



June-July 2012

Goshen County News

Goshen County FSA Office
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June-July 2012 Edition

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FSA Home Page
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USDA Home Page
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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.

DCP/ACRE Signup Extension

Enrollment for the 2012 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program is permitted through August 1, 2012. Producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2012 DCP/ACRE 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.

Through ACRE, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to traditional 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. ACRE payments are made when both state- and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20% reduction in direct payments and a 30% reduction in loan rates. 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.

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 and Loan Deficiency Payments.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. And, 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. In Wyoming, producers need to file their 2012 acreage reports by July 15, 2012, for all crops.

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.

2013 and subsequent years' acreage reporting will have a major change in deadlines:

- **Spring seeded crops and CRP-July 15**
- **Perennial Forage, PRF, Fall Wheat, and all other Fall-Seeded Small Grains-November 15**

This means your 2013 perennial hay crops and winter wheat reporting deadline will be November 15, 2012.

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. 1.

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 2012 COC elections must be postmarked or received in the county office by close of business on August 1, 2012.

In Goshen County this year, the election takes place in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 3, which includes all of Townships 19 through 23, the south 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 eligible voters beginning November 5, 2012. Completed ballots must be dropped off or received via mail at the county office by December 3, 2012.

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.

CRP SIGNUP RESULTS

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that USDA will accept 3.9 million acres offered by landowners under the recently conducted Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general sign-up.

For this 43th general sign-up, more than 48,000 offers were received on more than 4.5 million acres, nationwide. In Wyoming, approximately 45,000 were accepted in this sign-up. Goshen County had approximately 19,000 acres offered for enrollment and will end up with around 17,000 acres accepted.

What is next for those applicants that had acres accepted into the CRP? First off, everyone that submitted offers has been personally notified of their results. If accepted, the next step will be for the applicant, the local NRCS Office, and the local FSA Office to complete a Conservation Plan of Operations (CPO) for the CRP. Even if the new CRP contract has existing grass cover, a new CPO must be completed. This process has a completion deadline of August 10, 2012. The local NRCS will be contacting applicable participants to set up appointments.

Commodity Loans and LDP's

The 2012 commodity loan rates for Goshen County are:

- Wheat-HRS \$2.62/Bu.
- Wheat-HRW \$2.88/Bu.
- Corn \$2.05/Bu.
- Barley \$1.88/Bu.
- Oats \$1.37/Bu.
- Sunflower Seed (Oil and Non-oil) \$10.60/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 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 2012 loan or LDP is:

Wheat/Barley/Oats	March 31, 2013
Corn/Sunflowers	May 31, 2013
Wool/Mohair	January 31, 2013

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.

Emergency Haying/Grazing of CRP

Goshen County has been approved to implement Emergency Grazing of CRP for 2012. This authorization is based on ongoing drought conditions causing shortages of livestock feed. Basic details of this authorization:

1. First and foremost, the CRP participant must apply for this provision and be approved to do so prior to grazing the CRP. The participant will need to meet first with FSA for application and then with NRCS to complete a grazing plan.
2. Once approved, grazing can begin immediately. Grazing must end the sooner of when the grazing plan calls for, or September 30, 2012.
3. For grazing, at least 25% of each field or contiguous CRP field must be left ungrazed for wildlife; or, the participant may elect to graze at no more than 75% of the stocking rate, as determined by NRCS.
4. CRP annual payments will be reduced by 25% on the acres actually grazed.
5. CRP participants that do not own livestock are permitted to lease their CRP to an eligible livestock producer for this purpose. In these cases, the person leasing the CRP is required to review and sign paperwork with FSA before approval is made.

For more information, please contact this office.

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
August 1, 2012	Signup period for 2012 DCP/ACRE
July 15, 2012	Deadline to file 2012 acreage reports

/s/ Darrell L. Jones

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