



PARK COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY
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POWELL, WY 82435
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Hours: M-F, 8-4:30 Closed Holidays

June 19, 2009

COUNTY COMMITTEE

John Hogg, Chairperson
Bill Cox, Vice-chairperson
Teddy Jones, Member

OFFICE STAFF

Lee Craig, County Executive Director
Kathleen Palazzolo, Farm Loan Officer
Marjorie Parker, Program Technician
Marcia Shuler, Program Technician
Lorrie Tate, Program Technician

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CROP REPORTING DEADLINE

The deadline to file your FSA acreage reports is July 1. If you are a sugar beet grower, participate in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP), Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program, Conservation Reserve Program, purchase multi-peril or catastrophic crop insurance or participate in other USDA farm programs, you must file an acreage report to remain eligible for benefits. Crop reports are also used in calculating benefits if you suffer a crop loss on a noninsurable crop and apply for benefits under the Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP). You must also file an acreage report of fruits and vegetables for farms that are enrolled in DCP and ACRE. Dry beans are considered a vegetable under the DCP/ACRE rules. Appointment reminders are being mailed. However, you may begin filing your acreage reports as soon as you have completed planting, even if you have not yet received an appointment. If you believe you need to file an acreage report and have not received an appointment reminder, please feel free to call for an appointment or come in to the FSA office at any time and file your acreage report. Late fees will apply to acreage reports that are filed after the July 1 deadline. **FAILURE TO FILE AN ACREAGE REPORT WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF USDA BENEFITS!!**

REPORTING CROP LOSSES FOR NAP

Producers are reminded that they must report losses on NAP crops within 15 days after the date of a disaster occurrence or date that damage to the crop(s) is apparent. Notices of loss that are filed after 15 days (late-filed) can still be approved by the county committee if verification of the specific crop and acreage can be made and if it can be determined that the cause of loss is due to an eligible disaster condition. If a positive verification of both of the above requirements cannot be made, the late filed Notice of Loss will be disapproved and the producer will not be eligible for a loss payment.

DCP SIGN-UP EXTENSION

Sign-up for crop year 2009 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) has been extended to August 14, 2009. Payments under DCP are based on the acreage base of the program crops on the farm and are paid whether or not you plant the respective crop. We encourage producers to enroll their farms in the DCP program as soon as possible.

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNTY COMMITTEE

Nominations for the 2009 Park County FSA committee election will be accepted through August 1. FSA county committees are elected by local agriculture producers to administer USDA farm programs at the county level. There are three Local Administrative Areas (LAA) in Park County with one LAA holding an election each year to elect a person to a three-year term. Park County's LAA's consist of Powell/Clarksfork, Cody/Heart Mountain and Meeteetse. The committee election this year will be held for Local Administrative Area 1, the Powell/Clarksfork LAA, which currently is represented by Bill Cox. 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 nominating petition. If no nominations are received, the Secretary of Agriculture will complete the slate of nominees.

THE ACRE PROGRAM

The Average Crop Revenue Election program (ACRE) is a new program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill. Through ACRE, Farm Service Agency offers producers an alternative to counter-cyclical payments. ACRE payments are made when both state and farm revenues are below historic levels. ACRE participants elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments in lieu of ACRE payments. They also elect to receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates. The 2009 sign-up period for ACRE runs through August 14, 2009. A decision to enroll a farm in ACRE binds the farm to the ACRE program from the program year elected until the farm bill ends in 2012.



OFFICE CLOSED



The Park County FSA Office will be closed Friday, July 4 for Independence Day.



Under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) continuous sign-up, eligible agriculture producers may apply to enroll small acreages of eligible cropland or marginal pastureland in CRP. Participants agree to establish approved conservation practices on eligible land and remove the land from agricultural production in return for annual rental payments for the term of the CRP contract, which can run from 10 to 15 years. A 50% cost-share payment is available to help with the cost of completing approved conservation practices. There is an additional 40% cost-share incentive payment for certain practices. Along with the cost-share and annual rental payments, there is a sign-up incentive payment and an annual maintenance payment. Some eligible practices that can be completed on land enrolled under continuous CRP are: Field Windbreaks, Shallow Water Areas for Wildlife, Shelterbelt Establishment, Establishment of Permanent Salt Tolerant Vegetative Cover and Riparian Buffers.

REPORTING PRODUCTION FOR NAP

July 1, 2009 is the deadline for turning in crop production history and signing the production worksheet for the Non-insured Assistance Program. Failure to turn in your production evidence will result in a decreased yield guarantee and will decrease program benefits in the event of a crop loss.

PLANTING OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES (Dry Beans) ON FARMS ENROLLED IN DCP

For farms that are enrolled in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP), don't forget the regulations concerning the acres of Fruits and Vegetables (FAV's), which includes **dry beans** grown for commercial or seed purposes, that may be grown without penalty or payment reduction. To avoid a payment reduction, liquidated damages penalty or contract termination, FAV acres may not exceed the non-contract acres for the farm. Depending on the farm or producer's FAV history, the penalty that is assessed can range from an acre for acre DCP payment reduction to severe cash penalties and possible termination of the DCP contract. A farm or producer will have a dry bean FAV history if dry beans were grown on the farm or were grown by the producer on any farm, at least once during the years of 1991 through 1995 or 1998 through 2001. An acreage report showing the dry bean acres grown must be on file in this office for the respective year(s). For additional information about how the FAV provisions may affect your participation in the DCP programs, contact this office.

DON'T MISS OUT

IMPORTANT DATES

- July 1** Crop reporting deadline
- July 1** NAP production evidence deadline for proven yields
- July 4** Office closed, Independence Day
- Aug 3** County Committee nominations due
- Aug 14** DCP/ACRE sign-up deadline
- Anytime** Report crop losses within 15 days of loss
- Prior to selling wool** – Sign-up for Wool LDP
- Prior to selling unshorn lambs** – Sign-up for Lamb Pelt LDP
- Prior to selling or feeding crop**-Sign-up for farm stored LDP
- Anytime** Continuous CRP sign-up



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