



## PLATTE COUNTY FSA NEWSLETTER

August 2012

### Platte County FSA Office

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307-322-4109 FAX  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/WY](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/WY)

### Hours

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

### County Committee

Dave Hinman  
E. John Watson  
Ruth Cundall

### Staff

Martin Hoffland, CED/DD  
Dixie Mount, FLO  
Mitzi Mudgett, PT  
Joni Reyes, PT  
Pammie Rapp, PT

### COC Meetings

January 12, 2012  
June 21, 2012  
September 20, 2012  
December 10, 2012

### **EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM - FIRE & DROUGHT**

Platte County has been approved to conduct an Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) signup for producers who have lost structures such as fence or cattle tanks in the numerous fires we've experienced this summer. In addition we will be accepting applications to cost share livestock water practices to pastures where existing livestock watering facilities have gone dry due to the drought. This includes wells, tanks, pipelines, and water hauling. Be aware we have NOT received funding for this signup and do not know when or if we will. The signup period ends Sept. 30, 2012.

### **FILING NAP LOSS CLAIMS**

For those of you, who obtained NAP policies for the 2012 crop year, be aware that loss claims must be timely filed in order to be eligible for payment. You must timely file a notification of loss every time you experience a loss event (such as hail, flood, drought etc.). This notification must be filed within 15 calendar days of the date of the disaster condition occurred or damage to the crop became evident. In case of drought, loss would be evident not later than harvest and if not harvested, then by the end of the crop year. If you expect to get paid, timely file your notification of loss! And then submit your *actual production evidence so we can compute a payment*. For grass hay and pasture, this deadline is Nov. 15, 2012.

### **Acreage Reports for 2013 Crops**

Acreage reporting deadlines have changed for the 2013 crop year. Perennial forage crops (range, grass, alfalfa, etc.) fall wheat and any other

Fall-seeded small grain is **Nov. 15, 2012**. Established alfalfa seed, and fall alfalfa seed is Jan. 15, 2013. The acreage reporting deadline for all other 2013 spring seeded crops is July 15, 2013.

### **2012 Production Reports for NAP**

All 2012 Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) participants are required to file an acreage report and submit a production report. Producers with NAP hay coverage need to report the number and average weight of hay bales harvested. I recommend that you do this now, following harvest, however the deadline is Nov. 15, 2012. Your production records need to match your acreage report. For example, if you reported fields of native grass hay, brome grass hay, and legume grass mix hay, then your bales count needs to show how many bales were native, how many bales were brome, and how many bales were legume grass mix. Mail us your production record and we'll copy and mail it back along with an Actual Production History form for you to sign and return. Or just stop by the County Office.

### **CRP Highly Erodible Land Initiative**

A continuous signup for the new Highly Erodible Land Initiative under CRP started on July 23. Wyoming has been allocated 1800 acres to enroll in this special CRP program. Offers will be accepted until either the state acreage limit is reached or Sept. 30, 2012. The initiative will accept offers on new cropland or CRP acres that are expiring on Sept. 20, 2012 with an Erosion Index (EI) greater than or equal to 20. A review of CRP offers in Platte County during the last 3 general signups shows that there is eligible cropland in the county that meets the EI requirement. Existing grass stands that are NOT currently in CRP are **NOT** eligible. These will be 10 year contracts.

### ***Weed Control on CRP***

Weeds are required to be controlled on CRP in any year, but 2012 is turning out to be an interesting year. Some of the light disking/chiseling that was completed this year is showing a lot of annual weed growth. It was a particularly tough year for a new seeding. While the grass and legume may not have emerged well, weeds seem to be doing fine. Herbicide hasn't been particularly effective as dry as it has been. If you have significant weed growth on your CRP, you will probably need to chop them. Complaints received by the County Office will be followed up on, and weed control compliance on CRP will be enforced.

### ***2012 Commodity Loans***

The price support loan rate for winter wheat for Platte County is only \$2.90/bushel. But then the interest rate is only 1.25%. If you didn't sell your wheat at harvest and still have it stored perhaps you want to consider a CCC commodity loan.

### ***Purchasing NAP Coverage for the 2013 Crop Year***

The closing Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) application deadline for biennial and perennial forage crops, regardless of intended use, is Dec. 1, 2012. This includes crops such as wheat hay, grass hay, irrigated meadow pastures, and range. The application fee is \$250 per crop/pay type. Covered crops are those crops for which RMA crop insurance is not offered. This coverage is only for losses in excess of 50% of the normal yield but we certainly have had lot that in 2012.

### ***Foreign Landowner Notification***

Any foreign person who acquires, transfers, or holds any interest, other than a security interest, in agricultural land in the United States is required by law to report the transaction no later than 90 days after the date of the transaction. They must file Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) reports with the FSA county office that maintains reports for the county where the land is located.

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