



PARK COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY
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POWELL, WY 82435
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FAX (307) 754-2761
Hours: M-F, 8-4:30 Closed Holidays

August 10, 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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FSA LOAN PROGRAMS

FSA makes direct and guaranteed loans to qualified applicants for farm operating and farm ownership purposes. Loan assistance is available for:

- Beginning farmers & ranchers
- Rural youth
- Socially disadvantaged producers
- Established farmers who have suffered setbacks
- Farmers with limited resources

All loans must meet qualifying criteria to be eligible. Maximum loan amounts are \$300,000 for Direct Farm Ownership or Operating type loans; \$1,049,000 for Guaranteed Farm Ownership or Operating loans. Youth Loans are available for up to \$5,000 to individual youths to establish and operate income producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H Clubs, FFA and similar organizations. Each fiscal year the Agency targets a portion of its direct and guaranteed loan funds to beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers. A beginning farmer is someone who has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years. A socially disadvantaged applicant is someone who is one of a group whose members have been subject to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice. If you have questions regarding the Farm Loan Program or wish to make an appointment, please contact Kathy.

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.



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. For more information, access the Farm Service Agency website at www.fsa.usda.gov and browse the Direct and Counter Cyclical/ACRE subject area. Once you reach the Direct and Counter Cyclical/ACRE link, you can access an ACRE program fact sheet and calculator. State and county yield data is available on the website to assist in completing the ACRE decision worksheet.

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.

BANK ACCOUNT CHANGES

Farm program payments earned through this office are required to be paid by direct deposit into a bank account selected by the program participant. If you have completed a direct deposit agreement and had a bank account change, you must notify us of account changes for your payment to be properly deposited.

CROP REPORTING DEADLINE EXTENDED

The deadline to file your 2009 FSA acreage reports has been extended to August 14 to coincide with the deadline for enrolling in the DCP or ACRE programs. 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. Late fees will apply to acreage reports that are filed after the deadline. **FAILURE TO FILE AN ACREAGE REPORT WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF USDA BENEFITS!!**

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, the buyer is required to place both the lien holder's and seller's names on the check. 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 (307)777-7311.

OFFICE CLOSED

The Park County FSA Office will be closed Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.



FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

Commodity Credit Corporation, acting through Farm Service Agency, has reauthorized the Farm Storage Facility Loan program. Basic provisions of this loan program are:

- ❖ Loans may be made for grain and forage storage structures, grain handling equipment and drying equipment
- ❖ Loans will be for new storage or expansion or upgrades of existing storage
- ❖ The term of approved loans is 7 years.
- ❖ The interest rate is equivalent to the rate of interest charged on Treasury Securities of comparable maturity.
- ❖ The August 2009 interest rate is 3.125%
- ❖ Producers with approved loans will be required to have crop insurance, either multi-peril crop insurance or federal crop insurance until the loan is paid in full.

DON'T MISS OUT

IMPORTANT DATES

- Aug 14** Crop reporting deadline
- Aug 14** DCP/ACRE sign-up deadline
- Sept 7** Office closed for Labor Day
- 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
- Anytime** Apply for Farm Storage Facility Loan