



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

2010 CROP REPORTING DEADLINE

The acreage reporting deadline is fast approaching, **July 1, 2010**. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

If you are a sugar beet grower, participate in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP), participate in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), participated in the Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) including wool producers, and/or purchased multi-peril or catastrophic crop insurance, including honey bee producers, or if you participate in other USDA farm programs, you must file an acreage report to remain eligible for benefits. Crop reports are also used in calculating benefits if you suffer a crop loss on a non-insurable crop and apply for benefits under the Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP). If you are only insuring your pasture/rangeland acres, you will need to report those acres. If you do not report those acres, we will not know what we are insuring; moreover, your policy will not be valid. Please provide the office with current leasing records and/or deeds. You must also file an acreage report of fruits and vegetable for farms that are enrolled in DCP or ACRE rules.

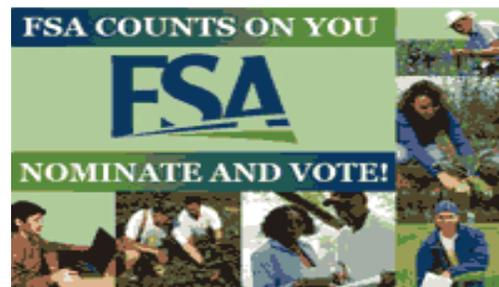
We are currently taking crop reports on a first come first serve basis but would like to encourage you to make an appointment in order to facilitate the process. You may begin filing your acreage reports as soon as you have completed planting. You do not have to wait if you will not be planting any new 2010 crops.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Late fees will apply to acreage reports that are filed after the **July 1st deadline**. Late fees start at \$46.00 per farm. **FAILURE TO FILE AN ACREAGE REPORT WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF USDA BENEFITS.**

REPORTING BANK ACCOUNT CHANGES

Farm program payments earned through this office are required to be paid by direct deposit into a bank account selected by the program participant. If you have completed a direct deposit agreement and have had a bank change, you must notify us of these changes for your payment to be properly deposited.



COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the 2010 Fremont County FSA Committee election will be accepted through August 2, 2010. FSA County Committees are elected by local agriculture producers to administer USDA farm programs at the county level. There are three Local Administrative Areas (LAA) in Fremont County with one LAA holding an election each year to elect a person to a three-year term. Fremont County's LAA's consist of: 1. Wind River Reservation; 2. Midvale/Riverton area; 3. the Lander/Dubois area. The Committee election for this year will be held for LAA3, the Lander/Dubois area, which is represented currently by Bryan Hamilton. A list of persons who are eligible to run for the County Committee is available from this office. If you wish to run or want to nominate a fellow producer for the County Committee, please contact this office for a nomination petition. If no nominations are received, the Secretary of Agriculture will complete the slate of nominees. You may access the following website for additional information: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN (FSFL)

Commodity Credit Corporation, acting through the Farm Service Agency, has reauthorized the Farm Storage Facility Loan Program. Basic provisions of this loan program are:

- Loans may be made for grain storage structures, grain handling equipment and drying equipment.
- Loans will be for new storage or expansion or upgrades of existing storage.
- The term of approved loans is 7 to 10 years.
- The interest rate is equivalent to the rate of interest charged on Treasury Securities of comparable maturity.
- Participants are required to carry Multi-peril crop insurance on crops of economic significance.



DIRECT AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PROGRAM (DCP)

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will continue through **June 1, 2010**. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

For more information on this or other programs, simply contact the nearest FSA office.

The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) began in crop year 2009. Through ACRE, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price.

The enrollment date for 2010 ACRE is June 1, 2010.

AVERAGE CROP REVENUE ELECTION (ACRE)

ACRE payments are made when both state- and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. With the election of ACRE, producers also agree to a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates. ACRE participants are required to submit a report of production for the enrolled farm no later than **July 15th** in the year immediately following the crop year of the reported acreage, for each covered commodity for which an acreage report of planted acres greater than zero was filed.

A decision to elect ACRE binds the producer to the program through the 2012 crop year, the last crop year covered by the 2008 Farm Bill. For more details contact your local FSA office

There are no late file provisions. All 2010 DCP and ACRE applications must be signed on or before June 1, 2010.

****Producers must protect land enrolled in DCP/ACRE from weeds, including noxious weeds, and erosion, including providing sufficient cover.**

CENSUS COUNTS RURAL AMERICA

The USDA Farm Service Agency and the U.S. Census Bureau encourage all farmers and ranchers to complete the 2010 census. Census forms mailed in March to all residents in the U.S. and Puerto Rico contain only 10 questions. The census takes only 10 minutes to complete and mail back, postage-paid.

Counting everyone is critical to the security of rural communities. It ensures that more than \$400 billion in yearly federal funding is allocated to communities for schools, broadband initiatives, hospitals, emergency services and public works. The census also determines the state's number of seats in the House of Representatives and will affect a state's gain or loss in house seats.

Completing the census is not only the law, but tool to improve your voice on rural issues. Make sure you are counted.



