



June 7, 2013

### COUNTY COMMITTEE

Bill Jennings, Chairperson  
 Bryan Hamilton, Vice-chairperson  
 Will O'Neal, Member

### OFFICE STAFF

Annie Bryce, County Executive Director  
 Brian Harrell, Farm Loan Manager  
 Cheyenne Magnan, Farm Loan Officer  
 Mary Lou Wickstrom, Program Technician  
 Carol Zogata, Program Technician

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, or marital or family status. (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 USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

### REPORTING CROP LOSSES

Producers are reminded that they must report losses on Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) crops within 15 days of the date of a disaster occurrence or date that damage to the crop(s) is apparent. Notices of loss that are filed after 15 days (late-filed) may be approved by the county committee if verification of the crop and acreage can be made and if it can be determined that the cause of loss is due to an eligible disaster condition. If a positive verification of the above requirements cannot be made, the late filed Notice of Loss will be disapproved and the producer will not be eligible for payment.

### COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the 2013 Fremont County FSA committee election will be accepted through August 1. 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 the Wind River Indian Reservation, Riverton Valley, and Lander/Dubois. The committee election for this year will be held for Local Administrative Area 3, the Lander/Dubois LAA, which currently is represented 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 nominating petition. If no nominations are received, the Secretary of Agriculture will complete the slate of nominees.



### CROP REPORTING DEADLINE

The deadline to file your FSA acreage reports is July 15. If you are a sugar beet grower, participate in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP), participate in the Conservation Reserve Program, purchase multi-peril or catastrophic crop insurance 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 noninsurable crop and apply for benefits under the Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP). You must also file an acreage report of fruits and vegetables for farms that are enrolled in DCP or ACRE. Dry beans are considered a vegetable under the DCP & ACRE rules. You may begin filing your acreage reports as soon as you have completed planting. If you believe you need to file an acreage report, please feel free to call for an appointment or come in to the FSA office at any time and file your acreage report. Late fees will apply to acreage reports that are filed after the July 15 deadline. **FAILURE TO FILE AN ACREAGE REPORT WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF USDA BENEFITS.**

### REPORTING PRODUCTION FOR NAP

July 15, 2013 is the deadline for turning in crop production history and signing the production worksheet for the Non-insured Assistance Program. 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.

### FRUITS AND VEGETABLE PLANTING

For farms that are enrolled in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP), don't forget the regulations concerning the acres of Fruits and Vegetables (FAV's), which includes dry beans grown for commercial or seed purposes. To avoid a payment reduction, liquidated damages penalty or contract termination, FAV acres may not exceed the non-contract acres for the farm. Depending on the farm or producer's FAV history, the penalty that is assessed can range from an acre for acre DCP payment reduction to severe cash penalties and possible termination of the DCP contract. A farm or producer will have a dry bean FAV history if dry beans were grown on the farm or were grown by the producer on any farm, at least once during the years of 1991 through 1995 or 1998 through 2001. An acreage report showing the dry bean acres grown must be on file in this office for the respective year(s). Farms with overplanted FAV's must be withdrawn from DCP prior to August 1 or before harvest of the crop, whichever is earlier, to avoid payment reduction or penalty.

### DCP SIGN-UP

August 2, 2013 is the deadline to enroll in the 2013 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. Advance direct and counter cyclical payments are not authorized for 2013. 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.

### CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

The sign-up period for the Conservation Reserve Program ends June 14, 2013. Applications are considered based on an Environmental Index, which is a measuring stick of the environmental benefits associated with each proposal. Under CRP, participants enter into a ten to fifteen year contract whereby the participant agrees to remove environmentally sensitive agricultural lands from production and establish and maintain a permanent cover crop in return for an annual rental payment from USDA.



### OFFICE CLOSED

The Fremont County FSA Office will be closed Wednesday July 4 for Independence Day.

### LOW INTEREST GRAIN BIN LOAN PROGRAM

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

## **DON'T MISS OUT**

### IMPORTANT DATES

June 14	CRP sign-up ends
July 15	Crop reporting deadline
July 15	NAP production evidence deadline for proven yields
July 4	Office closed, Independence Day
Aug 1	County Committee nominations due
<u>Anytime</u>	Report crop losses within 15 days of loss
<u>Anytime</u>	Continuous CRP sign-up



FREMONT COUNTY FSA  
508 North Broadway Ave  
Riverton, WY 82501

