

SERVICE CENTER NEWS

Campbell County Wyoming

July 2009

Farm Service Agency County Committee

307-682-8843, ext. 2
Rex Brown, Chairman
Lee Isenberger, Vice-Chairman
Amanda Sorenson, Member

Natural Resources Conservation Services

307-682-8842, ext. 3
Tim Kellogg, District Conservationist
Erika Peckham, Habitat Extension Biologist

Campbell County Conservation District

307-682-1824
Michelle Cook, District Manager
Debbie Hepp, Program Assistant
Crystal Kellebrew, Admin. Assistant

Office Staff, ext 2

Susan Kramer, CED
Claudette Vander Voort, PT
Peggy Seppala, PT
Judy Bishop, PT
Rob Weppner, FLM
Stefanie Cowen, FLOT

District Board Members

Wanda Burget
Travis Hakert
Jason Oedekoven
Brenda Schladweiler
Richard VanCampen

Agriculture Secretary Vilsack Announces New Livestock Indemnity Program

WASHINGTON, July 7, 2009 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that eligible ranchers and livestock producers can begin applying for benefits under the provisions of the Livestock Indemnity Program in the 2008 Farm Bill on July 13.

"This program will provide livestock producers with a vital safety net to help them overcome the damaging financial impact of natural disasters," said Vilsack.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from disaster. Using funds from the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund established under section 902 of the Trade Act of 1974, the program is administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011.

The following table provides the final dates to file a notice of loss and/or application for payment for either 2008 or 2009 livestock losses.

Date of Livestock Death	Final Date to File a Notice of Loss	Final Date to Submit an Application for Payment
Calendar Year 2008	Sept. 13, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009
Jan.1, 2009 to July 12, 2009	Sept. 13, 2009	Jan. 30, 2010
July 13, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2009	30 days after death is apparent	Jan. 30, 2010

Specific provisions for the other supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs authorized by the 2008 Act - the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP) and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) - will be implemented through separate rulemakings and announced at a later date.

For more information on available supplemental disaster assistance programs, please visit your FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

LIP – Livestock Indemnity Program

The Wyoming State FSA Committee will set the normal annual mortality rate. LIP program payments will be paid on eligible livestock death losses, caused by eligible weather events, exceeding this percentage.

Appointments to file applications for the LIP program may be made by calling the County office.

Timely filing of Losses of NAP Crops

Producers are reminded that crop losses, suffering at least a 50% loss on your unit, must be reported as follows: 1) **Within 15 days of the disaster occurrence** or 2) When it is apparent that a loss has occurred. This applies to all crops covered by NAP: grain (not covered by RMA), grain hay and grass hay. Losses filed after the requirements of number 1 & 2 above will be late-filed and may be ineligible for crop loss benefits.

Acreage Reporting Period Deadline Extended

The acreage reporting deadline has been extended to August 14, 2009.

Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP) Signup Deadline Extended

Direct and Counter-cyclical Program sign-up period has been extended to **August 14, 2009**.

When you sign the CCC-509, you agree to:

- comply with highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation provisions on all your land;
- devote acreage equal to the base acreage to an agricultural or conserving use;
- **effectively control noxious weeds and otherwise maintain base acres according to sound agricultural practices;**
- not plant perennial fruits and vegetables or harvest annual FAVs (other than lentils, mung beans, and dry peas) or wild rice on base acres (Exceptions: Double-cropping covered commodities or peanuts with wild rice, fruits, or vegetables shall be permitted in any region in which there is a history of this type of double-cropping.);
- file an acreage report with respect to all cropland on the farm; and
- notify the county office staff when there is a transfer of or change of interest of a producer.

The DCP contracts are not like the old seven-year Production Flexibility Contracts. You must designate shares and sign a new DCP contract each year.

2009 Wheat National Average Loan Rates Announced

The following table shows the 2009 national average loan rates for wheat by class:

WHEAT CLASS	2009 National Average Loan Rate (per Bushel)
Durum	\$4.46
Hard Red Spring (HRS)	\$3.33
Hard Red Winter (HRW)	\$2.58
Soft Red Winter (SRW)	\$1.98
Soft White (SWH)	\$3.02

CRP Cover Maintenance

You are required to maintain your Conservation Reserve Program acres according to the conservation plan you agreed to with the Natural Resources Conservation Service technician. You need to make sure you:

Have adequate approved vegetative cover to control erosion for the contract period
Control weeds and other types of undesirable vegetation
Take control measures outside of the primary nesting season.

Please keep in mind mowing for a cosmetic purpose is prohibited. That is why it is important to review your conservation plan and talk to NRCS if you think undesirable plant species are invading your CRP land.

CROP INSURANCE COMPLIANCE and FARM SERVICE AGENCY

The Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 requires Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency to work together to help prevent waste, fraud and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program. To meet these requirements:

- FSA will assist RMA and insurance providers in monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season.
- FSA will refer suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse about the Federal Crop Insurance program to RMA.
- Producers may report suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse to the local FSA office, RMA office or the Office of Inspector General.
- FSA will assist RMA with auditing claims.

We are currently reconciling 2008 FSA and RMA records. If there are discrepancies between information reported to your crop insurance agent and information reported to FSA, we may be contacting you to determine the reason for the difference.

FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATION DEADLINE NEARS

Producers are reminded that they have until **Aug. 3, 2009**, to nominate eligible candidates to serve on local FSA county committees.

All producers are encouraged to get involved by nominating eligible candidates to serve on county committees.

To be eligible to serve on an FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area in which the person is a candidate.

Producers may also nominate themselves, and organizations representing minority and women may also nominate candidates. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. The form and other valuable information about FSA county committee elections are available online at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=newsroom&subject=landing&topic=cce>. Nomination forms for the 2009 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on **Aug. 3, 2009**.

FSA county committee members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms. Nationwide, there are more than 7,800 farmers and ranchers serving on FSA county committees. Committees consist of three to five members who are elected by eligible local producers.

FSA will mail ballots to producers beginning Nov. 6. The voted ballots are due back to the local county office either via mail or in person by Dec. 7, 2009.

Newly elected committee members and alternates take office Jan. 1, 2009.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CAMPBELL COUNTY SERVICE CENTER
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GILLETTE, WY 82716-4127

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Current – Report LIP livestock losses within 30 days of when losses are apparent

Report NAP crop losses within 15 days of when losses are apparent

August 3, 2009 - Deadline to Nominate candidate for the COC Election

August 14, 2009 – Deadline to complete 2009 DCP Signup

August 14, 2009 – Final day to file 2009 Acreage reports

Sept 7, 2009 – County Office Closed – Labor Day Holiday

Sept 13, 2009 – Final day to submit application for LIP Payments on Calendar year 2008 Livestock losses

Sept 13, 2009 – Final day to submit application for LIP Payments on Livestock losses from Jan 1 through July 12, 2009

IMMEDIATELY --File Notification of Loss Forms within 15 Days of Loss

--Notify County office of any changes in Mailing Addresses, Direct Deposit information, changes to Trusts, LLC's, Payment limitation changes, Farm records changes including leases and ownership, etc.

Any time

--CRP Continuous Signup

--Paid measurement services from FSA

Office Hours are from 8:00am to 4:30pm. Producers are urged to call for an appointment, so the office staff can assist you timely. Due to the computer environment, some applications/processes are unable to be completed after 4:00pm.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above dates or information in this newsletter, please contact the County office for more information (307) 682-8843, ext.2.

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