

March 2014



Grafton County, NH FSA Updates

Topics for March

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Grafton County FSA Office

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8:00 am - 4:30 pm

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New Farm Bill Provides Permanent Livestock Disaster Assistance Programs

The 2014 Farm Bill, formally known as the Agricultural Act of 2014, makes the Livestock Forage Program (LFP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) permanent programs and provides retroactive authority to cover eligible losses back to Oct. 1, 2011.

LFP provides compensation to eligible producers who suffered grazing losses due to drought and fire. LIP provides compensation to livestock producers who suffered livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the Federal Government or protected by Federal law, including wolves and avian predators.

USDA is determined to make implementing the livestock disaster programs a top priority and plans to open program enrollment by April 15, 2014.

As USDA begins implementing the livestock disaster assistance programs, producers should record all pertinent information of natural disaster consequences, including:

- Documentation of the number and kind of livestock that have died, supplemented if possible by photographs or video records of ownership and losses
- Dates of death supported by birth recordings or purchase receipts

Shirley Tullar

Next County Committee Meeting:

May 21, 2014 11:00 am

NH Acting Farm Loan Manager:

Brian Kuper

brian.kuper@vt.usda.gov

Farm Loans:

The Concord Center
10 Ferry St Suite 212
Concord, NH 03301
Phone: 603-223-6003
Fax: 603-223-6030

- Costs of transporting livestock to safer grounds or to move animals to new pastures
- Feed purchases if supplies or grazing pastures are destroyed
- Crop records, including seed and fertilizer purchases, planting and production records
- Pictures of on-farm storage facilities that were destroyed by wind or flood waters
- Evidence of damaged farm land.

Many producers still have questions. USDA is in the process of interpreting Farm Bill program regulations. Additional information will be provided once the enrollment period is announced. In the meantime, producers can review the LIP and LFP Fact Sheets. Thanks for your patience as USDA works diligently to put Farm Bill programs into action to benefit the farmers and ranchers of rural America.

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) Offers Farm Bill Website and Online Overview of Farm Bill Programs

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (the Act), also known as the 2014 Farm Bill, was signed by President Obama on Feb. 7, 2014. The Act repeals certain programs, continues some programs with modifications, and authorizes several new programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Most of these programs are authorized and funded through 2018.

For the latest on 2014 Farm Bill programs administered by FSA, please visit our Farm Bill website at www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill and for an FSA program overview please read, download and/or print our recently posted FSA Farm Bill Fact Sheet titled, What's in the 2014 Farm Bill for Farm Service Agency Customers?

For more information on FSA, please contact Grafton County Service Center or visit us online at www.fsa.usda.gov.

2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 AND 2013 Average Adjusted Gross Income Compliance Review

The AGI verification and compliance reviews for 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 are conducted on producers who the IRS indicates may have exceeded the adjusted gross income limitations described in [7 CFR 1400.500]. Based on this review, producers will receive determinations of eligibility or ineligibility.

If the producer is determined to have exceeded the AGI limitation of \$500,000 of nonfarm income, \$750,000 of farm income, \$1 million of conservation program benefits or the \$1 million total AGI, then receivables will be established for payments earned directly or indirectly by the producer subject to the applicable limitation.

The New Hampshire FSA State Office will begin notifying producers selected for review. If you have any questions about the review process or determination, please contact the New Hampshire FSA State Office at 603-224-7941. Producers who receive initial debt notification letters may only appeal the amount of the debt to their local FSA office. Adverse determinations become administratively final if not timely appealed and can only be reopened if exceptional circumstances exist that prevented the producer from timely filing the appeal.

Selected Interest Rates for March 2014

Farm Operating Loans (including Microloans) Direct 2.25%
Farm Ownership Loans- Direct 4.25%
Farm Ownership- Direct, Joint Financing 2.50%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment 1.50%
Emergency Loan- 3.25%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (7 years)- 2.125%

Dates to Remember

April 15, 2014 - Signup begins for Livestock Indemnity Program, Livestock Forage Program
May 21, 2014 - COC Meeting 11:00 am
May 26, 2014 - Memorial Day Federal Holiday (Office Closed)
May 31, 2014 - Acreage reporting deadline for ornamental nurseries

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. 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).