



NEWSLETTER



November 2010

Platte County FSA

1502 Progress Court
Wheatland, WY 82201
307-322-4050 phone
307-322-4109 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/WY

Hours

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

County Committee

David Hinman
Darrel Vaughn
Britt Wilson
Ruth Cundall, advisor

Staff

Mike Hoffland, DD
Rick Carroll CED
Dixie Mount FLO
Celia Hermann PT
Mitzi Mudgett PT
Joni Reyes PT

Voting for County Committee Begins

Ballots for this year's county committee election will be mailed to eligible voters on November 5, 2010. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on December 6, 2010. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 6, 2010.

E John Watson is the candidate nominated in LAA 3, Platte County, to serve as a committee member. Mr Watson resides at 1195 S Guernsey RD Wheatland Wyoming and produced wheat for 30 years. He is an active member of Wyoming Wheat Growers Association and serves as President.

Eligible voters in a local administrative area 330 those who have not received a ballot should contact the FSA county office staff.

Voter Requirements Persons meeting requirements in **1 or 2, plus 3**, below, are eligible to vote:

- 1.** Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either a) or b):
 - a) an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper, *or*
 - b) a partner in a general partnership or member of a joint venture that has an interest in a farm as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper;
- 2.** Not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm; *and*
- 3.** Eligible to participate in any applicable FSA program that is provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

Discrimination Prohibited No person shall 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.

Completed and signed ballots will be due back in the county office by the close of business on December 6, 2010. Platte County will be counting Ballots on December 9th, at the County Committee meeting at 11:00 A. M.

OIL, GAS, WIND AND MINERAL LEASES

Many areas in Wyoming are seeing increased interest in resource development. If you are approached and considering entering into agreements regarding your property and resources; you are strongly encouraged to contact an attorney prior to signature. Agreements are legally binding and often have lengthy duration. Make sure you protect your land, your family, and yourself.

If you participate in USDA programs, we recommend that you contact your local offices **prior to signature** to assist you **assessing the impact of the lease on your program participation**.

CCC-927 or CCC-928 Must Be Sent To IRS

Producers who participated in 2009 or 2010 programs subject to adjusted gross income limitations (AGI) had to certify compliance with AGI rules. The average AGI verification process for 2009 and 2010 payment eligibility requires all program participants to provide written consent to IRS for the disclosure of certain information to FSA.

On October 6, 2010, a letter was mailed to producers who have not submitted:

CCC-927: "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-Individual Form"

CCC-928: "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-Legal Entity"

Individuals and legal entities, including members of legal entities, that certified to average AGI compliance for 2009 and/or 2010 payment eligibility must submit a completed CCC-927 or CCC-928 to IRS regardless of whether they received program benefits directly or as a member of a joint operation or entity. These forms must be submitted to IRS in order to avoid a demand for refund of program payments and benefits received.

2011 DCP/ACRE Signup

Are you planning to participate in the 2011 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program/ACRE? If so, contact the nearest FSA county office to sign a 2011 DCP/ACRE contract (CCC-509). Sign-up begins Oct 1, 2010, and must be completed before June 1, 2011. *Final payments for DCP will be issued in the month of October, 2011.*

Crop Insurance Requirements for Disaster Programs and FSA NAP Policy

Currently FSA Policy requires coverage (known as Linkage) to receive disaster payments.

SURE: (Crop Loss Disaster Program) Provides benefits triggered on an individual basis when a producer suffers a 10% loss, on any crop, in a disaster declared county, when a 50% loss is suffered in a non-declared county.

LFP: (Grazing Loss) Implemented when the Drought Monitor indicates at least a D2 drought designation- (8 consecutive weeks at the (server level) during the normal grazing period.

ELAP: (Feed/Grazing losses) Implemented when disaster conditions are severe enough that the county committee requests assistance for losses not covered under other disaster programs.

