



April 2010

Goshen County News

Goshen County FSA Office
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FSA Home Page
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Fruit/Vegetable Plantings

The current Farm program continues to have the same limitations on Fruit & Vegetable (FAV) plantings as the last few farm bills did. Applicable FAV's include dry beans, potatoes, onions, and grapes. We suggest that if you are planning on planting any FAV's on a farm that will be enrolled in DCP for 2010, to address your intentions with this office and we can estimate if and how this would affect your payments.

2010 DCP/ACRE Signup

Signup for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues until June 1, 2010. The June 1, 2010 deadline is mandatory for all participants. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications.

FSA 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, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. FSA will issue advance direct payments in the month designated by the applicant, assuming all required documentation is filed. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price.

The electronic DCP (or eDCP) service will save you time, reduce paperwork and speed up contract processing at FSA offices. It is available to anyone eligible to participate in the DCP Program. To access this on-line service, you must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

Producers eligible for the DCP Program are also able to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program or the Counter-cyclical Program. The enrollment period for the ACRE Program corresponds with the DCP deadlines. For more information on ACRE, contact your local FSA Office.

Crop Reporting

The annual, timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans, Loan Deficiency Payments, and disaster programs (SURE, LFP, etc.). Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

Crop reports, Form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. The deadline to timely report crops in Wyoming is July 1.

Prevented Planting:

Prevented planting needs be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage:

Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

Signup for SURE Program

Signup for the 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) began on January 4, 2010. SURE 2008 is for those who suffered crop production losses during crop year 2008.

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

Producers with a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. 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 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

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. For SURE, a farm is defined as all mechanically harvested crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit the county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

Applicants Required to Send Consent Form to IRS

USDA and IRS have teamed up to verify adjusted gross income (AGI) compliance for NRCS and FSA participants. These departments have developed an electronic data-sharing process that will look at certain tax line items and perform a series of calculations to compute AGI; which will then be compared to AGI limitations. USDA will receive a report that will indicate whether a participant exceeds or does not exceed AGI limits. No actual IRS data will be included with the report that USDA receives.

All participating 2009 and/or 2010 individuals, entities, and entity members are required to submit either of these forms as applicable:

- CCC-927 2009 and/or 2010 CONSENT TO DISCLOSURE OF TAX INFORMATION-INDIVIDUAL
- CCC-928 2009 and/or 2010 CONSENT TO DISCLOSURE OF TAX INFORMATION-LEGAL ENTITY

Applicable programs include EQIP, WHIP, GRP, CRP (only new contracts that are subject to AGI provisions), DCP, NAP, LDP, LIP, LFP, ELAP, and SURE.

FSA and NRCS will have supplies of these forms available for applicants and participants. During your signup process, these forms will be provided for you. Instructions for completing and submitting the forms are included. **The forms are to be submitted directly to IRS, per the instructions. FSA and NRCS will not accept completed forms and will not forward them to IRS or keep them on file.**

If a form is not received by IRS, the participant may be required to refund all 2009 payments and would not earn 2010 payments.

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

LIP provides financial assistance to producers that have sustained livestock deaths due to the result of a natural disaster. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for death losses in excess of normal mortality. This program runs through calendar year 2011. Losses must be from the direct result of an adverse weather event; such as a hurricane, flood, blizzard, wildfire, extreme heat or cold, tornado, lightning, or earthquake. (Drought is not an eligible event.)

Payment rates are per head by livestock kind/type and weight range. Owners are paid at 75% of fair market value as determined by FSA.

Livestock losses must be reported to FSA within 30 days of when the loss becomes apparent. Applicants have until January 30 of the year following the loss(es) to provide herd/flock numbers to FSA. For more information, contact your local FSA office.

Farm Loan Program Information

Farm Service Agency (FSA) has loan programs that could help farmers and ranchers experiencing financial problems in today's economy of tight profit margins. Several types of loan programs are offered through FSA.

Under the Guaranteed Loan program, FSA guarantees farm ownership, term operating loans, and lines of credit used for annual operating through conventional agricultural lenders for guarantees up to 95%. The guarantee generally allows the conventional lender to provide the applicant with longer terms and lower rates of interest. All applicants must meet certain qualifying criteria to be eligible for guarantees. Farmers and ranchers interested in Guaranteed Loans should apply directly with a conventional lender, who arranges for the guarantee.

For those unable to qualify for a Guaranteed Loan FSA offers Direct Loans, which are made and serviced by FSA officials. Funding is limited for Direct Loans, and applicants must sometimes wait until funds are available. To qualify for a Direct Farm Ownership or Operating Loan, the applicant must meet eligibility criteria and have sufficient repayment ability and loan collateral. FSA will work with you to analyze your situation, provide technical assistance, and tailor loans to meet your needs.

Youth between the ages of 10 and 21 may also apply for a direct loan up to \$5,000 associated with their 4-H, FFA, or other youth organization activities.

Farm Service Agency is an Equal Credit Opportunity Lender. Beginning farmers and members of traditionally underserved gender and ethnic groups are encouraged to apply for guaranteed and/or direct loan assistance from FSA. Each year, farm ownership and operating loan funds are temporarily set-aside to meet the needs of beginning farmers and traditionally underserved groups.

Anyone having questions please call your local Farm Service Agency in Torrington WY at 307-532-4880.

Rotational Clipping/Disking

Several CRP contracts contain an annual requirement for clipping or light disking 25-35% of a field on a rotational basis. The Goshen County FSA Committee has set the policy that this practice must be completed by September 30 each year. We will be randomly checking these contracts to verify compliance.

Things to keep in mind concerning this requirement:

- This practice cannot be done between the primary nesting season dates of May 15 – July 15.
- We ask that you inform this office when the practice is done so we can track completion.
- This requirement is on a per field basis, not on a contract basis. If there are multiple fields in a contract, each field stands on its own.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

DCP/ACRE Erosion and Cover Requirements

If a farm has non-planted cropland that supports DCP base acres, those fields must be protected from wind and water erosion and weed control measures may have to be implemented to assure program compliance.

If erosion problems exist, the County Committee has the authorization to require treatments such as planting a cover crop or emergency tillage.

Weed control on these acres is required to prevent the propagation of weeds. Control measures must be implemented timely to achieve the most effective control of weed growth.

Attention All Buyers of Agricultural Products

It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's Office to determine if there are liens against the seller of the product. If a lien is found you are required to place the lien holder's name on the check as well as that of the seller. Ag products include but are not limited to: Livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc.), machinery, equipment, and all other crops. **Failure to place the lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a buyer!** You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at (307) 777-7311.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
GOSHEN COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE
1441 EAST M ST. SUITE C
TORRINGTON WY 82240

Dates to Remember	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
Continuous	Farm Storage Facility Loans
June 1, 2010	Final date to apply for 2010 DCP benefits
July 1, 2010	Final date to timely file 2010 acreage report

/s/ Darrell L. Jones

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