



Boulder-Jefferson County FSA  
9595 Nelson Road, Box A  
Longmont, CO 80501  
(303) 776-1242  
(303) 684-9893 FAX  
Monday—Friday 7:30 to 4:00

#### County Committee:

Bonnie Smith, Chairperson  
Craig Sterkel, Vice Chairperson  
Ernest Kollar, Member

#### Office Staff:

Jean Turner, CED  
Dana Bachman, PT Teri Jo Laber, PT



# VIEW FROM THE PEAK

## CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP)

CRP cover maintenance is the responsibility of the participant.

Participants shall ensure:

- ◆ That adequate approved vegetative cover is maintained to control erosion
- ◆ Compliance with State noxious

weed laws as determined by the State of local noxious weed commission

- ◆ Control of other weeds that are not considered noxious, as determined by COC
- ◆ That undesirable vegetation, weeds (including noxious

weeds), insects, rodents, etc., that pose a threat to existing cover or adversely impact other landowners in the area are controlled.



*Reminder!*

## NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

### Production Reporting ~

Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved production history (APH). 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. Failure to report acreage and production information may result in reduced or zero NAP assistance. Records submitted must be reliable and verifiable and need to show crop disposition. Production reporting date is the subsequent crop year's final acreage report deadline.

### Filing Notice of Losses ~

A written notice of loss must be provided within 15 calendar days after the latter of the occurrence of prevented planting or end of the planting period or disaster occurrence or date damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent to the pro-

ducer. For NAP purposes, notice of loss must be filed timely on a CCC-576 form for each weather related event or natural occurrence that causes damage to or loss of the specific crop or commodity.

### Filing Application for Payment ~

Producers who filed a notice of loss must also file an application for payment in the county office no later than the subsequent crop year acreage reporting date for the crop following the year in which the loss occurred.

- ◆ The claimed share must reflect the participant's share ownership interest in the crop at the time of loss. If the participant claiming a share of the payment has entered into any agreement or contract to grow or produce the crop for another and without retaining any ownership share interest in the crop, the participant cannot be considered to have a valid claim to a share of NAP payments.
- ◆ Landowners, landlords, tenants, contract growers, or anyone else not having both a share of the risk and a valid claim of

share ownership of a crop are ineligible for NAP.

- ◆ Applicants certifying to having a valid claim to a share of NAP payment are subject to spot check. If agreements or contracts are discovered that show a grower did not have a valid claim to a share of a crop for which NAP assistance was claimed, the NAP payment must be refunded.

### Acreage Reporting Requirements ~

All unit acreage of the eligible NAP crop and each crop in the event of multiple planting must be timely reported by the producer. Zero acreage reports are required if the crop was not planted and was selected for NAP coverage on the CCC-471 Application for Coverage. Failure to timely certify unit acreage and production, risk ineligibility for NAP Assistance and/or impact on Actual Production History (APH). Check with your local FSA office for specific crop reporting dates.

Spring, 2008

### DATES TO REMEMBER ~

#### Crop Disaster Program (CDP)

- ◆ Oct 15, 07 Signup began

#### Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)/Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)

- ◆ Sep 10, 07 Signup began

#### Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

15 days after disaster condition occurs to report loss to county office  
Production reporting date for 2007 crop: July 15, 2008

#### Application Closing Dates for 2009

- ◆ Sep 1, 08 Aquaculture, Triticale
- ◆ Nov 20, 08 Apples
- ◆ Dec 1, 08 Alfalfa, Mixed Forage, Grass, Honey
- ◆ Mar 15, 09 Forage Sorghum, Fruits & Vegetables (FAVs), Millet, NI Corn, Oats, Soybeans, Sunflowers

#### 2007 LDP Signup Deadlines

- ◆ Mar 31, 08 Barley, Honey, Oats, Wheat
- ◆ May 31, 08 Corn, Grain Sorghum, Sunflowers

#### Acreage Reporting Deadline

- ◆ July 15, 08 Final date to report 2008 acres. Required for CRP, DCP, LDPs, & NAP participants

#### Prevented Planting

- ◆ 15 days after disaster or end of planting period

### OFFICE CLOSED:

May 26	Memorial Day
Jul 4	Independence Day
Sep 1	Labor Day
Oct 13	Columbus Day
Nov 11	Veteran's Day
Nov 27	Thanksgiving Day
Dec 25	Christmas Day

## FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOANS

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or re-model farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including wheat, rice, soybeans, and corn.

