



NEWSLETTER



July 2013

Nebraska State FSA Office

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State Executive Director

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Dates to Remember

August 1, 2013 - Deadline for:
Requesting 2013 Farm
Reconstitution; COC Election
Nominations

August 2, 2013 - Deadline for:
DCP Sign-up; Acreage Reporting
Deadline for all spring seeded
2013 Crops and CRP; Report
2012 NAP Production

August 31, 2013 - Deadline for:
Emergency CRP Haying

September 30, 2013 - Deadline
for: MILC Sign-up; Emergency
CRP Grazing; Designate Payment
Acres for ACRE

FSA Interest Rates

Farm Operating: 1.25%
Farm Ownership: 3.25%
Farm Ownership-Down Payment:
1.5%
Emergency – Actual Loss: 2.25%
Microloans: 1.25%
Farm Storage Facility Loan
(FSFL) 7 year term: 1.5%
FSFL 10 year term: 2.125%
FSFL 12 year term: 2.375%
Commodity Loans: 1.125%

Nebraska State FSA Office Quarterly Updates

CRP Emergency Haying and Grazing

Fifty-four counties are authorized for emergency haying and grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for 2013 due to drought conditions. Emergency haying and grazing for 2013 began July 16, 2013. Interested producers must request prior approval and obtain a modified conservation plan from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Producers should contact their local FSA Office for their county's eligibility. The deadlines are: Haying-August 31; Grazing-September 30.

Reporting NAP Crop Losses

Participants in Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must file a timely notice of loss. To be eligible, notify your local county FSA Office of any crop loss or damage: within 15 days of the event; the loss became apparent; FSA normal harvest date; or final planting date for prevented planting acres. Acres destroyed prior to harvest must be inspected prior to destruction to remain eligible for NAP assistance.

Livestock Losses

The future farm bill could provide funding for livestock disasters occurring now. For an applicant to be eligible for payment they must provide acceptable proof of death for the livestock. Documenting livestock losses prior to disposal is critical for program benefits. Contact your local FSA Office for guidance on acceptable types of verifiable records, reliable records, and third party certification that may be needed when applying for livestock disaster programs or go to, http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/lip2011_158c020211.pdf

DCP/ACRE Sign-up

Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) signup is open until August 2, 2013. The 2013 Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) sign-up period ended on June 3rd. Signatures for all participants sharing in the base acres must be submitted by the applicable deadlines. Signatures for participants with an interest in the farm, but no share of the base acres, may be submitted after the deadline, but prior to issuance of payments. Changes in interest to a previously enrolled 2013 DCP or ACRE contract must be reported and revised, before September 30, 2013. Contact the FSA county office for more information, or an appointment to enroll.

DCP/ACRE Program Reminders

Conservation Reserve Program acres expiring in 2013 may be eligible for reinstatement/enrollment in DCP/ACRE. Contact your local FSA Office to determine whether these conditions apply in specific cases.

Planting of fruits and vegetables (FAV's) on base acres enrolled in DCP/ACRE is prohibited. The commodity may be destroyed before harvest with FSA verification. Exceptions apply with farm/producer history of planting FAV's. Contact your local FSA Office for additional information if you planted FAV's in 2013.

Report ACRE Production Evidence and Designate Payment Acres

Producers who participated in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) for 2012 are required to submit their annual production reports to FSA by the final acreage reporting date. Production reports are required for each covered commodity for which an acreage report of planted acres greater than zero was filed. Production evidence substantiating the report must be retained for 3 crops years after the year the production is initially certified.

For 2013, if the total planted and considered planted acres of all covered commodities on a farm exceed the total base acres, participants may choose the commodity and number of acres that may be eligible for an ACRE payment. The CCC-528, Designation of Payment Acres, must be filed by September 30, 2013.

Acreage Certification

Producers are encouraged to certify their 2013 acreages with FSA. Reporting crops and land uses can prevent loss of program benefits. All acres of: spring seeded crops; Conservation Reserve Program; and prevented planted crops; must be reported by August 2, 2013. This includes reporting all prevented planted and failed acreage. Producers should also report any fall seeded or perennial crops.

Failed acres must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and prior to disposition of the crop. NAP crops harvested prior to August 2, must be reported 15 calendar days prior to harvest or grazing. Acreage reports must reflect accurate crop types, acreages, uses and irrigation practices. Contact your local FSA Office for an appointment.

2013 FSA County Committee Elections

Farmers and ranchers may select themselves or others as candidates for election to the county committee. These committees deliver FSA programs, making decision at the local level. Contact your local FSA Office for a nomination form and review of the area up for election. The nomination deadline is August 1st; for more information go to:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=newsroom&subject=landing&topic=cce>

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL)

FSFL provides producers of eligible commodities, low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage, handling or drying facilities. The loan limit is \$500,000 and requires a down payment of 15% with CCC loaning 85% of the net cost. Loan terms vary between 7, 10 or 12 years. Contact your local FSA Office for more information or go to: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/farmstorage_fac_loan.pdf

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>.

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).