

NORTH DAKOTA FSA NEWS

January 2012



Happy New Year!

Our mission at the Farm Service Agency is to equitably serve all farmers, ranchers, and agricultural partners through the delivery of effective, efficient agricultural programs for all Americans. This can only be done through a constant effort to communicate to all of you. As electronic communication technologies advance and operating budgets get smaller, the Farm Service Agency will use this monthly newsletter to communicate to you about important dates and information. Your comments are appreciated. Have a great 2012,

Aaron Krauter
State Executive Director

USDA Establishes Advisory Board for Native American Farmers and Ranchers

USDA is establishing a special advisory board to help USDA officials ensure Native Americans participate in and benefit from USDA programs. The board is being put in place as part of the Keepseagle settlement.

The Council for Native American Farming and Ranching will work closely with the Office of Tribal Relations, Farm Service Agency and other USDA agencies to improve the success of Native farmers and ranchers who access USDA's entire portfolio of programs to build and achieve profitability in their businesses.

All nominations for advisory board membership should be sent by January 20, 2012 to: Thomas Vilsack, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC, 20250, Attn: Council for Native American Farmers and Ranchers. Send comments to the Office of Tribal Relations, 500A Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC 20250.

LIP and ELAP Deadline

Producers who filed timely notices of loss for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) must sign the program application and provide supporting documentation by January 30, 2012. These programs cover 2011 losses because of adverse weather events that occurred before October 1, 2011. [More information on disaster programs...](#)

Marketing Assistance/Loan Deficiency Payments

The final loan/LDP Availability Date for 2011 Crop wool and unshorn pelts is January 31, 2012. [More information on Price Support programs, including Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments...](#)

2012 DCP and ACRE Signup

The 2012 DCP and ACRE program signup has been announced to start January 23, 2012. Producers will have until June 1, 2012, to enroll into and provide owners signatures for the 2012 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP) and elect Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program.

[More information about DCP and ACRE...](#)

2011 ACRE Program – Farm Benchmark Yield Update

Producers who have a 2011 Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program contract on one or more FSA farms, must complete the FSA-658 (Record of Production & Yield) for each ACRE farm

and each covered commodity planted in 2011 by not later than July 15, 2012. Production evidence that can be used to support the certified yields can be from the following sources:

- Crop Insurance loss records
- Sales records (buyer specific)
- Crop Insurance APH data base records
- Farm stored production records, appraisals

Form CCC-1099-G for 2011 Tax Year

Producers annually receive CCC-1099-Gs detailing payments producers have received from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on CCC-1099-Gs is a service intended to help our customers report taxable income and does not replace the producers' responsibilities to report income to IRS. CCC-1099-G mailing will occur in late January 2012. Customer financial information including refund information, program payment amounts, and prior year CCC-1099 information is conveniently online through the FSA "Financial Inquiries" database at https://saltlake.sc.egov.usda.gov/padesign/public/financial_reports.asp.

Preventing Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

The Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency are partners in preventing fraud, waste and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program. FSA has been, and will continue to, assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. In addition, FSA will refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse to RMA.

Producers can report suspected cases to the county office staff, RMA or the Office of the Inspector General.

Need Help Planting a Crop?

Call Farm Rescue, the nonprofit organization that plants and harvests crops for family farmers who have experienced a major injury, illness or natural disaster. Up to 1,000 acres planted free of charge. Go to farmrescue.org or call 701-252-2017 for an application. Priority is given to applications received by April 15.

January Loan and Interest Rates

Operating Loans - 1.50%
Farm Ownership Loans - 3.50%
Farm Ownership - Down Payment Loans - 1.50%
Emergency Operation Loans - 1.50%
Farm Storage Facility Loan, 7-Year - 1.375%
Farm Storage Facility Loan, 10-Year - 2.000%
Farm Storage Facility Loan, 12-Year - 2.250%

Important Dates to Remember

1/2/2012 - Offices Closed for New Years
1/16/2012 - Offices Closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr Day
1/20/2012 - Nomination deadline for Native American Farming and Ranching Council members
1/23/2012 - DCP and ACRE Signup begins
1/30/2012 - LIP/ELAP Application deadline
1/31/2012 - Final Loan Availability date for wool/unshorn pelts

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