

September 2014



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## Washakie-Hot Springs County FSA Updates

### Livestock Forage Disaster Program

The 2014 Farm Bill makes the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) a permanent program and provides retroactive authority to cover eligible losses back to Oct. 1, 2011. LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire. LFP payments for drought are equal to 60 percent of the monthly feed cost for up to five months. LFP payments for fire on federally managed rangeland are equal to 50 percent of the monthly feed cost for the number of days the producer is prohibited from grazing the managed rangeland, not to exceed 180 calendar days. The grazing losses must have occurred on or after Oct. 1, 2011.

Sign-up began on April 15, 2014, at your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) service center. Please consult your local FSA office for details.

Eligible livestock producers in Washakie and Hot Springs counties will be eligible for:

- 4 monthly payments for 2012
- 4 monthly payments for 2013

### Microloan Program

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the Microloan (ML) program to better serve the unique financial operating needs of beginning, niche and small family farm operations.

FSA offers applicants a Microloan designed to help farmers with credit needs of \$35,000 or less. The loan features a streamlined application process built to fit the needs of new and smaller producers. This loan program will also be useful to specialty crop producers and operators of community supported agriculture (CSA).

Eligible applicants can apply for a maximum amount of \$35,000 to pay for initial start-up expenses such as hoop houses to extend the growing season, essential tools, irrigation and annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing, and distribution expenses. As financing needs increase, applicants can apply for a regular operating loan up to the maximum amount of \$300,000 or obtain financing from a commercial lender under FSA's Guaranteed Loan Program.

Individuals who are interested in applying for a microloan or would like to discuss other farm loan programs available should contact their local FSA office to set up an appointment with a loan official.

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#### Questions?

Please contact CED Sherri Harvey, County Executive Director, at 307-347-2456, [sherri.harvey@wy.usda.gov](mailto:sherri.harvey@wy.usda.gov) or for Farm Loans, please contact FLM Bill Morrison, Farm Loan Manager, at 307-347-2456, [bill.morrison@wy.usda.gov](mailto:bill.morrison@wy.usda.gov).

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