



Goshen County FSA Newsletter August 2007

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FSA Home Page
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2007 DCP Sign-up Continues

County offices will accept late-filed 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP) applications through Sept. 30, 2007. A late filing fee of \$100/farm will apply and must be paid at the time of application.

USDA computes DCP payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2007, eligible producers may request to receive direct advance payments based on **22 percent** of the direct payment rate for each commodity associated with the farm. Final direct payments are scheduled to be issued in October 2007. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price (which takes into account the direct payment rate, market price and loan rate) for a commodity is below its target price.

For more information, contact this office.

NAP Reminder

Concerning Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policies, in the event of a crop failure caused by natural disaster, the producer needs to notify the local FSA office by completing a "Notice of Loss" (form CCC-576). The notice of loss must be executed within 15 days of the date the damage became apparent. Failure to timely report the loss could result in loss of benefits.

Applications for 2008 NAP coverage on perennial crops and fall seeded crops must be made by December 1, 2007.

2007 County Committee Election Information

This year's election in Goshen County covers LAA 1, the north part of the county. We have 3 candidates running for this position:

- Linda Nichol
- Edward Petersen
- Harold Thomas

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters around November 2. Instructions for voting will be included. December 3 is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office. Please take some time to vote and select your representative on the County Committee.

Newly elected committee members and alternates take office Jan.1, 2008.

Emergency Haying/Grazing of CRP

Goshen County has been approved to implement Emergency Haying & Grazing of CRP for 2007. This authorization is based on ongoing drought conditions causing shortages of livestock feed. Basic details of this authorization:

1. First and foremost, the CRP participant must apply for this provision and be approved to do so prior to haying or grazing the CRP. The participant will need to meet first with FSA for application and then with NRCS to complete a haying or grazing plan.
2. Once approved, haying or grazing can begin immediately. Grazing must end the sooner of when the grazing plan calls for, or December 6, 2007. Haying must be completed by October 7, 2007 and all hay must be removed by November 6, 2007.
3. For grazing, at least 25% of each field or contiguous CRP field must be left ungrazed for wildlife; or, the participant may elect to graze at no more than 75% of the stocking rate, as determined by NRCS.
4. For haying, at least 50% of each field or contiguous fields must be left unhayed for wildlife. Haying is limited to one cutting.
5. CRP annual payments will be reduced by 10% on the acres actually hayed or grazed.
6. CRP participants that do not own livestock are permitted to lease their CRP to an eligible livestock producer for this purpose. In these cases, the person leasing the CRP is required to review and sign paperwork with FSA before approval is made.

For more information, please contact this office.

DCP Erosion and Cover Requirements

If a farm has non-planted cropland that supports DCP base acres, those fields must be protected from wind and water erosion and weed control measures may have to be implemented to assure program compliance.

If erosion problems exist, the County Committee has the authorization to require treatments such as planting a cover crop or emergency tillage.

Weed control on these acres is required to prevent the propagation of weeds. Control measures must be implemented timely to achieve the most effective control of weed growth.

CRP Requirements and Reminders

CRP participants are obligated to maintain the established cover. The annual rental payment includes a maintenance fee (\$5.00 in Wyoming) for this purpose. Participants shall ensure:

- Adequate approved vegetative cover is maintained to control erosion for the period of the contract.
- Compliance with state and local noxious weed laws. If any noxious weeds are found on CRP, you will be referred to the local weed & pest officials to draw up a plan for weed control.
- Control of other weeds as determined by the County Committee.
- That undesirable vegetation, weeds, insects, rodents, etc. that pose a threat to existing cover or adversely impact other landowners in the area are controlled.
- An annual acreage report must be filed to confirm the acres are still being maintained as CRP.

FSA conducts periodic spot checks on CRP to confirm program compliance. Your neighbor also conducts checks, so it is in your best interest to keep on top of things.