The 7-year Farm Storage Facility Loans are available for the purchase and installation of eligible storage facilities, permanently affixed drying or handling

equipment, or remodeling existing facilities. Eligible facilities include new conventional-type cribs or bins and new and remanufactured oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures.

All Farm Storage Facility Loans are secured by a promissory note and security

agreement. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is 85% of the net cost

of the storage or handling equipment, up to \$100,000 for each borrower. A minimum down payment is also required. For details, con-

tact the county office.



## DIRECT AND GUARANTEED LOANS AVAILABLE

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 available now.

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.

Loan funds are available now - apply early so that a loan can be processed

and funded in a timely manner.

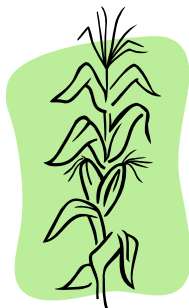
Most of our loan programs have special funding available for minority, female, and beginning farmers.

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. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

**"Farm Loan Program personnel will be available to answer questions, assist in the application process, etc. in the Boulder-Jefferson County FSA office the 2nd Friday of each month 9:30—3:00. Located at 9595 Nelson Road, Longmont, CO 80501 in the Natural Resources Building on the Boulder County Fairgrounds. (303) 776-1242 opt 2"**

## BEWARE OF CROP INSURANCE REBATING SCHEMES

With the spring sales closing date for many Federal crop insurance policies right around the corner, crop insurance agents have stepped up their marketing efforts. The Risk Management Agency (RMA) has received reports from producers and agents that some aggressive marketers have been approaching producers with re-



bate offers. These schemes promise lower insurance premiums, refunds, dividends, or items of value tied to crop insurance purchases. Most of these activities are illegal.

RMA reminds all Federal crop insurance program participants that it is now coordinating with state regulators to take

appropriate regulatory action against all those who are found to promote or participate in such schemes. Producers who are found to participate in illegal rebating activities will not only lose their crop insurance coverage but will also lose eligibility in all USDA programs. Producers and agents can report suspicions of illegal rebating to the OIG Hotline: **1-800-424-9121.**

## ACREAGE REPORTING

Acreage reporting time will soon be here. Remember that filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can pre-

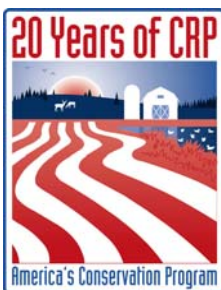
vent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop.

Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

All crop acres must be reported by **July 15, 2008** in Colorado.

## CONTINUOUS CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) AVAILABLE



Environmentally desirable land devoted to certain conservation practices may be enrolled in CRP at any time under continuous sign-up. Offers are automatically

accepted provided the land and producer meet certain eligibility requirements. Offers for continuous sign-up are not subject to competitive bidding. Continuous sign-up contracts are 10 to 15 years in duration.

For continuous sign-up, the effective date of the CRP contract is the first day of the month following the month of approval. In certain circumstances, producers may defer the effective date for up to 6 months.

If the acreage is currently under CRP contract and is within one year of the scheduled expiration date, the effective date is Oct 1 following the expiration date.

**Eligible Producers** ~ To be eligible, a producer must have owned or operated the land for at least 12 months prior to submitting the offer

**Eligible Land** ~ Land must be either: Cropland (including field margins) that is planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity 4 of the previous 6 crop years from 1996 to 2001, and which is physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity; or certain marginal pastureland that is enrolled in the Water Bank Program or suitable for use as a riparian buffer or for similar water quality purposes.

**Eligible Practices** ~ The land must be eligible and suitable for certain conservation practices.

**Payments** ~ FSA provides participants with rental payments, including any incentives, and cost-share assistance:

◆ **Rental Payments:** Annual rental rate payments to participants are based on the relative productivity of the soils within each county and the average dryland cash rent or cash rent equivalent. The maximum

CRP rental rate for each offer is calculated in advance of enrollment.

