



NEWSLETTER



**Fremont County
FSA Office**

January 2011

**508 North Broadway Ave
Riverton, WY 82501
307-856-7524
307-856-2383 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/wy**

Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30am - 4:30 pm

Staff
Annie Warren, CED
Brian Harrell, FLM
Cheyenne Magnan, FLO
Mary Lou Wickstrom, PT
Carol Zogata, PT

County Committee
John P. Stoll, Chairman
Chuck Murray, Vice-Chairman
Bryan Hamilton, Member

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Congratulations to Bryan Hamilton! Bryan was re-elected to represent farmers from LAA3 on the County Committee. Bryan was elected to his second consecutive term.

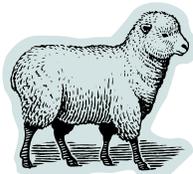
FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The County Committee system works only because of your participation. The Committee Members held their Organizational Meeting January 6th and elected John P. Stoll Chairman, Chuck Murray Vice-Chairman, and Bryan Hamilton a Voting Member.

DCP SIGN-UP

June 1, 2010 is the deadline to enroll in the 2011 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) Program. Payments under DCP are based on the acreage base of the program crops on the farm and are paid whether or not you plant the respective crop. For 2011, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below the crop's target price. Producers who are eligible for the DCP Program are also eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program or the Counter-cyclical Program.

WOOL AND MOHAIR LOANS AND LDP'S

The deadline to sign-up for loan or LDP for wool or mohair that was shorn in calendar year 2010 is January 31, 2011.



SURE SIGNUP



Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) began January 10, 2011. To

be eligible for SURE 2009, you must have suffered weather related crop production losses during crop year 2009. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. Producers with a farming interest that is physically located in a county that was designated a primary disaster county or contiguous county must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. 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. 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 more information on the SURE program, please visit this office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

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 for each other and may not sign claim settlements for each other.

NAP APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline to sign-up for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, or NAP coverage for spring planted, annual crops is **April 1, 2011**. Producers are reminded about the need for insurance coverage on crops of economic significance in order to remain eligible for Disaster Assistance Programs such as SURE, LFP, TAP, and ELAP. To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic (CAT) level of insurance for all insurable crops or NAP for non-insurable crops. NAP is a federally funded program that provides coverage to producers for non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occurs due to natural disasters. Crops eligible for NAP coverage are those for which crop insurance is not available, including fruits and vegetables, aquaculture, pecans, turf grass and forage crops, to name a few.

CENTRAL WYOMING COLLEGE



CWC is pleased to announce that it is currently in the process of rebuilding a program focused on Agriculture. CWC will be offering two Associate of Science degrees geared toward transfer to a four year institution, Agricultural Business and Range Management, and is in the process of

developing an Associate of Applied Science degree in Farm and Ranch Resource Management. Courses that will be available include range management, farm and ranch business management, livestock production, and various other ag related courses. An advisory committee including producers and ag business owners as well as USDA, FSA, and NRCS personnel have been recruited to provide input and help guide curriculum development. If you have any thoughts on what should be included in the curriculum or questions regarding the class offerings please contact Ben Rux at 307-855-2012 or via email at brux@cw.edu.

CROP INSURANCE DEADLINE NEARS

Don't forget that the deadline to sign-up for Multi-peril or Federal Crop Insurance is March 15.

BANK ACCOUNT CHANGES

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA county office if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

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 and need to show crop disposition. All production records must be submitted by July 1, 2011.

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 operators of farms. Farm owners and operators are asked to report changes in farming or ranching operations to this office. 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 manner and so we can keep you informed regarding program eligibility.

SEEDLING TREES AVAILABLE



It may be winter outside, but it is time to order seedling trees and shrubs from the Lower Wind River Conservation District, Popo Agie Conservation District, and the Dubois Crowheart Conservation District. There are over forty different seedling trees and shrubs available in three sizes: small potted (group of 30), large potted (group of 30), and bare root (bundle of 50). The Districts also have tree protectors and weed barrier available. Orders will be accepted until April 1, 2011, but early ordering is recommended for the best selection. Please contact your Conservation District:

Wind River Conservation District
508 North Broadway Ave
Riverton, WY 82501
856-7524 Ext. 107

Popo Agie Conservation District
221 South 2nd Street
Lander, WY 82520
332-3114

Dubois Crowheart Conservation District
706 Meckem Street
Dubois, WY 82513
455-3688

HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLAND CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE

Landowners and operators are reminded that in order to receive payments from USDA, compliance with Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions are required. Farmers with HEL determined soils are reminded of tillage, crop residue, and rotation requirements as specified per their conservation plan. Producers are to notify the USDA Farm Service Agency prior to conducting land clearing or drainage projects to insure compliance. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these situations can result in the loss of eligibility and all Federal payments.

