that the drought must have occurred on:

- Native or improved permanent vegetative cover
- Small grains or forage sorghum planted specifically for grazing

Fremont County Is Eligible

Producers are required to have **NAP or PRF** (pasture, rangeland & forage) coverage to be eligible for LFP benefits.

Eligible acreage will be determined by intended use as certified by the producer on the annual crop report ****It is very important these reflect the actual harvest methods being used****

*Fremont County qualifies for 2008 losses. If you had 2008 NAP and had livestock that was grazing or should have been grazing in Sweetwater or Sublette County on May 1, 2008, you qualify for assistance. All loss claims must be filed by **December 10, 2009**.*

What to bring:



LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from disaster. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for live-stock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold. Eligible losses must be reported to the County Office within 30 days of the loss.

Keep good records. We will need to verify your beginning and ending inventory, the cause of loss, and the date of loss. You will need reliable records, for example veterinarian bills, branding records, preg check records, sales slips, date stamped photographs, personal calendars/records. We do allow third party verification, relatives and employees are excused.

VOTING STARTS NOV. 6



Ballots for this year's County Committee election will be mailed to eligible voters on November 6, 2009. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency County Office by the close of business on December 7, 2009. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 7, 2009.

The candidates in this year's election are: Daryne Fegler and Chuck Murray is nominated in LAA 1, Fremont County, to serve as a committee member.

Eligible voters in a local administrative area 1 who have not received a ballot should contact the FSA county office staff.

Voter Requirements Persons meeting requirements in **1 or 2, plus 3**, below, is eligible to vote: **1.** Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either of the following: an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper, *or* a partner in a general partnership or member of a joint venture that has an interest in a farm as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper; **or 2.** Not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm; *and 3.* Eligible to participate in any FSA program that is provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

Discrimination Prohibited No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

FSA SIGNATURE POLICY

Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits. The following are FSA signature guidelines:

- A married woman shall sign her given name: Mrs. Mary Doe, not Mrs. John Doe
- For a minor, FSA requires the minor's signature and one from an eligible parent
Note, by signing the applicable document, the parent is liable for actions of the minor and may be liable for refunds, liquidated damages, etc
- When signing on one's behalf the signature must agree with the name typed or printed on the form, or be a variation that does not cause the name and signature to be in disagreement. Example - John W. Smith is on the form. The signature may be John W. Smith or J.W. Smith or J. Smith. Or Mary J. Smith may be signed as Mrs. Mary Joe Smith, M.J. Smith, Mary Smith, etc
- FAXED signatures will be accepted for certain forms and other documents provided the acceptable program forms are approved for FAXED signatures. Producers are responsible for the successful transmission and receipt of FAXED information.
Examples of documents **not** approved for FAXED signatures include:
 - Promissory note
 - Assignment of payment
 - Joint payment authorization
 - NAP actual production history and approved yield record
 - Acknowledgement of commodity certificate purchase
 - Financing statement
 - UCC financing statement
- Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office
- Spouses shall not sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities
- All members of a general partnership must sign for the general partnership unless an individual is authorized to act on the behalf of the general partnership and bind all members
- Spouses may sign on behalf of each other's individual interest in a partnership, unless notification denying a spouse that authority is provided to the county office

- Acceptable signatures for general partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, estates, and trusts shall consist of an indicator "by" or "for" the individual's name, individual's name and capacity, or individual's name, capacity, and name of entity

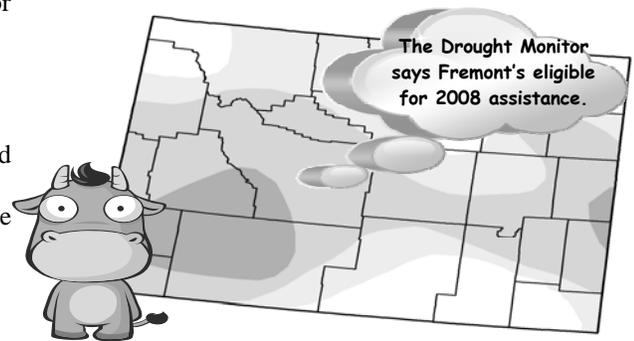
For additional clarification on proper signatures contact your local FSA office.

BANKING CHANGES?

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.



Selected Interest Rates for November 2009

Farm Operating - Direct	2.875%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.75%
Limited Resource - Farm Operating	5.00%
Limited Resource - Farm Ownership	5.00%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Farm Storage Facility	3.125%

Fremont County FSA Office
508 N Broadway Ave
Riverton. WY 82501



Postage Fees Paid
Farm Service Agency
Permit NO. G-96

Dates to Remember	
Nov. 26	Happy Thanksgiving-Office Closed
Dec. 1	2010 NAP deadline
Dec. 7	COC Election Deadline
Dec. 10	2008 LFP Deadline
Dec. 25	Merry Christmas-Office Closed
Jan. 1	Happy New Year-Office Closed

Visit our Web site at
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program 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 program. (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 to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.