

March, 2009

## **Platte County News**

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### **DCP Signup Continues**

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues until **June 1, 2009**. **The June 1, 2009 deadline is mandatory for all participants. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications.**



**Platte County FSA**  
1502 Progress Court  
Wheatland, WY 82201  
307-322-4050 (phone)  
307-322-4109 (FAX)

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**  
Larry Cundall  
Ruthie Cundall  
Dave Hinman  
Darrel Vaughn

**Staff**  
Mike Hoffland DD  
Dixie Mount FLO  
Rick Carroll CED  
Celia Herman PT  
Mitzi Mudgett PT  
Joni Reyes PT



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 2009, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price..

Eligible producers for the DCP Program are also eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program or the Counter-cyclical Program. The enrollment period for the ACRE Program will begin in the spring. You may first enroll in the DCP Program, receive advance direct payments and then later modify your enrollment to the ACRE program or you may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time in spring 2009.

### **Fruits and Vegetables Provisions (OFAV)**

Producers may plant any crop on DCP base acres enrolled in DCP, except the following: Fruits, Vegetables, Wild Rice, and Dry Edible Beans. The planting of FAV's or wild rice on Base Acres enrolled in DCP is prohibited unless the commodity is destroyed without benefit before harvest. However, producers may plant FAV's and Wild Rice on DCP base acres enrolled in DCP, if 1 of the following exceptions apply: On a farm with a history of planting FAV's or wild rice, except that Direct and Counter-Cyclical payments shall be reduced by an acre for each acre of DCP base acreage planted to a fruit, vegetable, or wild rice. If the producer has an established history such plantings on DCP base acres cannot exceed the producers average annual planting history. If producer does not have planting history for FAV's the producer will be in violation of their DCP contract. The violation shall result in DCP contract termination or a reduction in direct and Counter-Cyclical payments with liquidated damages. Producers if you

are planning on planting FAV's on your farm you will need to contact the Platte County FSA office to ensure that you will not over plant your FAV planting history acres or you will not be planting FAV's on DCP base acres so that your DCP payments will not be decreased or your contract will not be in violation and terminated with liquidated damages.

### **Approved Covers and Practices**

Producers must protect land enrolled in DCP from weeds, including noxious weeds, and erosion, including providing sufficient cover if determined necessary by the county committee. The first violation of this provision will result in a reduction in the direct payments for the farm by an amount equal to three times the cost of maintenance of the acreage, but not to exceed 50 percent of the total direct payments for the farm. The second violation of this provision will result in a reduction in the direct payments for the farm by an amount equal to three times the cost of maintenance of the acreage, not to exceed the total direct payments for the farm. For the 2009 and subsequent crop years, a third violation of this provision will result in a complete reduction of all payments under the DCP or ACRE program contract.

Suggested Covers: annual, biennial, or perennial grasses and legumes, including sweet sorghums, sorghum grass crosses and sudans. Volunteer stands, other than weeds. Crop residue from using no till or minimum till practices. Perennial covers approved for cost-share assistance.

### **Continuous CRP Available**

At this time USDA has no general signups scheduled for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in 2009. However Continuous CRP will still be eligible for enrollment. These Targeted programs remain funded, and continue to provide a heightened environment benefit on select areas.

### **Beehives on CRP**

Consistent with the soil, water, and wildlife goals of CRP, beehives may be placed on CRP acreages.

### **Annual Crop Reports**

Platte County is taking annual crop reports. Reports to include DCP, CRP, NAP, Price Support to include LDP. Deadline to report acreages on all crops is Wednesday July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

### **Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP)**

#### **April 1<sup>st</sup> Last Day to Sign Up Spring Seeded Crops for NAP Coverage.**

The service fee is \$250 per crop per county or \$750 per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$1875 per producer for individuals with farming interests in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver for service fees.

To qualify, a producer must be a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop.

Producers you may bring into the County Office your production for the 2008 crop year.

Production records are important to maintain your county (APH) yield for your operation. The final date for the turning in production evidence for 2008 is July 1<sup>st</sup> 2009.

### **Attention all 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 you are required to place the lien holders name on the check as well as that of the Seller. 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 1-307-777-7311.

### **Deceased Producer Payments For 2009**

Effectively immediately, Estates may not be paid when using the ID number of the deceased. They must obtain an Entity identification Number (EIN). Previously FSA was allowed to pay a producer that passed away, using his social security number. With the new farm bill, producers will be required to get an EIN for an estate before payment can be made.

### **Dairy Prices Trigger MILC Payments**

Due to low milk prices FSA will be making payments in April to producers through the FSA's Milk Income Loss Contract, or MILC, program. The 2008 Farm Bill made changes to the MILC program, most notably the addition of a dairy feed ration cost adjustment in addition to changes to the payment rate and modifications to the per-operation poundage limit, depending on when the milk is produced.

FSA makes MILC payments on a monthly basis when the Boston Class I milk price falls below \$16.94 per hundredweight (cwt) as adjusted for feed costs. The monthly Boston price is posted online at: [http://www.fmmone.com/Northeast\\_Order\\_Prices/NE\\_Prices\\_mainnew.htm#Advance\\_](http://www.fmmone.com/Northeast_Order_Prices/NE_Prices_mainnew.htm#Advance_) FSA determines the per hundredweight payment rate for the applicable month by subtracting the Boston Class I price for that month from the \$16.94 MILC payment trigger price, and multiplying the difference by 45 percent. The payment factor of 45 percent will decline to 34 percent on September 1, 2012.

FSA issues payments not later than 60 calendar days after FSA receives production evidence for the applicable month or the entire month's National Average Dairy Feed Ration Cost is posted for the applicable month, whichever is later.

FSA makes payments on up to the maximum eligible pounds of milk produced and marketed by each operation per fiscal year. The annual maximum eligible pound limit per dairy operation is 2,985,000 pounds per fiscal year. The amount drops to 2.4 million pounds per fiscal year on September, 1, 2012.

MILC participants must select a month for which FSA will begin issuing payments for each fiscal year. Starting with the dairy operation's selected month, FSA will issue MILC payments based on that month's milk production and the milk production for each consecutive month thereafter with the effective payment rate until the operation reaches the production cap or the fiscal year ends.

The 2008 Farm Bill also excludes producers whose non-farm average adjusted gross income (AGI) exceeds \$500,000 from receiving MILC payments. Producers will have to sign an AGI statement when signing up for the program. More information about the MILC program can be found on the FSA website <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 PLATTE COUNTY FSA OFFICE  
 1502 PROGRESS COURT  
 WHEATLAND, WY 82201

***IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER***

March 31,2009	Last day for commodity loan on Barley, Oats and Wheat
May 31, 2009	Last day for commodity loan on Corn
April 1 2009	Last Day to enroll Spring Seeded NAP Crops
June 1 <sup>st</sup> Deadline for DCP	June 1 <sup>st</sup> Last Day to Enroll in DCP
July 1 <sup>st</sup> Deadline for NAP Production	July 1 <sup>st</sup> Deadline for NAP Crop Production For APH Purposes.
July 1 <sup>st</sup> Deadline for Crop Reports	July 1 <sup>st</sup> Deadline for Crop Acreage Reporting
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Office Closed Independence Day
Continues	Continuous CRP sign up
Continues	Farm Stored Facility Loan Program

**Visit our Web site**

**<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>**

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