NAP RECORDS

July 1st is the deadline for Farm Service Agency to complete proven yields for producers who are participating in the Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP). In order for us to complete the proven yield calculations and to obtain the necessary signatures by the July 1 deadline, we are asking NAP participants to submit their production evidence to this office by June 15, 2010. Failure to turn in your production evidence will result in a decreased yield guarantee and will decrease program benefits in the event of a crop loss

REPORTING CROP LOSSES FOR NAP

Producers who purchase crop loss coverage under the Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) are reminded that if you suffer a crop loss, you must complete a Notice of Loss form with this office no later than 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence or no later than 15 days from the date that the damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent. Notice of Loss must be provided for each weather-related event or adverse natural occurrence that causes damage to or loss of the specific crop or commodity. Failure to report the crop damage or loss in a timely manner will result in ineligibility for NAP payment.

**** Note for livestock producers who insure their pastures/rangeland. Your policy covers the grass on the ground and not your livestock. Your loss should be apparent before the end of the growing season. Even though your livestock are not insured, by participating in the program your livestock may be eligible for other disaster program because your pasture is insured.**

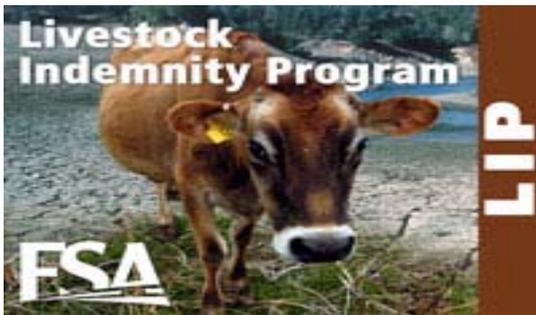
****IMPORTANT NOTE** If you had 2009 NAP coverage and suffered from grasshopper infestation, those losses are eligible in Wyoming and late filed Notice of Loss applications will be accepted for the County Committee to review.**



LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Assistance for losses not covered under LIP, LFP, or SURE because of disease, adverse weather or other conditions as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture, including but not limited to; losses to **livestock, honey bees or farm raised fish**, loss of purchased and harvested forage or feed, above the normal cost associated with providing or transporting feed and for eligible grazing losses that are not eligible under LFP. **Wolf depredation** has been determined to be a qualifying loss condition under **ELAP for livestock death losses that occur after January 1, 2008 and before October 1, 2011.**

For each of these programs, you must file a Notice of Loss no later than 30 days after the loss is apparent. Producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by obtaining a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act for insurable crops and by purchasing NAP coverage for uninsurable crops for all crops of economic significance. Producers who did not meet the risk management purchase requirement, but suffered livestock related losses in 2008 or 2009 may request relief of this provision. While the deadline to enroll in LIP and LFP for 2008 and 2009 has passed, the **deadline to enroll in ELAP for 2008 and 2009 has been extended to May 5, 2010.**



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 livestock 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 (weather records), 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 excluded.

WYOMING STATE OFFICE NEWS RELEASE – WOLF RELATED LIVESTOCK LOSSES

Gregor Goertz, State Executive Director, Wyoming Farm Service Agency (FSA), announced availability of federal assistance to producers who suffered livestock losses resulting from wolf depredation. According to Goertz, loss benefits are approved through the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm Raised Fish Program (ELAP) as authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill. Wolf Depredation has been determined to be an eligible cause of loss condition under ELAP for livestock death losses occurring on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.

Under the ELAP provisions, FSA may spend up to \$50 million per year nationwide to provide emergency relief for losses due to feed or water shortages, adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires and; now, wolf depredation. With some exceptions, losses that are not adequately address by other disaster programs are covered under ELAP.

Although the majority of livestock loss in Wyoming cannot be attributed to wolf depredation, eligible producers that can provide verifiable evidence of livestock death loss due to wolves may be compensated through the ELAP program. Documents providing verifiable evidence may include, but are not limited to documentation from USDA Wildlife Services, reimbursement documentation from Wyoming Game and Fish, verifiable loss or reimbursement documents from private activist organizations, insurance claim documents, vet records, etc.

“FSA is pleased that, through the efforts of partnering federal agencies and livestock organizations, decision makers in Washington, D.C. recognized the need for and value of implementing this program,” Goertz said.

Signup for ELAP is ongoing; however 2008 and 2009 losses need to be reported right away because there has been an extension to the deadline. The deadline for 2008 and 2009 losses will be announced after the final rule is published in the Federal Register. After the final rule is published, producers will have only 14 days to report 2008 and 2009 livestock losses. Contact your local Farm Service Agency to discuss these program provisions as they relate to each individual operation.

For more information on ELAP and all programs administered by the Farm Service Agency, please contact your local service center or visit the national website at www.fsa.usda.gov.

FARM CHANGES

In order for us to properly and accurately administer farm programs, it is very important that we have current records of the owners and operator of farms. Farm owners and operators are asked to report changes in their farming or ranching operations to us. This may include the purchase or sale of a farm or the rental of a farm which you did not have an interest in last year. Please report these changes so that we can process applications for program participation in a timely matter.

**Selected Interest Rates
for May 2010**

Farm Operating - Direct	2.875%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Farm Storage Facility – 7 yr	3.125%
Farm Storage Facility – 10 yr	3.625%
Farm Storage Facility – 12 yr	4.000%

Dates to Remember

May 5	2008-2009 ELAP Deadline
May 31	Office Closed – Memorial Day
June 1	ACRE/DCP Deadline
July 1	Crop Reporting Deadline
July 1	NAP Yield/Production Deadline
July 15	ACRE Production Deadline
Aug 2	County Committee Nomination Deadline

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

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