



NEWSLETTER



Laramie County FSA Office

February 2013

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

(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

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

County Committee
Brian Jacobsen
Mike Peterson
Dale Martin

Advisor
Louise Jacobsen

Farm Program Information

2013 Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and Agriculture Conservation Revenue Enhancement (ACRE) Signup

FSA will begin sign-ups for DCP and ACRE for the 2013 crops on Feb. 19, 2013. The DCP sign-up period will end on Aug. 2, 2013; the ACRE sign-up period will end on June 3, 2013.

The 2013 DCP and ACRE program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that all eligible participants in 2013 may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. This means that eligible producers who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013 or may re-enroll in ACRE in 2013 (and vice versa).

Advance payments are not authorized. Please call for an appointment.

Acreage Reports

The FSA Office will take wheat crop reports. Please bring in your planting dates when reporting your crops. While applying for the 2013 DCP, we will collect information from your crops planted. The deadline to report your fall planted crops was November 15, 2012. Due to the change in the fall planted acreage reporting deadline there will not be a late filed penalty. The deadline for spring planted crops is July 15.

NAP Deadline

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 has two closing dates December 1 for biennial and perennial forage crops, regardless of the intended use and April 1, 2013 for all other crops.

NAP is for crops that you cannot insure with crop insurance. It provides coverage at 50 percent of the approved production history for the crop. It will pay at 55 percent of the average price for the crop.

County Committee Election Results

Congratulations to Mike Peterson! Mike was elected to represent farmers from Local Administrative Area #1 on the county committee. Mike was elected to his third term. The election results for Local Administrative Area 1 are: Mike Peterson — Elected to the county committee (COC) and Jim Lerwick — 1st 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 2013. Did you buy some new land? Are you renting different land or have your shares changed for 2013? 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.

IRS Form 1099-G

Producers annually receive their CCC-1099-G forms detailing payments producers have received from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on the CCC-1099-G form is a service intended to help our customers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the producers' responsibilities to report income to IRS. FSA staff cannot interpret IRS regulations or advise producers about which payments to report on their income tax returns. However, county office staff can review payments for accuracy.

Starting with calendar year 2012, those producers with total reportable payments from FSA that are less than \$600 will not be receiving IRS Form 1099-G. Also, producers who receive payments from more than one county will only receive one Form 1099-G if the total of all payments from all counties is \$600 or more. The same changes will apply to producers and vendors who normally receive IRS Form 1099-MISC from FSA.

Producer Service

Laramie County FSA's goal is to give the producers of Laramie County the best service possible. Please let me know (Gary Gompert) if you feel that service was not what you expected or if you think you have been treated poorly. I cannot fix a problem if I am not made aware of the situation.

Disaster Programs

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program

Signup for the SURE Program for 2011 crop losses runs through June 7, 2013. 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 2011 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.

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.

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, adjusted gross income certification form CCC-933 and an AD-1026 certifying the farm is following an approved conservation system.

A farm operating plan is **not** required to be filed annually, if the farming operation continues to be conducted as reflected on the farm operating plan and supporting documents are on file in the County Office. If any changes occur that could affect an actively engaged in farming, cash-rent tenant, foreign person, or average AGI determination, producers must timely notify the County Office by filing revised farm operating plans and/or supporting documentation, as applicable.

Note: Failure to timely notify the County Office may adversely affect payment eligibility.

There are statutory provisions that require entities earning program benefits that are subject to limitation, to provide the names, addresses, and TIN's of the entities' members to FSA. All applicable payment eligibility and payment limitation forms submitted by producers are subject to spot check through the end-of-year review process.

A determination of **not** actively engaged in farming results in the producer being ineligible for any payment or benefit requiring a determination of actively engaged in farming.

Noncompliance with Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) provisions, either by exceeding the applicable limitations or by failure to submit a certification statement, will result in the determination of ineligibility for **all** program benefits subject to AGI provisions; program benefits shall be reduced in an amount that is commensurate with the direct and indirect interest held by an ineligible person or legal entity in any legal entity, general partnership, or joint operation that receives benefits subject to the average AGI limitations.

Applicable annual limitations for person or legal entity, years 2009-2013:

Commodity Programs:	Counter Cyclical and ACRE payments	\$65,000
	Direct payments	\$40,000
Conservation Programs:	CRP annual rental	\$50,000
	EQIP (all years 2009-2012)	\$300,000
	GRP	\$50,000
	WHIP	\$50,000
	WRP	\$50,000
Disaster Assistance Programs:	ELAP/LFP/LIP/SURE	\$100,000
	NAP	\$100,000
LDP/MAL		No Limits

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 for all crops including wool. CCC-633 EZ forms need to be filed for the 2013 program year to be eligible for LDP's, should they become a reality. The last day to file for 2012 wool LDP's is January 31, 2013. 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.

Crop Loans are available for program crops and oilseed crops harvested in 2012. Nine-month commodity loans can be made to eligible producers. The current interest rate for loans disbursed in January was 1.125 percent for farm-stored or warehouse stored commodities. The office is required to do a lien search on all loans in excess of \$50,000 and when the loan is determined to be at risk.

Producers with average adjusted gross nonfarm income that exceeds \$500,000 are not eligible for a marketing loan gain or an LDP.

Marketing loan gains or LDP's will not be limited. (There is no limit on the total dollar amount of LDP's.)

Actively engaged determinations are not required for producers requesting MAL or LDP.

CCC will no longer require the execution of UGRSA in storage facilities that are either of the following: federally licensed or state licensed with an operating warehouse licensing program.

It is the producer's responsibility to maintain the quality of the grain in storage.

Both husband and wife must sign the loan document. A notarized or FSA witnessed FSA Power of Attorney Form, FSA-211, may be filed giving the husband and/or wife authority to sign for each other.

Measurement services are available to measure the grain in your storage facility. The cost is \$30 per farm plus \$16 per hour / \$8 for every 30 minutes after the first hour with a minimum charge of 1 hour. Fees must be paid for the measurement before the loan check can be disbursed. **We strongly recommend that producers get a measurement service to avoid penalties for overstating grain in storage.**

Please call the office for more information if you are interested. The loan process does take some time and will be done by appointment only.

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



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Attention Women and Hispanic Farmers and Ranchers

If you are Hispanic or a female and feel that the United States Department of Agriculture improperly denied you farm loan benefits between 1981 and 2000, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. March 25, 2013 is the deadline to apply for compensation. You can obtain a claims package by calling 1-888-508-4429 or by going online to www.farmerclaims.gov.

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.

Microloan Program

FSA announced a new "Microloan" program designed to help small, family operations, secure loans under \$35,000. The microloan program will provide a simplified application process. Loans can be used to pay for initial start-up expenses, tools, irrigation, delivery vehicles, annual expenses, purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed, and supplies or to construct buildings or make farm improvements. Microloans will be targeted toward small famers, veterans, and disadvantaged producers.

Dates To Remember

February 18	Presidents Day Holiday – Office Closed
February 19	Farm Program Signup starts by appointment only.
March 25	Hispanic and Women Farmers claim filing deadline.

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