



NEWSLETTER



Laramie County FSA Office

January 2011

Gary Gompert, CED
11221 US Hwy 30
Cheyenne, WY 82009

(307) 772-2314 phone
(307) 772-2120 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/WY

Hours

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Laramie County Staff

Doris Scheel
Denise Hunt
Krista Macy
Kendal Sedman-Temporary

Farm Loan Officer

Dixie Mount- In the office on
Tuesday. Located out of
the Wheatland FSA Office.
(307) 322-4050 phone

County Committee

Mark Child
Mike Peterson
Dave Bowman

Advisor

Louise Jacobsen

Farm Program Information

2011 Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and Agriculture Conservation Revenue Enhancement (ACRE) Signup

Signup for the 2011 DCP/ACRE will be held now through June 1, 2011. You can request an advance payment of 22 percent. Please call for an appointment.

June 1, 2011, is the deadline for all ACRE and DCP participants. Deputy Administrator Farm Programs has authorized a late file DCP Contract enrollment period through August 1.

Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. FSA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 1, 2010.

The ACRE Option

The Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity.

An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. In exchange for participating in ACRE, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.

Acreage Reports

The FSA Office will take wheat crop reports. Please bring in your planting dates when reporting your crops. While applying for the 2011 DCP, we will collect information from your crops planted.

NAP Deadline

Noninsured Crop Disaster applications are due at different times according to the crop being insured. Producers should apply for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage using form CCC-471 (Application for Coverage). Related service fees are due when the application is filed. The application and service fee MUST be filed by the crop sales closing date. FSA now has two closing dates for 2011. December 1 for biennial and perennial forage crops, regardless of the intended use and April 1, 2011 for all other crops.

County Committee Election Results

Congratulations to Dale Martin! Dale was elected to represent farmers from Local Administrative Area #2 on the county committee. Dale was elected to his first term. The election results for Local Administrative Area 2 are: Dale Martin — Elected to the county committee (COC), Casey Eppler — 1st alternate to COC, Mark Leininger — 2nd alternate to COC

FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

Payment Eligibility

Before producers can receive payments, each producer must satisfy all other program or payment eligibility requirements including, but not limited to, filing a new farm operating plan or certify to no changes on form CCC-902 E for an entity or form CCC-902 I for an individual, adjusted gross income certification form CCC-926 and an AD-1026 certifying the farm is following an approved conservation system.

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)

Determining Average AGI - The average AGI for a person or legal entity is the average of AGI, or comparable measure, of the person or legal entity for the 3 taxable years preceding the most immediately preceding complete taxable year of the year for which benefits are requested. Taxable losses are included in the average. The average AGI limitations for payment eligibility are applied per natural person or legal entity. For 2011 the average AGI would be calculated for the years 2007, 2008, and 2009.

Three AGI Limitations are used: nonfarm income exceeds \$500,000, farm income exceeds \$750,000, and nonfarm income exceeds \$1 million.

Disaster Programs

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program

Signup for the SURE Program for 2009 crop losses will start on January 10. Please call for an appointment. The signup goes through July 29, 2011.

SURE is available to eligible producers on:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties that have incurred crop production losses and/or crop quality losses during the crop year. (Laramie County is eligible for the 2009 crop year as Platte County, WY received a Disaster Designation.)
- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than the normal production of the farm.

At a minimum, to be eligible for the SURE Program, the producer must have purchased or be enrolled in the following for the 2009 crop year:

- A plan of crop insurance of at least catastrophic (CAT) level for all insurable crops on all farms.
- And/or Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for all non-insurable crops on all farms.

Note: RMA crop Insurance or NAP coverage on grazing land does not have to be purchased in order to be eligible for SURE. SURE does not pay for losses on crops intended for grazing.

In order to receive payments, the farm must suffer at least a 10% eligible production loss on at least one crop of economic significance. Producers with qualifying losses are eligible to receive 60% of the difference between the SURE Disaster Program Guarantee and the actual farm revenue.

The Disaster Program Guarantee is determined by totaling the calculated guarantee for each crop. For insured crops, the guarantee is based on the level of coverage the producer has elected.

The Total Farm Revenue calculation includes estimated crop value, Crop Insurance Indemnities, NAP payments, Marketing Assistance Loans / LDP, other disaster payments, and DCP payments (15% of Direct Payments plus Counter-cyclical payments and ACRE payments).

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

Losses of livestock due to adverse weather must be reported to the FSA Office within 30 days of when the loss is apparent by filing a Notice of Loss application. A Notice of Loss filed must be finalized by completing an Application for Payment by January 30 of the next year.

Applications for livestock losses require documentation of beginning and ending inventory, records showing the date of death for normal death loss and show death losses due to the weather event, along with records showing the number of livestock in inventory on the date of the weather event. Beginning and ending inventory require third party verification, such as, vet records, loan documents, shipping records, brand inspections, etc.

Administrative Information

Controlled Substance Violations

Persons convicted of planting, cultivating, growing, harvesting or storing a controlled substance in any crop year shall be ineligible for Federal program benefits during the crop year of conviction and the four succeeding crop years.

Agriculture Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA)

AFIDA requires foreign persons or entities who acquire, transfer, or hold a 5 percent or greater interest in agriculture land or who gross \$1000 or more from any agriculture land report this information to the Secretary of Agriculture. The information must be reported within 90 days. This information must be reported to the local FSA office.

Reasonable Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairments, or hearing impairment. Please call this office if assistance is needed.

Direct Deposit Changes

Remember to notify FSA if you have changed bank accounts or your bank ownership has changed. Payments are made by direct deposit to the bank account FSA has on file. Payments are delayed if you have made changes and you have not informed FSA.

Farm Changes

As always you are required to notify our office of any changes in your farming operation for 2011. Did you buy some new land? Are you renting different land or have your shares changed for 2010? Do you have a new address? Did you form a new entity? Producers are responsible for notifying FSA of any changes regarding your farming operation.

Crop Loan / LDP Information

Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) will be available if posted county price goes below the loan rate. To date there are no LDP's available except for wool. CCC-633 EZ forms need to be filed for the 2011 program year to be eligible for LDP's, should they become a reality. Wool LDP's are available for shorn wool and pelts. The last day to file for 2010 wool LDP's is January 31, 2011. Eligible producers must have beneficial interest in the pelts, owned the lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter and sell the unshorn lamb for immediate slaughter.

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Farm Loan Information

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 holders 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 1-307-777-7311.

Dates To Remember

January 10	SURE Signup Starts
January 17	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – Office Closed
January 31	Last Day to file a Wool LDP for 2010
January 31	LIP Application for Payment Deadline for 2010 weather related livestock losses.
February 21	Presidents Day Holiday – Office Closed

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