



United States Department of Agriculture Niobrara County Service Center

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September 2009

Livestock Indemnity Program

Eligible ranchers and livestock producers can now begin applying for benefits through the Livestock Indemnity Program. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, certain diseases, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011. Filing deadlines are as follows:

Date of Livestock Death	Final Date to File Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit Application for Payment
Calendar Year 2008	Sept. 13, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009
Jan. 1, 2009 to July 12, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009	Jan. 30, 2010
July 13, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2009	30 days after death is apparent	Jan. 30, 2010

Eligible livestock includes beef cattle, dairy cattle, buffalo, beefalo, elk, equine animals, sheep, goats, swine, alpacas, deer, emus, llamas, and poultry. To be eligible for LIP the livestock must have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming/ranching operation.

Producers will need to provide verifiable or reliable records to prove livestock inventories and losses. Adequate documentation must be provided that proves the death of eligible livestock occurred as a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event and when the livestock died. If a producer is unable to provide verifiable or reliable records as proof of death the producer may use a third party certification as proof of death under certain circumstances.

For 2008 no "person" may receive more than \$100,000 total under LIP; Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm Raised Fish Program; Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP); and Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) combined. For 2009 and subsequent years, no person or legal entity may receive, directly or indirectly, more than \$100,000 per program year total under ELAP, LFP, LIP, and SURE combined. Direct attribution rules apply to LIP.

Please call to make an appointment so we can discuss the documentation you will need to bring.

Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA)

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 must report this information to the Secretary of Agriculture. The information must be reported to the FSA office within 90 days of a change in interest.

COC Election Voting Starts Nov. 6

COC Election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning November 6, and must be returned to the county office by the close of business on December 7, or postmarked by midnight December 7, 2009.

Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote. No one can be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

For additional clarification about county committee elections, contact your local county office staff.

Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) / Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) Information

Crop Loans are available for program crops and oilseed crops. Nine-month commodity loans can be made to eligible producers. Niobrara County July, 2009 loan rates are: winter wheat - \$2.33/bu, barley - \$1.78/bu, corn – \$1.99/bu, oats - \$1.25/bu, and spring wheat - \$3.16/bu. 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. CCC will no longer require the execution of UGRSA in storage facilities that are either federally licensed or state licensed with an operating warehouse licensing program.

Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Reminders

NAP participants must file a Notice of Loss on form CCC-576, for crop losses within 15 days of the disaster event or the date the loss becomes apparent. Failure to report losses timely could result in a loss of eligibility for payment. Prior to grazing acreage covered by NAP for hay, you must request an appraisal to determine production. Grazing this acreage without an appraisal will result in a reduction in payment.

Important Dates to Remember	
September 7	Labor Day Holiday – Office closed
September 13	Final day to File Notice of Loss and Application for Payment for 2008 Livestock Losses
September 13	Final day to File Notice of Loss for 2009 Livestock Losses Suffered before July 13

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