

SERVICE CENTER NEWS

Campbell County Wyoming

November, 2006

Farm Service Agency County Committee

307-682-8843, ext. 2

Rex Brown, Chairman
Lee Isenberger, Vice-Chairman
Amanda Sorenson, Member

Natural Resources Conservation Services

307-682-8842, ext. 3

Tim Kellogg, District Conservationist
Mike Cranston, SCT

Campbell County Conservation District

307-682-1824

Michelle Cook, District Manager
Debbie Hepp, Program Assistant
Crystal Dilley, Admin. Assistant

Office Staff, ext 2

Susan Kramer, CED
Claudette Vander Voort, PT
Peggy Seppala, PT
Judy Bishop, PT
Rob Weppner, FLM

District Board Members

Robert Brug
Kit Laramore
Cindy Sarles
Brenda Schladweiler
Steve Sorenson

2007 DCP Sign-up Began Oct 1st

Producers are reminded the 2007 DCP (Direct and Counter-cyclical Program) sign-up period has started. Sign-up began Oct 1, 2006, and must be completed before June 1, 2007. (You can sign your contract after June 1 and before Sept. 30, 2007, but you will be assessed a late-signing fee of \$100.) When you sign the CCC-509, you agree to:

- comply with highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation provisions on all your land;
- devote acreage equal to the base acreage to an agricultural or conserving use;
- effectively control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain base acres according to sound agricultural practices;
- not plant perennial fruits and vegetables or harvest annual FAVs (other than lentils, mung beans, and dry peas) or wild rice on base acres (Exceptions: Double-cropping covered commodities or peanuts with wild rice, fruits, or vegetables shall be permitted in any region in which there is a history of this type of double-cropping.);
- file acreage report with respect to all cropland on the farm; and
- notify the county office staff when there is a transfer of or change of interest of a producer.

The DCP contracts are not like the old seven-year Production Flexibility Contracts. You must designate shares and sign a new DCP contract each year.

County Committee Election

Just a reminder: Be watching your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on November 3, 2006. If, for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office. Completed and signed ballots are due back in the county office by the close of business on Dec 4, 2006.

FSA Farm Loans Available For Beginning Farmers or Rancher

Beginning farmers or ranchers can get a "regular" farm ownership loan by using funds set aside especially for them by the Farm Service Agency. These loans finance up to 100 percent of the land's purchase price (up to the \$200,000 loan limit), and the term of the loan can be up to 40 years.

The interest rate can be 5.75 percent, or the "limited resource" rate of 5.00 percent.

The regular farm ownership loan funds may also be used in joint financing where FSA lends up to 50 percent of the amount financed and another lender provides 50 percent or more. FSA may charge an interest rate of not less than 4 percent with terms up to 40 years.

Insurance & Risk Management CD Available

The University of Wyoming has provided the FSA office with several copies of this CD. The 5-6 hour course is also available on the internet at: <http://InsuringSuccess.org>.

The CD is a result of collaboration between extension specialists at the University of WY and Montana State University, as well as the WY Farm Bureau, WY Stock Growers Assn., the WY Crop Improvement Assn. and University of Wyoming's Profitable and Sustainable Agriculture initiative team.

This grant-funded project was undertaken with you and your operation in mind and represents considerable resources expended to provide you with the latest information on risk management alternatives.

Attention all Buyers of Agricultural Products

It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's Office to determine if there are liens against the Seller of the product. If a lien is found you are required to place the lien holders name on the check as well as that of the Seller. Ag Products include but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc.), machinery, equipment and all other crops. **Failure to place the lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the Buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a buyer!** You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at 1-307-777-7311.

2007 NAP Deadline Approaching

Coverage on 2007 NAP crops is now available for purchase through Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) and by Federal Crop Insurance.

Crop coverage under NAP will be limited to:

Grass Hay crops
Small Grains planted for hay
Small Grains not covered by FCIC

Crop coverage available under Federal Crop Insurance include:

Small Grains intended for grain
Alfalfa & Alfalfa/Grass mix hay
Native range
Improved pasture intended for grazing

Any crop insurable by FCIC will not be covered by the NAP program, therefore, native range coverage and coverage on grazed improved pasture policies will need to be purchased from FCIC.

Deadlines for purchase of 2007 crop coverage:

NAP DEADLINES FOR 2007

Grass Hay and fall seeding for grain hay (<i>including all Wheat, Winter & Spring</i>)	December 1, 2006
Fall seeding for grain not covered by RMA	December 1, 2006
Spring seeding for grain hay	April 1, 2007
Spring grains not covered by RMA (ie: millet, triticale)	April 1, 2007

RMA (FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION)

Rangeland and grazed crops	September 30, 2006
Fall seeded grains	September 30, 2006
Alfalfa, alfalfa grass mix and grass mix alfalfa hay	September 30, 2006
Spring seeded grains	March 15, 2007

Power of Attorney for DCP/eLDP

FSA now has the ability to establish a representative role for an individual to submit electronic eLDP and DCP applications on behalf of an owner or producer. The individual entitled to act for the owner or producer must have an unlimited power of attorney on file with the Farm Service Agency. Producers or individuals having unlimited power of attorney can request eLDP/DCP access at their local FSA office

Electronic LDP Service Available

If you are connected to the Internet, you can apply from home for an Electronic Loan Deficiency Payment, or eLDP, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and receive approval and payment by direct deposit within 48 hours.

