

October 2013



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## Ionia County FSA Updates

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### Ionia County FSA Office **Report Fall Seeded/Forage Crops NOW**

431 Swartz Ct, Ste 300  
Ionia, MI 48846

Phone: 616-527-2098  
Fax: 855-647-4850

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

The certification date has changed! Producers are required to certify 2014 wheat, previously seeded forage (including alfalfa and mixed hay), and any other fall seeded crops by **November 15, 2013**.

The reporting deadline has been revised to coincide with crop insurance reporting deadlines. Please be aware that the November 15th deadline applies even if you do not carry crop insurance coverage. **If you report these crops after the November 15th deadline you will be assessed a minimum \$46 farm inspection fee.**

**County Executive Director**  
Jennifer 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

**Next County Committee Meeting:**  
December 5, 2013 at 8:00 AM

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### **New FAX Numbers for Ionia Service Center**

Effective immediately, the Ionia County FSA fax number has been changed to (855) 647-4850. The old fax machine and number will be disconnected. Please begin using the new number for all correspondence to FSA.

The new fax number for Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Ionia County Conservation District is (855) 734-1600.

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### **CRP and DCP/ACRE Payments**

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) payments are currently being processed. The majority of these payments have been issued and will be deposited directly into your bank account if they haven't already. Please check with your bank before calling the office.

Direct and Counter Cyclical (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program payments are also being processed. You can expect to see these deposits in the next two weeks. Please note: the payment amount has been reduced by 8.6% due to sequester-related reductions.

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## County Committee Election

Producers in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) #2 which includes Kenne, Boston, Berlin, Campbell, and Odessa Townships will be receiving their County Committee election ballot beginning November 4, 2013. If you do not receive a ballot please contact the Ionia County FSA Office. Completed and **signed** ballots must be returned to the County Office by close of business on December 2, 2013.

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## 2013 Marketing Assistance Loans

At this time we are accepting Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) applications. However, due to sequestration we will not be able to enter and/or approve the loan until software has been revised. FSA is anticipating software will be available sometime in November.

Also, as you start planning for this year's loans please be aware that the gross loan amount will be reduced by 5.1% due to sequestration. For example:

- 10,000 bu. x \$1 (loan rate) = \$10,000 total loan amount.
- \$10,000 total loan amount x 5.1 percent (sequestration reduction) = \$510
- \$10,000 - \$510 = \$9,490 reduced loan amount.
- \$9,490 - \$45 (service fee) = \$9,445 total disbursement amount.
- Principal and interest repayment is computed on the reduced loan amount of \$9,490.

Finally, please keep in mind the changes to the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) which requires FSA to have a copy of your driver's license on file before we can begin processing a loan. For married individuals, a copy of the spouse's driver's license will need to be provided along with the borrower's. You will also need to complete a new CCC-10 form due to the UCC changes.

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## Important Dates to Remember

**November 1** - Deadline for Milk production for October 2008 through September 2013

**November 11** - Office closed to observe Veterans Day

**November 15** - Final date to report your **2014** perennial forage (alfalfa, hay, mixed hay, pasture), fall-seeded wheat, rye and all other fall seeded small grains

**NOTE: Beginning with the November 15, 2013, certification deadline for 2014 crop year perennial forage certifications a late filing fee will be assessed on crops certified after their respective reporting deadline.**

**November 20** - Final date to purchase NAP coverage on asparagus, blueberries, cane berries, cherries, grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, rhubarb and strawberries

**November 28** - Office closed to observe Thanksgiving Day

**December 1** - Final date to purchase NAP coverage on honey and maple sap

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