Laramie County FSA

May 2012

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/s/ *Gary Gompert*

(307) 772-2314 phone
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Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Laramie County Staff
Doris Scheel
Denise Hunt
Krista Macy

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

County Committee
Dale Martin
Mike Peterson
Brian Jacobsen
Louise Jacobsen, Advisor

Committee Election

Committee Nominations Open for LAA #1

Nominations of candidates for the Farm Service Agency county committee election representing producers in Local Administrative Area (LAA) number 1 will be accepted through August 1, 2012. Producers who are eligible to vote in LAA 1 and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates. Beginning farmers and ranchers are encouraged to nominate themselves and participate in the election process.

Laramie County FSA will be holding an election for a person to represent LAA 1. That position is currently held by Mike Peterson. LAA 1 includes the area North and East of County Road 136 and 221 in Laramie County.

Nomination form FSA-669 A is attached for you to fill out and submit for LAA 1.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 5 and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by Dec. 3, 2012.

All farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers are encouraged to participate. The county committee provides local input on commodity price support loans and payments; establish allotment and yields; conservation programs; disaster assistance payments and other programs.

More information on the elections, including nomination forms, is available at the county office or online at: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. The nomination form can be found in “Election Materials” and select “2012 Nomination Form”. Fact Sheets explaining the nomination and election process can be found in links under “Fact Sheets”.

Conservation Reserve Program

Continuous CRP Signup

The Continuous CRP allows eligible producers to enroll small acreages of eligible cropland or marginal pastureland into the CRP. Participants agree to establish approved conservation practices (farmstead windbreaks, living snow fences, etc.) and remove land from agriculture production in return for annual rental payments for 10 – 15 years. Participants can receive 50% of the cost to establish the practices along with a 40% cost share incentive payment and a one-time signup incentive payment. Please call for an appointment.

Maturing CRP Contracts

CRP participants with expiring contract acres in the final year of the CRP-1, who intend to destroy cover for preparation for fall-seeded crops, need pre-authorization from FSA to avoid penalty. Authorization can only be granted after a completed CRP-1G (Modification to Allow Early Preparation) is reviewed and approved by a representative of the Commodity Credit Corporation and the producer completes a conservation plan with NRCS.

CRP Acreage Reports
CRP acreage is required to be reported annually by filing a crop acreage report by July 15, 2012. Late filed reports on CRP will cost a minimum of $46 per farm.

Non-insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Information

Production Deadline for 2011 NAP Crops
The deadline for 2011 NAP production is July 15, 2012.

NAP Production Deadline Change – 2012 Crops
Recently Congress directed FSA and RMA to coordinated acreage reporting deadlines as a convenience to producers. The result is the new acreage reporting deadline of Nov. 15, 2012 for 2013 fall crops, including perennial forage crops (hay and pasture). This change impacts the NAP program because the deadline for reporting production and application for payment of crop losses on 2012 hay will now be Nov. 15, 2012.

THERE ARE NO LATE FILED PROVISIONS. We need a signed and dated production report on form FSA-452 by the deadline. The County Committee will have to assign a yield for any NAP crop for which production was NOT reported timely. A reduced proven yield results in reduced payment on any future losses.

Farm Program Information

2012 Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and Agriculture Conservation Revenue Enhancement (ACRE) Signup
Signup for the 2012 DCP/ACRE will be held now through June 1, 2012. All producers planting on DCP base acres must be identified on the DCP/ACRE contract and receive a proportionate share of DCP/ACRE payment for the farm. **Please call for an appointment.**

Acreage Reports
Please file a crop report. Call for an appointment. The deadline is July 15, 2012, so don't wait until the last minute! Late filed acreage reports will cost a minimum of $46 per farm.

Final Crop Reporting Date Changes for 2013 Crops
November 15, 2012 – Perennial Forage, Fall Wheat, and other fall seeded small grains
January 15, 2013 – Established stand alfalfa seed and fall seeded alfalfa
July 15, 2013 – Spring alfalfa seed, spring barley, corn, beans, millet, oats, potatoes, sugar beets, sunflowers, spring wheat, and all other spring crops.

Farm Record Changes
June 1, 2012 is the deadline to provide changes to your farm records at the local FSA office for the 2012 crop year. If you are changing your operation entity type, adding or dropping cropland or farms, or adding entities to your operation, contact the FSA county office by June 1.

Fruit and Vegetable (FAV) Planting
Participating DCP and ACRE farms are limited to the amount of FAV's that can be planted without a payment reduction/violation. FAV acres may not exceed the non-contract acres on the farm. Farms must have a FAV history on the farm or the producer must have a history of producing FAV to be eligible for planting FAV on base acres. FAV's include dry beans, potatoes, onions and chicory. Planting FAV can cause you to lose benefits and could also include fines. Please contact the office before planting so we can keep you from losing benefits and avoid penalty.

DCP Cover Requirements
Fallow acreage on cropland that supports DCP base acres must be protected from wind and water erosion and have the weeds controlled. Violations for not controlling weeds and wind or water erosion will lead to penalties.

Prevented Planting / Failed Acreage
A Notice of Loss form, CCC-576, should be filed if you have crops that were prevented from being planted or acreage that has failed. For losses on crops covered by NAP or crop insurance, a CCC-576 must be filed within 15 days of the date of the loss or when the loss became apparent. Prevented plantings should be filed within 15 days of the final planting date for the crop.

Form Approved - OMB No. 0560-0229

FSA-669A
(02-22-12)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE *(Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)*

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE

4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED

2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE

5. COUNTY

6. LAA

7. STATE

3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:

I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.

☐ *I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.*
☐ *I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.*

3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE

3B. DATE

☐ ***Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.***

8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:

If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.

8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR

8B. DATE

(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).

9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY

☐ Hispanic or Latino
☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
☐ Asian
☐ White
☐ Black or African-American
☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

GENDER

☐ Male
☐ Female

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

ITEM 1 Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:

A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
C. Willing to serve if elected.

ITEM 2 Enter the nominee's current address.

ITEM 3 The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.

ITEMS 3A &3B The nominee must sign and date.

ITEMS 8A & 8B The nominator must sign and date. *(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)*

ITEM 9 Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2012.

NOTE: *The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.*

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. ***RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.***

Laramie County FSA Office
11221 US Hwy 30
Cheyenne, WY 82009

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CHEYENNE, WYOMING
PERMIT No. G-96

USDA Discrimination Cases

The USDA has discrimination cases that involve Hispanics, women, black farmers, and Native Americans. For more information on these cases call the respective number.

Hispanic and Women Farmers Claims Process **(1-888-508-4429)**
Pigford-The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation **(1-866-950-5547)**
Keepseagle-The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement **(1-888-233-5506)**

Disaster Programs

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program

Signup for the SURE Program for 2010 crop losses goes through June 1, 2012. Please call for an appointment.

At a minimum, to be eligible for the SURE Program, the producer must have purchased or be enrolled in the following for the 2012 crop year (Called the Risk Management Purchase Requirement or RMPR):

- 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.

Dates to Remember

May 28	Memorial Day Holiday – Office Closed
May 31	Loan / LDP Deadline for Feed Grains
June 1	DCP Signup Deadline
June 1	SURE Signup Deadline
July 4	Independence Day Holiday – Office Closed
July 15	Crop Reporting Deadline
August 1	Deadline to File a Nomination for LAA1
November 15	Crop Reporting Deadline for 2013 Winter Wheat and Perennial Forage

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.