



# Laramie County FSA News

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<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

August - 2008

## Farm Program Information

### Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) Signup for 2008

The CCC-509, DCP contract, can be signed now through September 30, 2008. DCP signup will be taken by appointment only. The 2008 DCP shall be administered exactly like the 2007 DCP, **except** that a producer on a farm may **not** receive direct or counter-cyclical payments if the sum of the base acres on the farm is 10 acres or less with exceptions of a socially disadvantaged or a limited resource farmer or rancher.

### 2008 Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Provisions

Each participant receiving a payment **must** have a current certification of AGI or CCC-526 on file. For 2008 DCP only, a producer, by acknowledging receipt of CCC-509 Appendix, subparagraph 3 I, dated June 20, 2008, will certify that there has not been a material change in the producer's AGI that would affect eligibility. However, if changes have occurred in the farming, ranching, or forestry operation that would affect the financial status of the producer, the producer **must** complete a revised CCC-526, dated June 12, 2008. The \$2.5 million AGI limitation that applied to the 2007 DCP contract will also apply to the 2008 contract. (The same as 2002 – 2007)

### 2008 Direct DCP Payments

The 2008 advance Direct DCP payments will be issued, if requested, as soon as practical after contract approval at 22 percent of the direct payment total. The final Direct DCP payments will be issued in October 2008. Advance direct payments for 2008 can be requested at signup. Direct payment acres are calculated at 85 percent of the base acres for 2008

### New FSA-211 or Other Power of Attorney Required for 2008 DCP

Producers and landowners (grantors) who previously executed FSA-211, Power of Attorney, authorizing an attorney-in-fact to act on their behalf for anything other than "**all current and future programs**", will need to execute a new FSA-211.

### Reporting Acreage Planted

Acreage reporting is a requirement of the farm program. **The deadline of July 1 was extended to August 15<sup>th</sup>. Please call for an appointment. Acreage reports filed after August 15<sup>th</sup> will be charged a minimum of \$46 per farm.**

### Deceased Producer Payments For 2008

Effective immediately, Estates may not be paid when using the ID number of the deceased. They must obtain an Entity Identification Number (EIN). Previously FSA was allowed to pay a producer that passed away, using his social security number. With the new farm bill, producers will be required to get an EIN for an estate before payment can be made.

## Disaster Programs

### Crop Disaster Program – Quantity Losses

Signup deadline for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) for quantity losses for 2005-2007 crop years has not been announced but do not delay in filing an application. Deadlines will be announced soon and there are no late filed provisions.

### Crop Disaster Program – Quality Losses 2005-2007 Crop Years

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Crop Disaster Program 2005-2007 (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quality losses (as well as quantity losses) from natural disasters and related conditions to 2005, 2006 or 2007 crops. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year for which to receive benefits. They may receive benefits for multiple crop losses if all were in the same crop year.

Examples of losses would be: Wheat – vomitoxin, Potatoes – hollow heart or pink eye, Barley that had a marketing contract and was rejected due to high protein, etc.

To receive CDP benefits for quality losses, farmers must have:

- Had crop insurance or been covered under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the disaster year that the quality loss occurred;
- Suffered quality losses to an eligible 2005, 2006 or 2007 crop of at least 25 percent compared to its value if the crop had not suffered a quality loss;
- Harvested the crop for the intended use;
- Verifiable evidence of quality losses (receipts showing production, price, and quality affected or marketing contract provided for production sold under a marketing contract);
- Suffered a weather affected loss.

#### Calculating Payments

Producers are eligible for CDP assistance for quality losses of at least 25 percent. All crops are eligible for quality losses except for value loss crops and some specialty crops. Value loss crops ineligible for quality losses include aquaculture, floriculture, mushrooms, ginseng root, ornamental nursery and Christmas trees. Specialty crops ineligible for quality losses include honey, maple sap and turf grass sod.

Quality loss payments will be 65 percent of the amount of the affected crop (limited to the expected production based on harvested acres) multiplied by 42 percent of the per-unit average market value (based on percentage of the quality loss for the crop).

FSA will base payment rates on five broad loss levels, determined as shown in the chart that follows.

Level	For estimated quality loss ranges (percentage)	The following percentages of *established prices are used:
I	25.0 and 34.9	30
II	35.0 and 54.9	45
III	55.0 and 74.9	65
IV	75.0 and 94.9	85
V	95.0 and 100.0	95

\*established prices are set by the Wyoming State Committee.