COMMODITY STORAGE LOAN PROGRAM



Commodity Credit Corporation, acting through Farm Service Agency, has reauthorized the farm storage facility loan program. Basic provisions of the reauthorized program are:

- Loans may be made for grain storage structures, grain handling equipment, drying equipment, forage storage structures or cold storage for fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Loans will be for new storage or expansion or upgrades of existing storage
- The term of approved loans is 7, 10 or 12 years.
- The interest rates for Jan. 2011 are 2.5% for a 7 year loan, 3.125% for a 10 year loan and 3.375% for a 12 year loan
- Participants are required to carry crop insurance on crops of economic significance for the term of the loan.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM CONTINUOUS SIGN-UP

Under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) continuous sign-up, eligible agriculture producers may apply to enroll small acreages of eligible cropland or marginal pastureland in CRP. Participants agree to establish approved conservation practices on eligible land and remove the land from agricultural production in return for annual rental payments for the term of the CRP contract, which can run from 10 to 15 years. A 50% cost-share payment is available to help with the cost of completing approved conservation practices. There is an additional 40% cost-share incentive payment for certain practices. Along with the cost-share and annual rental payments, there is a sign-up incentive payment and an annual maintenance payment. Some eligible practices that can be completed on land enrolled under continuous CRP are: Field Windbreaks, Shallow Water Areas for Wildlife, Shelterbelt Establishment, Filter Strips and Riparian Buffers.

FARM DIVISIONS and DIVISION OF ACREAGE BASES

When a portion of a farm is sold or otherwise becomes owned by 2 or more persons, we are required to divide the crop contract acres among the resulting farms using one of several options. The designation by landowner method is the method of dividing the parent farm's crop acreage bases in a manner agreed to by the resulting owners. This method may be used when any of the following apply:

- Part of a farm is sold or ownership transferred
- An entire farm is sold to 2 or more persons
- Farm ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons
- Part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred
- A tract is sold to 2 or more persons
- Tract ownership is transferred to 2 or more persons

If you have sold or bought a part of a farm, please notify this office so we can begin the process of dividing the farm and crop acreage bases. You may use the designation by landowner method of distributing the crop acreage bases among the resulting farms if all owners agree in writing.

GRASSHOPPER DISASTER DESIGNATION

On November 26, 2010 Fremont County received a Primary Secretarial Disaster Designation for weather related grasshopper infestation. In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Carbon, Hot Springs, Natrona, Park, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton, and Washakie Counties, Wyoming, are named as contiguous disaster counties.

A Secretarial Disaster Designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from the FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA Emergency Loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program. Farmers have 8 months from the date of the Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. FSA will consider each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses, security available, and repayment ability. SURE Program applications for 2010 crop losses will be accepted in 2011, when farm revenue data required by statute becomes available. These are currently the only disaster assistance program available for 2010 grasshopper losses, but because Fremont County did receive a Disaster Designation we will be eligible for any new programs that become available in the future.



Fremont County FSA Office
 508 North Broadway Ave
 Riverton, WY 82501



**PRESORTED STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 Farm Service Agency
 PERMIT #G-96**

The U.S. 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 a 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.

**Selected Interest Rates for
 December 2010**

Operating Loan	1.75%
Farm Ownership	4.125%
Conservation Loan (NEW)	4.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.500%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility – 7 yr	2.500%
Farm Storage Facility – 10 yr	3.125%
Farm Storage Facility – 12 yr	3.375%

Dates to Remember

Jan. 31	Last day to file 2010 wool LDPs
Jan. 31	LIP Application for Payment Deadline for 2010 losses
Feb. 21	President's Day – Office Closed
April 1	Deadline for 2011 NAP coverage on annuals
June 1	DCP Sign –up deadline