

December, 2009

Platte County News



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
David Hinman
Darrel Vaughn
Britt Wilson
Ruth Cundall

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



2009 County Committee Election

December 7th is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office, or postmarked. Ballots will be counted on December 10th. Please take time to vote and select your representative on the County Committee.

Newly elected committee members and alternates take office January 1, 2010.

Changing Banks

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using Direct Deposit. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service

Selling Land

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all of the payments you've received to date.

Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.

IRS Form 1099-G - New Procedures

Producers annually receive CCC-1099Gs detailing payments producers have received from FSA. This year, the 2009 Advance payments producers received from the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) Program were processed as overpayments and offset from the 2009 Final payments. The 2009 Advance payments will not be reflected on the CCC-1099G's producers receive. The CCC-1099G's will reflect only the 2009 DCP direct entitlement.

Producers who have repaid a market gain on a Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) loan with cash or commodity certificates in exchange for outstanding loan collateral will have their market gains reported to the IRS on Form 1099-G.

FSA is required to report to the IRS all market gains associated with the repayment of a CCC loan.

A market gain is the difference between the repayment rate, determined by the CCC, and the original loan rate. If the repayment rate drops below the original loan rate then the difference is considered a market gain. Producers will receive, by mail, the amount reported by FSA to the IRS on Form 1099-G.

2010 DCP Signup

Enrollment for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2010. USDA urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2010 DCP contract.

USDA 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.

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.

Livestock Indemnity Program

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from a natural disaster. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011. The losses must be a direct result an adverse weather condition, including but not limited to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold, & lightning. Note that drought is not a qualifying event. Eligible livestock are adult/non-adult cattle, buffalo and beefalo, equine, sheep, alpacas, emus, swine, goats, llamas, poultry and domestic elk, deer and reindeer. Ineligible livestock include animals that dies as a result of disease not related to adverse weather, malnutrition or poor handling practices. Payment rates are per head by livestock kind/type and weight range.

Date of Livestock Death: July 13, 2009 to December 31, 2009

Final Date to File a Notice of Loss: 30 Days after death is apparent

Final Date to File Application and **submit data for the 2009 Payment: January 30, 2010**

Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP)

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occurred when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of crops that are not covered by crop insurance. The application deadline has changed beginning with the **2010 crop year**, for all crops in all counties the application closing date for **NAP will be April 1st**, of the applicable year.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following:

Timely file acreage reports

File a "Notice of Loss" on form CCC-576 within 15 days of when the loss was apparent.

File a "Notice of Payment" on form CCC-576.

Report harvested production such as weight tickets, bale count, etc.

Report change of ownership, operation or share.

When a loss has occurred, please contact our office prior to harvesting or grazing

Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. . **We recommend producers submit 2009 production records as soon as harvest is complete. All 2009 production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date of July 1st 2010.**

SURE-Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs

The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE).

SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster that occurred in the crop years 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to:

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.

Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from this risk management purchase requirement.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

- at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition. A crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm
- producers in counties declared disaster counties by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties, or those who show proof of a loss of at least 50% for their farm are eligible to receive SURE payments for crop production or crop quality losses. Losses are measured based on whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss.

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

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

December 7	Last day to return COC Ballots
December 10	Election Ballots to be Counted at COC meeting at 11:00 A.M.
December 25 th	Office Closed for Christmas Holiday
January 30 th 2010	Final Date to submit required data for 2009 LIP payment
April 1 st , 2010	Final Date to purchase 2010 NAP coverage
Continues	Continuous CRP sign up
Continues	Farm Stored Facility Loan Program

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

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