Please call the office for an appointment.

#### Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Program for 2008

**Notice:** Requires Crop Insurance or NAP to be eligible. There is a 2008 Eligibility "Buy-in" Deadline of September 16, 2008. Please read below.

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act), Pub. L. 110-234, was enacted into law May 22, 2008. The 2008 Act amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create:

- An agricultural disaster relief trust fund ("trust fund")
- Supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs.

Funds from the trust fund may be used to make payments to farmers and ranchers under the following 5 new disaster assistance programs:

- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP) Program.

## General Requirements

SURE, TAP, ELAP eligibility requires entire farm coverage for each:

- Insurable commodity at a minimum level of insurance coverage (50 percent of yield and 55 percent of insurable price)
- non-insurable commodity

2008 Farm Bill Definition of a Farm is the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer.

Livestock Forage Program (LFP) - requires coverage of grazing acreage through NAP or a plan of insurance by the applicable application closing date or sales closing date for grazing land incurring the losses for which assistance is requested.

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) - Risk Management Purchase Requirement is not required.

The sales closing dates or application closing dates for most Catastrophic Risk Protection (CAT) and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) have passed for the 2008 crop year.

A waiver has been authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill to allow producers to pay within 90 days of enactment, **by September 16**, a **Buy-in** fee for 2008 eligibility for Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance Programs.

- Buy-In does **NOT** provide crop insurance or NAP coverage
- Buy-In does provide supplemental disaster program assistance eligibility for 2008

## Applicable Crop Insurance and NAP Buy-In Fees

- \$100 per crop per administrative county
- \$300 per producer per administrative county (including previous fees paid for coverage)
- \$900 max for producers with multiple counties (including previous fees paid for coverage)
- FSA will collect both fees

## Buy-In Fee Collection

- Producers must visit their administrative county to pay appropriate buy-in fees and complete forms CCC-752 and/or CCC-753 by the ending date of **September 16**.

## Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Program for 2009

Producers will be required to purchase crop insurance at the CAT level, for insurable crops and Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage from FSA for crops where crop insurance is not available, to be eligible for any disaster assistance under this new program. This will be an annual requirement to remain eligible each year. The crop insurance or NAP must be purchased for the entire farm which includes all crops planted, pasture for hay and pasture for grazing.

The fee for CAT coverage will be \$300 per crop from your crop insurance agent. The fee for NAP coverage will be \$250 per crop from your FSA office.

The closing date to purchase crop insurance for the 2009 fall seeded crops is September 30, 2008.

The closing date to purchase NAP coverage for non-insured 2009 fall seeded crops is December 1, 2008.

**USDA / FSA  
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## **2008 Crop Year Marketing Assistance Loan & Loan Deficiency Payment**

### Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL)

Nine-month commodity loans can be made to eligible producers. The current interest rate for loans disbursed in July was 3.375 percent for farm-stored or warehouse stored commodities. The August rate has not been announced. Laramie County 2008 loan rates are: winter wheat - \$2.64/bu, barley - \$1.90/bu, corn - \$2.05/bu, oats - \$1.31/bu, sunflowers - \$9.23/cwt, and spring wheat - \$2.63/bu. Please call the office for more information if you are interested. The loan process does take some time. The office is required to do a lien search, obtain lien waivers from lenders, and file a lien against your crop before a check can be issued. Hay, silage, and unshorn pelts derived from the eligible loan commodities are eligible for LDP, but **not** for MAL's.

Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) will be available if posted county price goes below the loan rate. To date there are no LDP's available.

## **Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)**

### Haying or Grazing of CRP

On May 27, 2008, USDA announced that certain acreage enrolled in CRP would be available for hay and forage after the ending of the primary nesting season. The primary nesting season ends July 15th. CRP participants may request to voluntarily modify CRP contracts for critical feed use, such as haying and grazing. Please call for an appointment. As of the date of this newsletter there has been a lawsuit filed stopping all haying / grazing. FSA will notify CRP producers when we have more information. Please do not hay / graze until you have been notified.

## **Dates to Remember.**

August 15	Deadline to report crops planted
September 1	Labor Day Holiday – Office Closed
September 16	Deadline for “buy-in” for the new Disaster Program
September 30	Deadline for farm program (DCP) signup

**County Committee:** Mike Peterson, Mark Child, Dave Bowman **Advisor:** Louise Jacobsen

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