Linkage Requirements: (Coverage Needed)

Program:	Insurable Crops (Crop Insurance)	Non-Insurable Crops (NAP)	Exceptions
SURE:	At least CAT level for all Insurable crops planted. Planted. All interests, all counties	NAP on all non-insurable crops All interests, all counties	Crops intended for grazing (pasture)
LFP:	At least CAT level on Grazing crops incurring loss. (Can buy for specific acreages)	NAP on grazing crops (Policy covers all acres of crop)	None
ELAP:	At least CAT level on all Insurable crops planted/intended All interest, all counties	NAP on all non-insurable crops planted/intended. All interest, all counties	Crops intended for grazing.

NAP Coverage-New Purchase Deadline for 2011 Perennial Forage Crops

The Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance (from an crop insurance agent). Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agriculture commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available.

The **application deadline date for 2011 NAP** coverage for biennial and perennial forage crops, regardless of intended use, is **December 1, 2010**. Note: this is a date change from **April 1st**. Crops included in this date change are biennial forage (**hay**) crops such as sweet clover; perennial forage crops such as grass varieties, grass/alfalfa mix that are not insurable by crop insurance; and pasture grass for **grazing**. For all other crops (those not biennial or perennial) the application closing date remains the same-**April 1st, 2011** with the following exceptions: Producers who want (winterkill) coverage on HRW Wheat Forage must purchase NAP by **December 1st**. Honey is **December 1st**. Call us for details of what crops to cover under the NAP program.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

- Timely file acreage reports and keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required.
- File a (Notice of Loss) with 15 days of when a loss is apparent, due to drought, hail, etc.

For more information on Continuous CRP enrollments, please contact your local FSA office.

Disaster Program: Livestock, Bees, Fish (ELAP)

Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) provides compensation to eligible producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other loss conditions, including losses due to blizzards and wildfires. ELAP is for losses that are not covered by Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), or Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE).

ELAP originated from the 2008 Farm bill to assist producers with losses that occurred on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011. Eligible losses include feed losses, physical losses and additional costs incurred in providing feed to eligible livestock.

There are two parts to the ELAP application process:

1. A notice of loss (file within 30 days of loss)
2. Application for payment (sign up before 1/30/11)

An application for payment cannot be filed without a notice of loss.

Eligible physical losses of honey bees and honey bee hives, lost due to adverse weather or loss conditions are eligible under ELAP. Producers will be required to provide documentation of beginning and ending inventory of honey bee colonies when claiming a physical loss of honey bees or honey bee hives.

Additional ELAP information is available at FSA county offices or on line at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Unauthorized Disposition: “Grain with a Price Support Loan or LDP”

If grain for which a **Marketing Assistance Loan or a Loan Deficiency Payment** has been authorized is disposed of through feeding, selling or any other form of disposal without prior written authorization from the county office staff, it is considered unauthorized disposition. The financial penalties for unauthorized dispositions are severe and a producer's name will be placed on a loan violation list for a two-year period. Always call before you haul or utilize any grain under loan

Farm Loan Year End Reviews

Producers that have a farm loan with FSA are reminded they must provide data for their Year-End Analysis to their loan officer each year. Borrowers are urged to provide this information timely so that their files can be maintained.

Applications for FSA Farm Loan Assistance

Farmers and ranchers that intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Failure to apply early may result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications. Contact your local FSA Farm Loan representative for more details and assistance in applying.

Operating Loan Applications

Farmers that plan to apply for annual operating loan assistance are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Farmers should contact their local FSA office for information

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

November 5 th	Ballots Mailed to Eligible Voters
November 11 th	Veterans Day Holiday Office Closed
November 25 th	Thanksgiving Day Office Closed
December 1 st	The Application Deadline Date For 2011 NAP Coverage for Biennial and Perennial Crops
December 6 th	Ballots to be returned to County Office
December 9 th	COC Meeting; Ballots for COC Election to be counted at 11:00 A.M.
December 24 th	Christmas Day Office Closed
December 31 st	New Years Eve Office Closed
Continues	Continuous CRP sign up
Continues	Farm Stored Facility Loan Program

Visit our Web site <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

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