Commodity Loans and LDP's

The 2007 commodity loan rates for Goshen County are:

- Wheat-HRS \$2.42/Bu.
- Wheat-HRW \$2.69/Bu.
- Wheat-SWW \$2.39/Bu.
- Corn \$2.03/Bu.
- Barley \$1.85/Bu.
- Oats \$1.30/Bu.
- Canola \$8.34/cwt.
- Sunflower Seed (Oil and Non-oil) \$8.84/cwt.

Eligible producers of these crops can obtain a loan or Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) from FSA. The producer must have beneficial interest in order to receive a loan/LDP. Beneficial interest means the grower has (1) control of the commodity, (2) risk of loss of the commodity, and (3) title of the commodity.

FARM STORED LOAN: An applicant can request either a paid for measured loan or certify the quantity. In either case, a loan for up to 100% production can be made. The commodity must be stored in a structure that can be safely measured and inspected, and be structurally sound. It is the borrower's responsibility to assure the commodity is in good condition and continues to remain so.

WAREHOUSE LOAN: A warehouse grain loan can be obtained through a CCC approved warehouse. The elevator will issue warehouse receipts to the producer, who in turn, gives them over to CCC (FSA) for keeping as security through the life of the loan. The information on the warehouse receipts will be the basis for the loan quantity and loan rate. FSA required the warehouse to provide documentation that the producer has provided for storage charges through the loan maturity date.

LOAN MATURITY DATE: Loans will mature on the last day of the 9th month following application.

LOAN SERVICE FEES: Fees are the smaller of ½ of 1% times the gross loan amount, or \$45/loan plus \$3.00 for each bin or warehouse receipt over one.

INTEREST RATES: Commodity loans will carry the interest rate of the month in which the loan is disbursed through December 31 of each year, at which time the rate will change to the January rate.

LIENS: If any liens on the commodity exist, we require that the lien holder complete a lien waiver form before the loan is issued. CCC requires first lien on any commodity put under loan.

REPAYMENTS: Repayments can be made any time after the loan is disbursed. On farm-stored loans, any quantity can be paid off; however, on warehouse loans, a whole warehouse receipt must be paid off. At the time of repayment, the borrower will pay the lesser of (1) principal plus accrued interest, or (2) the applicable day's Posted County Price (PCP) times the loan quantity. The second option is referred to as a Market Loan Repayment (MLR) and is only available through the maturity date of the loan.

LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENT: A LDP is a payment made to an eligible producer who agrees to forego a loan in return for a direct payment. In order for a LDP to apply, the daily PCP must be below the loan rate for the applicable commodity. FSA currently uses the CCC-633-EZ form for all LDP purposes. It's a one size fits all form you can fill out to indicate your intention to receive loan deficiency payments for all your crops at the beginning of the crop year, long before you've lost beneficial interest. The same form is then used to submit a request for an LDP any time during the loan/LDP availability period before or after losing beneficial interest. For the 2007 crop year, the CCC-633 EZ and eLDP online requests are the only methods available to request LDPs.

Commodities harvested as other than grain (hay, silage) are eligible for LDP. In these cases, you will be required to give us information concerning acreages, bale numbers and weights, load weights, crop appraisal information, and yield estimates.

APPLICATION DEADLINES: The deadline to apply for either a 2007 loan or LDP is:

Wheat, Barley, Oats	March 31, 2008
Corn Sunflowers	May 31, 2008

In addition to the commodities listed above, the following crops are also eligible for LDP's: Wool, Mohair, Small Chickpeas, and Honey.

/s/ Darrell L. Jones-CED

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 FARM SERVICE AGENCY
 GOSHEN COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE
 1441 EAST M. ST. SUITE C
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Dates to Remember	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
Continuous	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Sept. 30, 2007	Final date to apply for 2007 DCP benefits
Dec. 1, 2007	Final date to apply for 2008 NAP coverage on perennials and fall-seeded crops

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