◆ **Cost-share Assistance:** Cost-share assistance is provided at no more than 50% of the participant's cost to establish approved practices.

◆ **Financial Incentives:** A financial incentive of up to 20% of the soil rental rate for field windbreaks, grass waterways, filter strips, and riparian buffers. An additional 10% may be added for land located within EPA-designated wellhead protection areas. A per-acre payment rate may also be added or maintenance of eligible practices.

◆ **Additional Financial Incentives:** A one-time signing incentive payment (SIP) up to \$100 per acre for eligible participants who enroll certain practices.

A one-time practice incentive payment (PIP) equal to 40% of the eligible installation costs for eligible participants who enroll certain practices.

**For more information** on CRP continuous sign-up, contact your local FSA office or visit FSA's website at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crp.htm>

## COC REVIEW OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE AREA (LAA) BOUNDARIES

County Committee (COC) is conducting a review of the LAA boundaries within Boulder and Jefferson County to ensure fair representation of all producers in the area over which the COC has jurisdiction. Boulder and Jefferson County is currently divided into three Local Administrative Areas (LAA).

**LAA 1**—North County Line to Nelson Road, represented by Ernest Kollar.

**LAA 2**—Nelson Road to Isabelle/Valmont Road, represented by Craig Sterkel.

**LAA 3**—Isabelle/Valmont Road to the county line and all of Jefferson County, represented by Bonnie Smith.

LAA 3 will be holding an election for the COC member this year. If you own or operate a farm or ranching operation in

this area and are of legal voting age, you are eligible to serve on the committee and to vote. The candidate elected will serve a 3 year term on the committee. Farmers and ranchers can nominate eligible peers as candidates for election to the Boulder County Farm Service Agency County Committee (COC).

The election of responsible agricultural producers to the FSA County Committee is important to all farmers and ranchers. The County Committee is a crucial component to help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who are elected and serve on the committee help decide the kind of programs offered in the county while they work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.



### 2008 COC ELECTION SCHEDULE

- ★ **JUN 15, 2008**—Nomination period begins. Nomination forms are available from the county office as well as on the website listed below.
  - ★ **AUG 1, 2008**—Last day to file nomination forms
  - ★ **NOV 3 2008**—Ballots mailed to eligible voters
  - ★ **DEC 3, 2008**—Last day to return completed ballots
  - ★ **JAN 1, 2009**—Elected committee members and alternates take office
- Nomination forms and fact sheets are also available at:

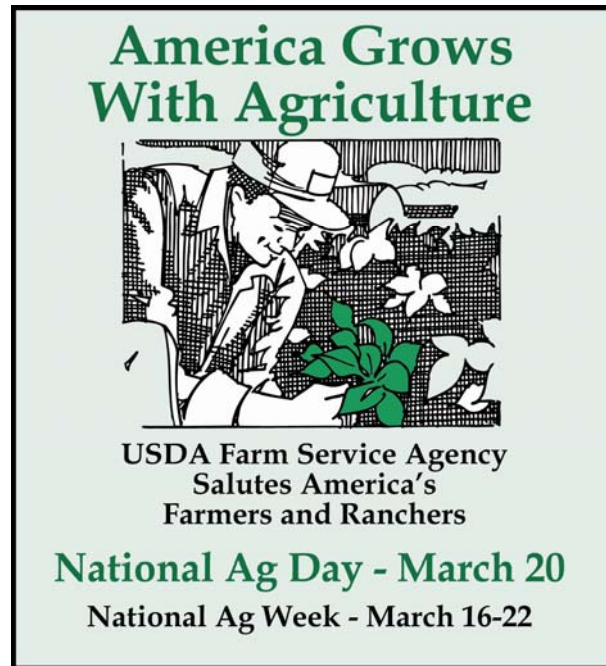
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/>





U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
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## WHAT DOES FARM BILL IMPLEMENTATION LOOK LIKE FOR FSA?

It looks something like this . . .

