



## Goshen County FSA Newsletter January 16, 2007

Goshen County FSA Office  
1441 East M St. Suite C  
Torrington WY 82240-3521

Phone: (307) 532-4021  
FAX: (307) 532-5783

Office Hours:  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

County Committee:  
Tom Costopoulos  
Stan Speckner  
Larry Mullock  
Linda Nichol

County Executive Director:  
Darrell Jones  
[darrell.jones@wy.usda.gov](mailto:darrell.jones@wy.usda.gov)

Farm Loan Manager:  
Duane Wisroth  
[duane.wisroth@wy.usda.gov](mailto:duane.wisroth@wy.usda.gov)

Office Staff  
Doris Hyatt  
Brian McKenna  
Todd Smith  
Susan Thomas  
Susan Wilson  
Marty Yorges

FSA Home Page  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

USDA Home Page  
[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)

### *2007 DCP Sign-up Continues*

The 2007 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP) began October 1, 2006, and continues until June 1, 2007. Following the June 1, 2007, deadline, USDA will accept late applications through Sept. 30, 2007, with a \$100 late fee. While DCP participants must sign DCP contracts annually, producers can choose not to participate in the program in any given year.

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. USDA will issue DCP advance direct payments beginning Dec. 1, 2006. 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.

### *County Committee Election Results*

Congratulations to Larry Mullock, who was elected to represent farmers from Area 3 on the county committee. The election results for Local Administrative Area 3 are:

Larry Mullock — Elected to the county committee (COC),  
Dean Baker — 1<sup>st</sup> alternate to COC,

FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

The committee members will hold their organizational meeting in January to determine who will serve as the county committee chairman and vice-chairman.

We want to recognize and thank Jim House for serving in this position over the past 3 years.

### *Bank Account Changes*

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA county office staff if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

### *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 holder's 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 (307) 777-7311.

### *Spousal Signatures*

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

## ***Payment Limitations and Producer Eligibility***

Program participants are reminded of the requirements to timely and accurately file payment limitation forms. If you have a change in your farming operation that could affect current determinations, you are required to complete new forms. Payments and benefits of certain programs are subject to:

- Payment limitation
- “actively engaged in farming” requirements
- Cash-rent tenant rule
- Permitted entity restrictions
- Foreign person rule
- Average adjusted gross income limitation

Entities are required to provide names, addresses, and ID numbers of members. The members of entities are required to designate which entities are to receive USDA benefits.

Spouses may be considered as separate “persons” for payment limitation purposes if applicable requirements are met.

Following is a list of applicable programs subject to payment limitation and the limit for each “person for 2007:

<b><i>DCP Direct</i></b>	<b><i>\$40,000</i></b>	<b><i>DCP County Cyclical</i></b>	<b><i>\$65,000</i></b>
<b><i>LDP/Market Gains (total)</i></b>	<b><i>\$75,000</i></b>	<b><i>CRP Annual Rental</i></b>	<b><i>\$50,000</i></b>
<b><i>NAP</i></b>	<b><i>\$100,000</i></b>	<b><i>EQIP (FY 2002-2007)</i></b>	<b><i>\$450,000</i></b>

## ***2007 NAP Coverage Deadline***

April 1, 2007 is the deadline to apply for coverage under the Noninsured Crop Assistance Program (NAP) for 2006 spring seeded crops in Wyoming.

At the time of application, the producer must pay a \$100/crop fee for NAP.

For more information, contact this office.

## ***Foreign Buyers Notification***

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

## ***Controlled Substance***

Any person who is convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium, poppies and other drug producing plants.

## ***Special Accommodations***

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

## ***2007 Wool***

Wool, mohair, and unshorn pelt producers are reminded that the 2007 crop year began as of January 1, 2007. Producers should complete and submit Page 1 of Form 633 EZ to cover themselves for LDP purposes on these commodities. If you have any questions regarding this subject, please contact this office.

## ***Farm Storage Facility Loans***

Low cost loans for storage facilities are available for producers to build or remodel farm storage facilities for a variety of commodities, including small grains, course grains, and oilseeds.

The seven-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, contact your local FSA office.

## ***Continuous CRP***

The Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP) allows landowners to voluntarily enroll acreage in to conservation practices that reduces soil erosion, improves water and soil quality, and provides wildlife habitat and food sources. Eligible landowners enter into 10-15 year contracts in return for receiving annual rental, maintenance, incentive, and cost share payments. Signup can take place anytime during the year. For more information on CCRP, contact this office.

## ***CRP Requirements and Reminders***

CRP participants are obligated to maintain 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 and 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. You neighbor also watches, so it in your best interest to keep on top of things.

Several CRP contracts contain an annual requirement for clipping or light disking 25-35% on fields on a rotational basis. The Goshen County FSA Committee has a policy that this practice must be completed by September 30 each year. We will be randomly checking these contracts to verify compliance. Things to keep in mind concerning this requirement:

- This practice cannot be done between the primary nesting season dates of May 15-July 1.
- We request that you inform this office when the practice is done so we can track completion.
- This requirement is on a per field basis, not on a contract basis. If there are multiple fields in a contract, each field stands on its own.

*/s/ Darrell L. Jones-CED*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY  
GOSHEN COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE  
1441 EAST M. ST. SUITE C  
TORRINGTON WY 82240

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of Discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.