To participate in the service, you must meet all eligibility requirements for marketing assistance loans and LDPs for the commodity.

The voluntary eLDP service has stringent security measures to protect your private information.

You must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires an e-mail address and filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/> followed by a visit to the county office for identity verification.

Acreage Spot Check Determinations and Notification

Each year the Farm Service Agency completes spot checks of acreage reports. Acreage reports are the basis for delivery of many farm programs. Acreage spot checks are completed to ensure accurate acreage reports are used for farm programs.

FSA will spot check acreages on over 10 percent of the farms in each county. Color imagery flown in August 2006 will be used to complete all acreage determinations.

All 2006 acreage spot checks will be completed using the FSA Geographic Information System official acreages. After farms are spot checked, a Notice of Determined Acreage will be sent to the farm operator.

Producer notifications will be issued by FSA as spot checks are completed. Questions concerning determined acres should be directed to your local FSA office for clarification.



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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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The Wyoming Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources and quality of life.

NEWS RELEASE

WDA Announces Sign-up for Livestock Drought Assistance

CHEYENNE – Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) Director John Etchepare announced the availability of the Livestock Drought Assistance Program. Beginning today, beef cattle and sheep producers who meet program criteria can apply by self-certifying their herd numbers and drought-related expenses to the WDA.

“We encourage livestock producers in the 13 eligible counties to take advantage of the drought program,” says Etchepare. “We hope this assistance will help during these dry times.”

Through the program, WDA will distribute \$1.6 million to aid beef cattle and sheep producers whose forage was adversely impacted by the 2006 drought. The funding is part of a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) drought assistance package announced in August. USDA asked Wyoming to distribute the livestock assistance grant money.

“Livestock producers must complete the self-certification application and the WOLFS 109 form to enroll,” says Matt Hoobler, Sr. Policy Analyst for the WDA. “Our deadline is December 15, 2006 and we encourage producers not to wait until the day before to enroll.”

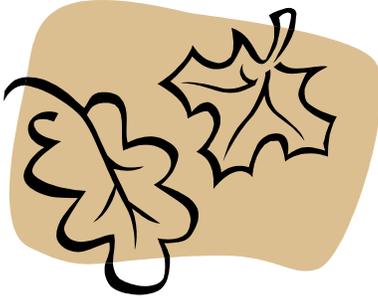
The two-page application requests self-certification of herd numbers and drought-related livestock expenses. Once the application period closes, the number of eligible livestock certified to WDA will be calculated and the \$1.6 million will be prorated on a per-head basis.

On November 9, 2006, the Self-Certification Application will be mailed to livestock producers in the 13 eligible counties. Eligible counties include Big Horn, Campbell, Carbon, Crook, Fremont, Hot Springs, Johnson, Laramie, Natrona, Park, Sheridan, Sweetwater, and Washakie. Applications are available online at: <http://wyagric.state.wy.us/natres/nagp.htm>

Producers will not receive any follow-up mail or receipt for returning an application.

If you do not receive an application through the mail, application forms will also be available at the Campbell County FSA Office.

Producers with questions are encouraged to contact the WDA at 307-777-5124. Due to the high volume of calls, the staff will attempt to return calls within 48 hours.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

November 1, 2006 – Deadline to apply for TTPP for 2007
November 3, 2006 – Ballots mailed for County Committee Election
November 10, 2006 - County Office Closed – Veteran’s Day Holiday
November 23, 2006 - County Office Closed – Thanksgiving Day Holiday
December 4, 2006 – Last day to return completed county committee election ballots
December 13, 2006 – Holiday Open House 2:00 – 4:00 pm
December 15, 2006 – Deadline to apply for Livestock Assistance Grant Program
December 25, 2006 - County Office Closed – Christmas Day Holiday

IMMEDIATELY --File Notification of Loss Forms within 15 Days of Loss
 --Notify County office of any changes in Direct Deposit information,
 --Payment limitation changes, Farm records changes, etc.

Any time --CRP Continuous Signup
 --Paid measurement services from FSA

Office Hours are from 8:00am to 4:30pm. Producers are urged to call for an appointment, so the office staff can assist you timely. Due to the computer environment, some applications/processes are unable to be completed after 4:00pm.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above dates or information in this newsletter, please contact the County office for more information (307) 682-8843, ext.2.

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