

July 2013



Lincoln County FSA 2013 DCP Signup

625 S Washington
PO Box 369
Afton, WY 83110

307-886-9001 phone
307-886-3744 fax

www.fsa.usda.gov/wy

Hours

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

County Committee

Blair Hillstead
Jason Thornock
Chad Dana
Trudi Julian

COC Meeting

2nd Tuesday of the Month

Office Staff

Dee Harbach, CED
Suellen Bagley, PT
Kresta Hedges, PT

Farm Loan Manager

Brian Harrell
307-856-7524

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Gary Blazejewski, DC

2013 DCP signup is underway! Signup began February 19, 2013 and will end on August 2, 2013. Advance payments are not authorized.

Continuous CRP Signup 44

Signup for the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP) will be held from May 13, 2013 to September 30, 2013. Environmentally sensitive land devoted to certain conservation practices may be enrolled in CRP under continuous sign-up. Offers are automatically accepted provided the land and producer meet certain eligibility requirements. Continuous sign-up offers are not subject to competitive bidding. Continuous sign-up contracts are 10 to 15 years in duration and the producer receives annual payments and cost-share payments for expenses associated with establishing the practice.

Land currently not enrolled in CRP may be offered in this signup provided all eligibility requirements are met. Additionally, current CRP participants with contracts expiring this fall may make new contract offers.

If you are interested in enrolling into the Conservation Reserve Program please contact the Lincoln County FSA Office at 307-886-9001 for an appointment.

Controlled Substance

Any person who is convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium poppies and other drug producing plants.

CRP Reminder

Producers with Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts are reminded that it is **YOUR** responsibility to establish cover and control the weeds (including Thistles) on your CRP acreage. These measures must be accomplished according to NRCS standards and specifications. Grazing by livestock is strictly forbidden. **It is your responsibility to keep all livestock off your contract acreage.**

2013 Acreage Reports

Crop reporting is here, and the deadline to file has been extended to August 2nd.

Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

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Reporting Crop Losses for NAP

For those of you with a NAP crop policy – you are reminded that if you suffer a crop loss, you must complete a Notice of Loss form (CCC-576) with this office no later than 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence (such as hail, flood, etc.) or from the date that damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent. A Notice of Loss must be provided for each weather related event or adverse natural occurrence that causes damage to or loss of the specific crop or commodity. A timely filed Notice of Loss is required on all crops, including grasses. When a loss is sustained an appraisal should be completed by FSA personnel. This appraisal must be done **BEFORE** grazing occurs or before the land is put to another use! Without an appraisal you are going to suffer with a reduced annual yield (your payments are calculated based off a 50% loss from your average annual yields, accurate yields are essential for you to get the most out of your NAP coverage) as well as the ineligibility of those acres for the current year's loss.

2012 NAP Production Records

All NAP producers that had coverage on mechanically harvested crops in 2012, now is the time to submit production evidence for your 2012 crops, the deadline is August 2. Submitting production evidence for harvested crops, such as bale counts and weights are necessary to maintain accurate yields for coverage. Accurate yields are essential in calculating payments for losses. Failure to provide accurate production evidence almost has negative impacts on your coverage!

Irrigation Energy Efficiency Assessments

Star Valley Conservation District (SVCD) in association with Lower Valley Energy (LVE) is offering a free energy efficiency assessment to local irrigators. The assessment will determine how much energy you are using and how

much energy (and money) you could save by upgrading your system. Cash incentives to upgrade irrigation system components and farm lighting are available through Lower Valley Energy. To qualify for the energy efficiency assessment the landowner must have an irrigation account with Lower Valley Energy. For more information about the program contact Brenda Ashworth at (307) 885-7823 or Wid Ritchie at (307) 885-6122.

FSA COC Nomination Deadline

County committee members play a crucial role in helping the county office staff implement the Farm Bill Programs. Right now, producers can have an impact on the election of the county committee by nominating eligible candidates by the **August 1, 2013** deadline. This year the committee election will be held for the Local Administrative Area 2, the Afton area, currently represented by Blair Hillstead.

A list of persons who are eligible to run for the county committee is available from this office. If you wish to run or want to nominate a fellow producer for the county committee, please contact this office for a nomination form (FSA-669A), also available online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

FSA county committee members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms.

Reasonable Accommodations

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call Dee Harbach at 886-9001.

Important Dates to Remember

August 1	Deadline to for COC Nomination
August 2	Deadline for DCP Signup
August 2	Deadline for 2013 Crop Reporting
September 2	Labor Day Holiday, Office Closed
Anytime	Apply for Farm Storage Facility Loan
Within 15 days of noticing a loss	file CCC - 576 NAP Notice of Loss

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).