



Weston County News

April 2010



Weston County
USDA Service
Center

Weston County FSA
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Newcastle, WY
82701
(307) 746-2701

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm
www.fsa.usda.gov

County Committee
Doug Materi,
Chairman
Monte Hamilton,
Vice Chairman
Ann Wehri,
Member

Staff
Peggy Livingston,
County Executive
Director
JoAnn Stearns,
Program Technician
Rob Weppner,
Farm Loan Manager



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ELAP Deadline Announced

Under the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) provisions, FSA may spend up to \$50 million per year nationwide to provide emergency relief for losses due to feed or water shortages, adverse weather, such as blizzards and wildfires and now wolf depredation. With some exceptions, losses that are not adequately addressed by other disaster programs, such as Livestock Forage Program (LFP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), are covered under ELAP.

To be eligible to receive payments under ELAP applicants must have had crop insurance or Non Insured Crop Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on all commodities on all farms in which the producer has an interest, except grazing. This requirement can be waived for socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmers/ranchers.

Signup for ELAP is on-going; however 2008 and 2009 losses need to be reported immediately because the deadline to file 2008 and 2009 losses is May 5, 2010.

ACREAGE REPORTING TIME

It's time to start thinking about planting your crops and reporting these plantings to this office. The deadline for reporting your crop is **July 1, 2010**. When reporting your crops we will need to know the intended use of the crop and the date the crop was planted. It is very important to report all crops and grazing to be eligible for future programs.

We will start accepting these acreage reports as soon as you have all of your crops planted. Call for an appointment and complete your acreage report prior to the **July 1, 2010** deadline to prevent late file penalties

Reporting Crop Losses for NAP

For those of you with a NAP policy for crops or grazing – you are reminded that if you suffer a crop loss, you must complete a notice of loss from this office no later than **15 calendar** days after the disaster occurrence or no later than **15 days** from the date that damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent. Notice of loss must be provided for each weather-related event or adverse natural occurrence that causes damage to or loss of the specific crop or commodity. Failure to report crop damage or loss in a timely manner will result in ineligibility for NAP payment. **When a loss is sustained an appraisal should be completed** by FSA personnel. This appraisal should be done before grazing occurs or before the land is put to another use.

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2010 Direct and Counter Cyclical/ACRE Signup June 1, 2010 Signup Deadline

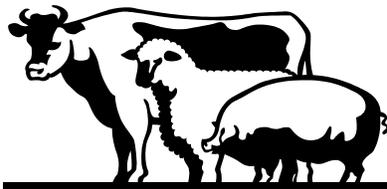
Signup for the 2010 DCP and ACRE has started. **June 1, 2010** is the signup deadline. Optional advance payment of 22 percent will be available upon completion of all signup paperwork. Please fill out your 2010 DCP/ACRE contract that was sent to you by mail as soon as you are sure of your 2010 farming intentions.

The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. **The June 1, 2010, signup deadline is mandatory for all participants. FSA cannot accept any late-filed applications.**

A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. For 2010, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2008 and 2009 crop years.

Payments are based on planted or prevented planted acres of commodity crops. In order to receive a payment for the crop, there must be both a state and farm revenue loss. The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20%, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30%.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.



Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

LIP is an ongoing program to compensate for losses of livestock due to an eligible adverse weather event including blizzards, disease, extreme heat or cold, floods and wildfires. Eligible livestock include but are not limited to cattle, sheep, swine, buffalo, and equine.

Applications for livestock losses require documentation of beginning and ending inventory, records showing the date of death for normal death loss and show death losses due to the weather event, along with records showing the number of livestock in inventory on the date of the weather event. Beginning and ending inventory require a third party verification of losses, such as, vet records, loan documents, shipping records, brand inspections, etc.

Notices of loss must be filed within 30 days of when the loss is apparent.

Application for payment must be filed no later than January 30 of the following crop year.

NAP Production Reporting

Production records for individual crops **covered by NAP** need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up-to-date. Records submitted must be reliable and verifiable. Records need to show crop disposition. It is recommended producers submit production records as soon as possible after harvest.

2009 NAP production records must be submitted by July 1, 2010

Lender of First Opportunity

How can we help you? FSA is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. FSA makes direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operating loans (OL) to family-size farmers and ranchers who **cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank, Farm Credit System institution, or other lender.** FSA loans can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed, and supplies. Our loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements.

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.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,112,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner.

FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it.

Direct and Guaranteed loans are available to assist Wyoming farmers and ranchers. For more information about FSA loan programs visit FSA's website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> or contact Rob Weppner at the Campbell County FSA office at (307) 682-8843 Ext. 2.



*/s/ Peggy M. Livingston,
County Executive Director*

Special Accommodations will be made for the physically handicapped, vision- or hearing-impaired person upon request. If accommodations are required, please call Peggy Livingston, CED at (307)746-2701.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
Weston County FSA
1225 Washington Blvd
Newcastle, WY 82701

Postage Block

Return Service Requested



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 5, 2010 – ELAP Signup Deadline
May 31, 2010 – Memorial Day Holiday – Office Closed
June 1, 2010 – DCP Signup Deadline
June 15, 2010 – Deadline to file IRS form for AGI Verification
July 1, 2010 – NAP Production Reporting Deadline
July 5, 2010 – Office Closed – Independence Day

**For more information on any Farm Service Agency program, visit or call our office, or visit the
FSA Homepage at: www.fsa.usda.gov**