

November 2015



# BULLETIN



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## Sheridan-Johnson County FSA Updates

### Sheridan-Johnson County FSA Office

1949 Sugarland Drive,  
Ste. 126  
Sheridan, WY  
Phone: 307-672-5846  
Fax: 866-574-1670

### County Executive Director:

Linda Benzel

### Farm Loan Manager:

Rob Weppner

### Program Technicians:

Janice Wheeler, PT  
Staci Green Steiner,  
Temp. PT

### County Committee:

Steve Schuette  
Susan Moyes  
Johns Buyok  
Raymon Turk  
Thad Stoltz

**Next County Committee Meeting: December 17, 2015**

## NON-INSURABLE CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

**December 1, 2015** is the application deadline for the 2016 Non-Insurable Crop Disaster Assistance Program. NAP provides financial assistance to eligible producers affected by crop losses due to natural disasters. FSA's NAP coverage is for non-insurable crops not covered by RMA. This includes rangeland coverage. The application service fee for NAP is \$250.00 per crop per county, with a county maximum of \$750.00. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$1,875.00 per producer with farming interests in multiple counties.

### Reporting Crop Losses for NAP

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.

### NAP Participants: Report your 2015 hay production NOW!

Production records for grass hay crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. We recommend producers submit 2015 production records as soon as harvest is complete. If you fail to report your production it could have an adverse impact on the overall crop yield history and payments.

Actual Production records should include bale count, average weight of bales, irrigation practice (NI, IR), field numbers to calculate acreage, and type of hay. **All production records need to be signed and dated by producer.** On request, our office will gladly prepare maps to assist in documenting production at time of harvest.

## County Committee Elections

Be watching your mailbox for your official county committee election ballot starting early in November. This year's election will be held for LAA (Local Administrative Area) number 2 in Sheridan County, and LAA (Local Administrative Area) 4, in Johnson County.

Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on November 9, 2015. Completed and signed ballots must be returned to the county office or postmarked by the close of business on **December 7, 2015**. Newly elected members take office on January 1, 2016.

The election of agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers – whether an operation is large or small. FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the United States Department of Agriculture. Members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support programs and other important agricultural issues.

Due to the immense role members' play, our office would like to encourage all eligible producers to participate in this year's COC election process. Please cast your vote and return your ballot by the deadline date!

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## YOUTH LOANS

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

### YOUTH LOAN ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Be a citizen of the United States
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).