



# NEWSLETTER



## April 2013

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### Dates to Remember

**May 1, 2013** - Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claim Process Deadline

**May 31, 2013** - Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) and Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) Final Availability Date for corn, soybeans, etc. click [here](#) for list of the crops

**June 3, 2013** - Deadline for ACRE Sign-Up

**June 7, 2013** - Deadline for 2011 SURE Program Sign-Up

**July 15, 2013** - Acreage Reporting Deadline for all spring seeded 2013 Crops and CRP; Deadline for 2012 ACRE Production Reports; and Deadline to Report 2012 NAP Production Evidence

**August 1, 2013** - Deadline to Request a Farm Reconstitution for 2013

**August 2, 2013** - Deadline for DCP Sign-up

**September 30, 2013** - Deadline for MILC Sign-up

## Nebraska State FSA Office Quarterly Updates

### Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General Signup

FSA will be conducting CRP general signup 45 on **May 20 - June 14, 2013**. General signup means entire fields can be offered under a competitive bid process. There are several options to enhance your offer to become more competitive such as improved wildlife habitat and pollinators. The offers will be ranked so the highest ranked offers will be accepted.

The financial benefits of CRP are annual rental payments will be provided for the length of the CRP contract (10-15 years) and cost share will be provided to assist with the establishment of the resource conserving cover. The environmental benefits are immense including erosion control, water quality, and wildlife enhancement.

FSA is in the process of updating soil rental rates and cost share rates to more accurately reflect the markets for both.

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### DCP/ACRE Signup Underway

FSA County Offices are currently enrolling producers into the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE). DCP and ACRE participants must report all farming operation changes to FSA to ensure contracts are accurate. All participants have the option to make a new farm specific election for the 2013 program year. **The deadline to elect and enroll into ACRE is June 3rd. It's important for all producers to evaluate the ACRE/DCP decision before this deadline.** Based upon currently published NASS yields, it appears that substantial ACRE revenue payments may be earned on certain 2012 non-irrigated crops. UNL Extension Educators are available to assist in this analysis for 2013. Additional information is available at [www.agecon.unl.edu/farmbill](http://www.agecon.unl.edu/farmbill), or your FSA County Office.

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### Report 2013 Planted Acres

Once planting is finished, be sure to visit your local FSA and submit a report of your 2013 acreage. Acreage reports are required to maintain eligibility for multiple program benefits. It's important to provide accurate information regarding crops, intended uses, producer shares and irrigation practice. In addition, this information should be consistent between FSA and your crop insurance provider. All spring-seeded crops have a reporting deadline of July 15, 2013. Prevented planted acres must be reported within 15 days of the final planting date. Failed acres must be reported before disposition of the crop.

### **FSA Interest Rates**

Farm Operating: 1.375%

Farm Ownership: 3.5%

Farm Ownership-Down Payment:  
1.5%

Emergency – Actual Loss:  
2.375%

Microloans: 1.375%

Farm Storage Facility Loan 7 year  
term: 1.375%

Farm Storage Facility Loan 10  
year term: 2.0%

Farm Storage Facility Loan 12  
year term: 2.25%

Commodity Loans: 1.125%

## **Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Production Evidence**

If you had 2012 NAP Coverage, you must provide acceptable production evidence by the subsequent year's acreage production date. When you make your appointment to report your 2013 acreages to FSA, take your 2012 NAP production evidence for NAP crops with you to the FSA office. If you filed a Notice of Loss for the 2012 crop, you probably already provided the required information. For more information contact your FSA office to find out.

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## **FSA Farm Loans Available to Assist Producers Impacted by Drought**

FSA has the following Farm Loan Programs available to assist producers impacted by the continuing 2013 drought:

- Direct Operating (OL), Emergency (EM) Loans, and also Guaranteed Operating and Farm Ownership Loans. These loan programs can be considered to replace working capital, refinance farm-related debts or to finance the purchase of livestock feed needed due to lost grazing capacity.
- The Disaster Set-Aside Program allows existing FSA direct borrowers who are unable to make their FSA payment to be considered for a set-aside of the FSA payment to help the borrower recover from the disaster.
- FSA Primary Loan Servicing Programs can be used by existing FSA direct loan borrowers who are unable to make their scheduled payments due to the disaster. These loan servicing options include: rescheduling, reamortization, consolidation, deferral or write-down of the FSA debt.

For more information, contact your local FSA office or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

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## **Drought Secretarial Disaster Designations**

Eighty-nine counties in Nebraska received a Primary Secretarial Disaster Designation due to drought. At this time Nuckolls, Nemaha, Pawnee, and Richardson did not receive the designation. These four counties are contiguous to disaster designated counties. Primary designated counties and contiguous counties are eligible for disaster assistance programs. Contact your local FSA Office or visit our website ([www.fsa.usda.gov/ne](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ne)) for more information.

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## **Earth Day – The Face of Climate Change**

America has resilient and resourceful farmers and ranchers who keep the earth healthy. It is a good day to value our contributions as farmers and ranchers; a good day to be thankful, too, for each of our planetary resources that make things grow. On April 22, 2013, celebrate the contributions we make through agriculture to care for the earth around in the face of climate change.

For more information about the Earth Day initiative, visit: [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org)

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## **GovDelivery – Electronic Notice of FSA Information**

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices are moving toward a paperless operation. Producers are asked to enroll in the new GovDelivery system which will provide notices, newsletters and electronic reminders instead of a hard copy through the mail.

FSA, like many other organizations, is trying to work smarter and be more efficient. Moving to electronic notifications via email will help conserve resources and save taxpayer dollars. County Committee ballots will continue to be mailed to all eligible producers.

Producers can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>.

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).