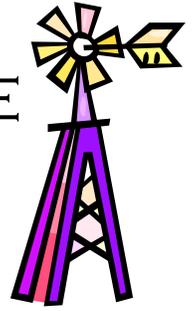




NATRONA/CONVERSE COUNTY WINDMILL



November 2009

Natrona/Converse
County FSA
5880 Enterprise Dr Ste 100
Casper, WY 82609
(307) 261-5436
or
Toll Free 1-866-596-4478

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm
www.fsa.usda.gov

County Committee

Jared Vollman - Chair
Mary Owens - V. Chair
Jim Price - Member
Neal Forgey - Member
John Bentley - Member

Staff

Jim Neill - CED
Wanda McLean - PT
Deena McDaniels - PT
Dave Lengle - FLM

Douglas USDA Service
Center
911 S. Windriver Dr.
Douglas, WY 82633
(307) 358-3050

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

I am certain that everyone that has participated in the Farm Service Agencies noninsured crop disaster assistance program or as we call it NAP is aware that the deadline to sign-up for coverage on 2010 fall planted or perennial crops is approaching. However, for those of you that might have forgotten to set a reminder on your cell phone, the deadline is **December 1st, 2009**.

NAP is a catastrophic coverage policy which means that coverage only extends to losses greater than 50% and pays at a 55% price level. There is another policy currently being offered by private insurance companies called Pasture, Range and Forage (PRF) based on the Vegetative Index (VI). This policy does not offer a catastrophic level of coverage, which allows the FSA to offer our NAP program for pasture.

The 2008 Farm Bill placed an emphasis on individual producers obtaining insurance in order to be eligible for certain disaster programs. This means that you should buy insurance as your first line defense against disaster conditions. The only disaster program that does not carry a Risk Management Purchase Requirement is our Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). Purchasing NAP meets this requirement. Currently, NAP is available for pasture, grass hay and other crops deemed uninsurable by the Risk Management Agency.

If you have not purchased insurance on your pasture in the past, or you have let your past policies lapse, please stop by and visit with the FSA office staff. I would hate for anyone of our producers in Natrona and Converse County to be in a position where they could use the assistance offered by the FSA's disaster programs, but be ineligible because they did not meet the Risk Management Purchase Requirement.

//Signed// James R. Neill, County Executive Director

2010 Direct and Countercyclical Program Signup

The Natrona/Converse County Farm Service Agency is currently enrolling producers for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and will continue through June 1, 2010.

The FSA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2010, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 1, 2009. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

If you plant barley, corn, oats or wheat, you may want to consider electing the ACRE option and protect your crop revenue through the ACRE option.

----The ACRE Option----

The optional ACRE Program 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. For 2010, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2008 and 2009 crop years.

An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. The payment is based on 83.3 percent (85 percent in 2012) of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the State ACRE guarantee and the state revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the state expected yield. The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, 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.

The **June 1, 2010**, deadline is mandatory for all participants. USDA will not accept any late-filed applications.

Acreage Reports Needed For SURE

Because of the delay in announcing the provisions of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, producers enrolling in the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) are reminded that 2008 crop reports are required for SURE participation. This includes crops planted on cropland and/or non-cropland, including native pasture or improved grass that will be hayed.

Physical evidence of the crop in the field is not required for Farm Service Agency (FSA) to accept late-filed 2008 acreage reports. "However, evidence of existence or disposition, is required.

The following requirements for 2008 SURE include:

- producers **must** report all crops, in all counties, in which they have an interest
- late-filed fees shall be waived for late-filed 2008 acreage reports and physical evidence in the field is not required
- if the actual use of a crop is different from the intended use reported, the producer may report the final use to the County Office; however, the intended use shall **not** be changed.

The provisions noted are for 2008 only. For 2009 and 2010, normal acreage reporting requirements will be applied.

More details on the 2008 SURE Program are available at county FSA offices or on line at www.fsa.usda.gov

Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create five new disaster programs, collectively referred to as Supplemental Agriculture Disaster Assistance programs. These programs include:

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

To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for non-insurable crops under SURE, TAP, and ELAP.

In the 2008 Farm Bill; in general, the term "farm" means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer. In the case of aquaculture, the term "farm" means all fish being produced in all counties that are intended to be harvested for sale by the eligible producer. In the case of honey, the term "farm" means all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop by the eligible producer.

Producers, who meet the definition of a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher, do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement.

Voting for County Committee Begins

Ballots for this year's county committee election will be mailed to eligible voters on November 6, 2009. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on December 7, 2009. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 7, 2009.

Leslie Hendry has been nominated in LAA 2, Natrona County, to serve as a committee member. She is an active member of Clear Creek Cattle Company.

Eligible voters in a local administrative area 3 who have not received a ballot should contact the FSA county office staff.

Payment Limits

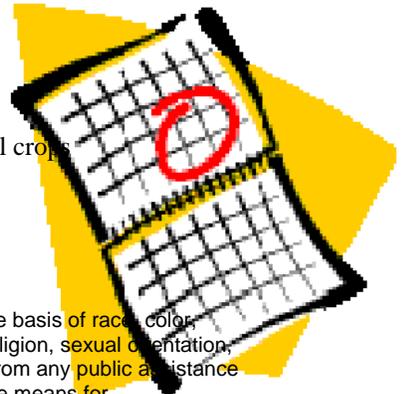
Program Payment Type	Limitation (in Dollars)			
	2009	2010	2011	2012
Commodity Programs				
Counter-cyclical and ACRE payments on covered commodities except peanuts.	65,000 <u>1/</u>			
Counter-cyclical and ACRE payments on peanuts.	65,000 <u>1/</u>			
Direct payments on covered commodities except peanuts.	40,000 <u>2/</u>			
Direct payments on peanuts.	40,000 <u>2/</u>			
Conservation Programs				
CRP annual rental payment.	50,000			
CSTP (all contracts for FY 2009-2012).	200,000			
EQIP (all contracts for FY 2009-2012).	300,000			
GRP	50,000			
WHIP	50,000			
WRP	50,000			
Disaster Assistance Programs				
ELAP, LFP, LIP, and SURE	100,000			
NAP	100,000			
TAP	100,000			
LDP, MAL, and MLG				
				No limits

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natrona/Converse CO FSA
5880 Enterprise Dr. Ste 100
Casper, WY 82609

Return Service Requested

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Nov 11- | Office Closed for Veteran's Day |
| Nov 26- | Office closed for Thanksgiving Day. |
| Dec 1 - | Deadline to purchase Noninsured Disaster Assistance for perennial crops |
| Dec 7 - | Deadline to return County Committee Election Ballots. |



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.

Special Accommodations will be made for the physically handicapped, vision- or hearing-impaired person upon request. If accommodations are required, please call James Neill, CED at (307)261-5436.