



FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Sheridan - Johnson

MAY 2011

Sheridan – Johnson County FSA Office

1949 Sugarland Drive, Suite 126
Sheridan, WY 82801

(307)672-5846 Ext. 2

Toll Free Number:
1-866-262-4396

FSA Office Personnel:
Linda Benzel, Acting CED
Janice Wheeler, PT

Sheridan-Johnson County Committee Members:

William White, Chairperson
Juaquin Michelena, Vice
Chairperson
Susan Moyes, Regular Member
Santiago Curuchet, Regular Member
Steve Schuette; Regular Member

Dates to Remember:

May 30, 2011 – Memorial Day
Holiday – Office Closed

June 1, 2011– DCP/ACRE Signup
Deadline

July 1, 2011 – Crop Report
Deadline

July 1, 2011 – Last day to report
NAP production for 2010 crop year.

July 4, 2011 – Independence
Holiday – Office Closed

July 29, 2011 – 2009 Supplemental
Revenue (SURE) Program signup
ends.

August 1, 2011 – Nomination
deadline for FSA County Committee

Continues – CRP signup

2011 COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

County committee members are a critical component in the operations of our agency. Farmers and ranchers who serve on the committee help with the decisions necessary to administer government farm programs in their counties. Members provide local input and make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues.

This year's election will be held for LAAs Local Administrative Areas number (1) & (5). William White is currently serving as LAA 1 Chairperson to the county committee, and Santiago Curuchet represents LAA 5 on the committee.

Committee members serve on the board for a three year term not to exceed 9 consecutive years. Producers who are residents in the LAA holding the election, who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Beginning farmers and ranchers are encouraged to nominate themselves and participate in the election process. Also, organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates.

The nomination form, FSA-669A, is included in this newsletter, and additional forms are available at the county office or may be obtained online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. The completed nomination form must be returned to the county office by the close of business on Aug. 1, 2011 or postmarked by midnight Aug. 1, 2011.

The election of agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers - whether an operation is large or small. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the United States Department of Agriculture. If you or someone you know is interested in running for committee just call our office with any questions or comments that you might have and also to obtain a nomination form.

FSA Signature Policy

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

There are exceptions to the rule, where spouses may not sign on behalf of each other for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities. Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents.

For more clarification on spousal signature authority, feel free to contact your local FSA office.

Customer Statement

Producers who have signed up for a USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account will be able to access their farm data via their Customer Statement.

The Customer Statement puts a range of USDA services and programs into a single report that's at your fingertips and available online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It allows USDA customers to view their participation, application and payment status in various commodity and conservation programs; information on farm loans; and conservation plan and land unit information.

Farm Loan Programs

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Adjusted Gross Income

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to USDA.

This to ensure that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to AGI rules must submit form CCC 927 (Individual) and/or CCC 928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service by June 15 to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from FSA and NRCS offices or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainservlet>.

Conservation Loan Program

The Conservation Loan (CL) program provides farmers with the funding necessary to implement approved conservation measures on their land. The available limit for a direct CL is \$300,000, and the limit for a guaranteed CL is \$1,119,000.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will work with applicants to develop a conservation plan containing approved conservation practices, such as water conservation structures, forest cover, permanent pastures, manure digesters and other installations.

For more information on a potential Conservation Loan, call the local FSA office and make an appointment with a farm loan officer.

Reconstitution of Farms:

Producers have until August 1st to request a combination or division of farms. Farms with the same owner/operator are a required combination. Land that is sold can be split from the parent farm using the "Landowner Designation" method. This method allows the landowner to designate the amount of DCP contract acres to go with the land that is sold. A written agreement between the buyer and seller must be made before the land sale is final. FSA requires a Warranty Deed or Land Sales Agreement for proof of ownership before a reconstitution of farms can be completed.

2011 LDP WOOL AND UNSHORN LAMB PELTS

For year 2011 LDP's, producers are reminded that they must file CCC-633EZ page 1, BEFORE they lose beneficial interest in the wool marketed. 2011 Wool LDP applicants will have until January 31, 2012 to file for the Wool LDP payment *provided* they have filed "page 1" of the CCC-633EZ prior to selling the wool or maintain control or beneficial interest in the wool not yet marketed

FSA-669A
(03-24-10)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)		TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
		5. COUNTY	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION: <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i>		6. LAA	7. STATE
		8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION: <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.		<i>(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.			

9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

<u>ETHNICITY</u>	<u>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</u>	<u>GENDER</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
 - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
 - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
 - C. Willing to serve if elected.
- ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
- ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. *(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)*
- ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 2, 2010.

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE**

Important Dates to Remember

May 30, 2011	Memorial Day Holiday – Office Closed
June 1, 2011	DCP/ACRE Signup Deadline
June 1, 2011	ACRE Signup Deadline
July 1, 2011	Crop Report Deadline
July 1, 2011	APH Deadline for 2010 hay production for NAP
July 4, 2011	Independence Holiday – Office Closed
July 29, 2011	Last day for 2009 SURE signup
August 1, 2011	Nomination Deadline for County Committee

CROP REPORT DEADLINE

The annual reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. For the 2011 crop year the deadline to file crop acreage reports is **July 1, 2011**.

NAP PRODUCTION RECORDS:

2010 crop production must be reported by July 1, 2011 in order to be used for 2010 Actual Production History (APH) payment yield purposes for a crop covered by a NAP policy. Failure to timely report production can have an adverse impact on the overall crop yield history and payments.

If you have a loss on a covered NAP crop and wish to receive loss benefits from our office, you must file a notice of loss within 15 days of the earlier: 1) date of the disaster event that caused the loss or, 2) when the loss is apparent to you. A notice of loss must be filed for each weather-related event or adverse natural occurrence that causes damage to or loss of the specific crop. Failure to report crop damage or loss in a timely manner will result in ineligibility for Non-Insured Assistance Program payments.

Please Note:

Producers who have filed a 2010 NAP Notice of Loss for grazing have until July 1, 2011 to file an application for payment.