

April 2013



## Ionia County FSA Updates

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### Ionia County FSA Office **Dates to Remember**

431 Swartz Ct, Ste 300  
Ionia, MI 48846

#### Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

**County Executive Director**  
Jenifer A. Taylor

**Program Technicians**  
William Brandt  
Carolyn Lindberg  
Diana Graef

**County Committee Members**  
Steve Buche  
Jeff Sandborn  
Amanda Powell

**County Committee Advisor**  
Allison Badder

**Farm Loan Manager**  
Paul E. Wagner

**Farm Loan Officer**  
Sara Possehn

**Program Technician**  
Vicki Carr

**May 31st** - Final date to obtain loans on 2012 feed grains and soybeans

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

**June 7th** - Deadline to submit 2011 SURE applications

**June 20th** - Final date to submit a prevented planting claim for corn

**June 30th** - Final date to submit a prevented planting claim for soybeans

**July 15th** - Final crop certification date for all crops (including CRP and GRP), except fall seeded small grains and perennial forage including pasture

**July 15th** - Deadline for reporting 2012 production for enrolled ACRE farms

**July 15th** - Deadline for reporting 2012 NAP crop production

**August 2nd** - Deadline for 2013 DCP Sign-Up

**November 15th** - Final crop certification date for all fall seeded small grains and perennial forage including pasture

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## Acreage Certification

After spring planting, producers should certify their 2013 acreage. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops enrolled in programs other than NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program), acreage reports are to be certified by the November 15th deadline on small grains and the July 15th deadline on all other crops.

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## **Microloans Are Cultivating Big Dreams on a Small Scale**

Microloans are helping small, niche and beginning farmers and ranchers meet their goals. The less burdensome and more simplified loan process allows producers to apply for a maximum of \$35,000 to pay for initial start-up expenses such as hoop houses, essential tools, irrigation, delivery vehicles and annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing and distribution expenses. Producers interested in applying for a microloan should contact Paul Wagner.

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## **Adjusted Gross Income**

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have established an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent is required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to FSA.

This ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-933 to their local FSA County Office to avoid interruption of program benefits. This form may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices.

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## **Farm Record Changes**

June 1, 2013 is the deadline to provide changes to your farm records at the local FSA office for the current crop year. If you are changing your operation entity type, adding or dropping cropland or farms, or adding entities to your operation, contact the FSA county office by June 1.

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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 the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9450, 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).