

October 2019



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

# BULLETIN

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## Laramie County FSA Updates

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### Laramie County FSA Office

11221A US Hwy 30  
Cheyenne, WY 82009

Phone: 307-772-2314 ext. 2  
Fax: 855-415-3429

### County Executive Director:

Robin B. Hudson

### Farm Loan Manager:

Dixie Mount

### Program Technicians:

Sarah Marquardt  
Karla Warren  
Tamara Morrison

### County Committee:

Theron Anderson  
Dave Bowman

### Laramie County Comments

Happy Fall Laramie County Farmers and Ranchers!

Looking ahead there is a lot going on at our office: Acreage reporting for your fall planted crops needs to be done by November 15th. Please also remember to bring in your production for your Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) crops you had, and be thinking about what coverage level you would like to purchase for this years' crops. Fall seeded crop NAP policies will need to be purchased by December 1st.

Also during crop reporting we will be doing signups for the Marketing Facilitation Program (MFP) and the Agricultural Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Programs (ARC/PLC). The MFP program will take signups through December 6th. ARC/PLC will be taking signups for 2019 through March 15th and for 2020 through June 30th. You also will have the chance to prove up your PLC yield. In order to try to increase your yield; we will need yield information for years 2013-2017.

Organic Cost Share will not be available through the State of Wyoming this year, so please contact our office, if you would like to apply. Funds are on a first come first serve basis. Please see below article for more information.

With the rumors of a rougher winter this year; please remember that we have the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) for weather related losses of

Brian Jacobsen  
Heidi Romsa

livestock. You will need to notify the office of the loss within 30 days of the loss/weather event. Please remember to keep good records/documentation!

### **Next County Committee Meeting: TBD**

Laramie County would also like to welcome our new CED, Robin B. Hudson, to the office. Robin joins us from North Carolina, where she had 25 years of FSA experience, and was on a fifth-generation family farm.

As always; thank you for everything you do!

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## **USDA Accepting Applications to Help Cover Producers' Costs for Organic Certification**

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that organic producers and handlers can apply for federal funds to assist with the cost of receiving and maintaining organic certification through the [Organic Certification Cost Share Program](#) (OCCSP). Applications for fiscal 2019 funding are due Oct. 31, 2019.

OCCSP received continued support through the 2018 Farm Bill. It provides cost-share assistance to producers and handlers of agricultural products for the costs of obtaining or maintaining organic certification under the USDA's National Organic Program. Eligible producers include any certified producers or handlers who have paid organic certification fees to a USDA-accredited certifying agent. Eligible expenses for cost-share reimbursement include application fees, inspection costs, fees related to equivalency agreement and arrangement requirements, travel expenses for inspectors, user fees, sales assessments and postage.

Certified producers and handlers are eligible to receive reimbursement for up to 75 percent of certification costs each year, up to a maximum of \$750 per certification scope, including crops, livestock, wild crops, handling and state organic program fees.

### **More Information**

To learn more about organic certification cost share, please visit the [OCCSP webpage](#), view the [notice of funds availability on the Federal Register](#), or contact your [FSA county office](#). To learn more about USDA support for organic agriculture, visit [usda.gov/organic](http://usda.gov/organic).

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## **Save Time – Make an Appointment with FSA**

Producers are encouraged to call their local FSA office to schedule an appointment to ensure maximum use of their time and to make sure FSA staff is available to tend to their important business needs. Please call your local FSA office ahead of your visit to set an appointment and to discuss any records or documentation that might be needed during your appointment. To find your local FSA office, visit: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>.

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## **Communication is Key in Lending**

Farm Service Agency (FSA) is committed to providing our farm loan borrowers the tools necessary to be a success. A part of ensuring this success is providing guidance and counsel from the loan application process through the borrower's graduation to commercial lending institutions. While it is FSA's commitment to advise borrowers as they identify goals and evaluate progress, it is crucial for borrowers to communicate with their farm loan staff when changes occur. It is the borrower's responsibility to alert FSA to any of the following:

- Any proposed or significant changes in the farming operation;
- Any significant changes to family income or expenses;
- The development of problem situations;
- Any losses or proposed significant changes in security

In addition, if a farm loan borrower cannot make payments to suppliers, other creditors, or FSA on time, contact your farm loan staff immediately to discuss loan servicing options.

For more information on FSA farm loan programs, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

\*Please remember if you will be coming into the office for the release of checks, etc to CALL ahead of time to ensure an FLP staff member is there and will be able to help you.

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Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Robin B. Hudson at 307-772-2314 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).