



July 2010

Goshen County News

Goshen County FSA Office
1441 East M St. Suite C
Torrington WY 82240-3521

Phone: (307) 532-4880
FAX: (307) 532-5783

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee:
Stan Speckner
Larry Mullock
Linda Nichol

County Executive Director:
Darrell Jones
darrell.jones@wy.usda.gov

Farm Loan Manager:
Duane Wisroth
duane.wisroth@wy.usda.gov

Office Staff
Doris Hyatt
Brian McKenna
Todd Smith
Susan Thomas
Marty Yorges
Kyle Kilty
Jennifer Baumgartner

FSA Home Page
www.fsa.usda.gov

USDA Home Page
www.usda.gov

CRP Signup?

At this time, we have not heard when a general CRP signup will be conducted. Nor have we heard any details on the provisions of a signup.

We will extensively advertize any signup when it is announced.

COC Nominations Open

The County Office Committee (COC) plays a crucial role in helping the county office staff implement Farm Bill programs. Producers are encouraged to participate in the FSA COC election process by nominating an eligible candidate by Aug. 2.

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. This form is available at your local FSA Office, or online at: www.fsa.usda.gov; select *News & Events* then *County Committee Elections*. Nomination forms for the 2010 COC elections must be postmarked or received in the county office by close of business on August 2, 2010.

In Goshen County this year, the election takes place in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1, which is the north part of the county.

FSA county committee members serve three-year terms and make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues. Committees consist of three to five members elected by eligible local producers.

Ballots will be mailed to producers beginning November 5, 2010. Completed ballots must be dropped off or received via mail at the county office by December 6, 2010.

Timely Filing of Loss

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required on ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576 (notice of loss) in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

Emergency Conservation Program

We have received reports of damaged/destroyed fences along the Laramie and North Platte Rivers due to flooding. We are trying to assess the extent of the damage and need land owners to let us know if they have sustained damages. Please contact this office if you have had any fences, or other structures damaged from the flooding.

Potentially, FSA can help with cost-sharing of replacing these fences through the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP).

For more information, contact this office.

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>.

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 1.
- 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.

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.

Commodity Loans and LDP's

The 2010 commodity loan rates for Goshen County are:

- Wheat-HRS \$3.61/Bu.
- Wheat-HRW \$2.54/Bu.
- Wheat-SWW \$2.88/Bu.
- Corn \$2.05/Bu.
- Barley \$1.90/Bu.
- Oats \$1.37/Bu.
- Sunflower Seed (Oil and Non-oil) \$10.39/cwt.

Eligible producers of these crops can obtain a loan or Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) from FSA. The producer must have beneficial interest in order to receive a loan/LDP. Beneficial interest means the grower has (1) control of the commodity, and (2) title of the commodity.

FARM STORED LOAN: An applicant can request either a paid for measured loan or certify the quantity. In either case, a loan for up to 100% production can be made. The commodity must be stored in a structure that can be safely measured and inspected, and be structurally sound. It is the borrower's responsibility to assure the commodity is in good condition and continues to remain so.

WAREHOUSE LOAN: A warehouse grain loan can be obtained through a warehouse. The elevator will issue warehouse receipts to the producer, who, in turn, gives them to CCC (FSA) for keeping as security through the life of the loan. The information on the warehouse receipts will be the basis for the loan quantity and loan rate.

LOAN MATURITY DATE: Loans will mature on the last day of the 9th month following application.

LOAN SERVICE FEES: Fees are the smaller of ½ of 1% times the gross loan amount, or \$45/loan plus \$3.00 for each bin or warehouse receipt over one.

INTEREST RATES: Commodity loans will carry the interest rate of the month in which the loan is disbursed through December 31 of each year, at which time the rate will change to the January rate.

LIENS: If any liens on the commodity exist, we require that the lien holder complete a lien waiver form before the loan is issued. CCC requires first lien on any commodity put under loan.

REPAYMENTS: Repayments can be made any time after the loan is disbursed. On farm-stored loans, any quantity can be paid off; however, on warehouse loans, a whole warehouse receipt must be paid off. At the time of repayment, the borrower will pay the lesser of (1) principal plus accrued interest, or (2) the applicable day's Posted County Price (PCP) times the loan quantity. The second option is referred to as a Market Loan Repayment (MLR) and is only available through the maturity date of the loan.

LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENT: A LDP is a payment made to an eligible producer who agrees to forego a loan in return for a direct payment. In order for a LDP to apply, the daily PCP must be below the loan rate for the applicable commodity. FSA currently uses the CCC-633-EZ form for all LDP purposes. It's a one size fits all form you can fill out to indicate your intention to receive loan deficiency payments for any of your crops at the beginning of the crop year, long before you've lost beneficial interest. The same form is then used to submit a request for an LDP any time during the loan/LDP availability period before or after losing beneficial interest.

Commodities harvested as other than grain (hay, silage) are eligible for LDP. In these cases, you will be required to give us information concerning acreages, bale numbers and weights, load weights, crop appraisal information, and yield estimates.

APPLICATION DEADLINES: The deadline to apply for either a 2010 loan or LDP is:

Wheat/Barley/Oats	March 31, 2011
Corn/Sunflowers	May 31, 2011
Wool/Mohair	January 31, 2011

In addition to the commodities listed above, the following crops are also eligible for LDP's: Wool, Mohair, Small Chickpeas, and Honey.

For more information, contact your local FSA 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.

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
Jan. 31, 2011	Final date to apply for 2010 wool/mohair LDP or loan
Mar. 31, 2011	Final date to apply for 2010 wheat/barley/oats loan or LDP
May 31, 2011	Final date to apply for 2010 corn/sunflower loan or LDP

/s/ Darrell L. Jones

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