



NEWSLETTER



SERVICE CENTER NEWS

Campbell County Wyoming

APRIL 2011

Farm Service Agency

County Committee

307-682-8843, ext. 2

Lee Isenberger, Chairperson
David C Reed, Regular Member
Amanda Sorenson, Vice-Chairperson

Office Staff, ext 2

Susan Kramer, CED
Claudette Vander Voort, PT
Peggy Seppala, PT
Judy Bishop, PT
Rob Weppner, FLM
Darla Rhodes, COT

Natural Resources

Conservation Services

307-682-8842, ext. 3

Tim Kellogg, District Conservationist
Erika Peckham, Habitat Extension Biologist
Tyrel West, Civil Engineer

Campbell County

Conservation District

307-682-1824

Michelle Cook, District Manager
Debbie Hepp, Program Assistant
Crystal Kellebrew, Admin. Assistant

District Board Members

Richard Bonine, Jr
Travis Hakert
Jason Oedekoven
Brenda Schladweiler
Richard VanCampen

2011 Acreage Reports

Now is the time to complete 2011 acreage reports. We are again asking that you call the office for an appointment to report your acres.

Remember to inspect your hay fields to determine whether enough alfalfa exists to make the crop insurable. Reporting your acres incorrectly could result in losing or refunding benefits.

The deadline for filing this year's acreage report is July 1, 2011. **Call the FSA Office to schedule an appointment.**

DCP Signup Deadline Approaching!

Signup for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues until **June 1, 2011**.

Contracts have been mailed. If you have not completed and returned yours, please do so immediately. If you have not received your contract, please call the FSA Office,

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

Losses of livestock due to adverse weather **must** be reported to the FSA office the **earlier of 30 days of when the loss is apparent or Oct, 31, 2011** by filing a Notice of Loss application. A Notice of Loss filed must be finalized by completing an Application for Payment by January 30 of the next year.

Applications for livestock losses require documentation of beginning and ending inventory, records showing the date of death for normal death loss and documenting losses due to the weather event, along with records showing the number of livestock in inventory on the date of the weather event. Beginning and ending inventory require third party verification, such as, vet records, loan documents, shipping records, brand inspections, etc.

SURE Signup

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) began Jan. 10, 2011. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. For SURE, all crops must be covered by crop insurance, NAP or be eligible for waivers. SURE signup ends July 29, 2011.

A farm enrolled in SURE is eligible when either:

- a portion of the farm is located in a county covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration (USDA Secretarial Declarations only) or a contiguous county; or,
- actual production is less than 50% of the normal production.

2011 Wool, Mohair & Pelt Loans or LDP's Sign-Up

Producers have until **January 31, 2012** to request a 9 month Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) or agree to forego the loan for a Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) on their Wool, Mohair or Unshorn Pelts for 2011 crop year. A CCC-633 EZ Loan Deficiency Payment Agreement must be filed before beneficial interest is lost on a commodity. After this agreement is completed a producer may request an LDP on the date beneficial interest is lost or the date of delivery to a storage facility or stored at home where beneficial interest is maintained. Eligible producers of unshorn pelts may also apply for Loan Deficiency Payments. An unshorn pelt is defined as the removed skin and attached wool from a slaughtered lamb that has never been shorn. To be eligible for an LDP for unshorn pelts, producers must have owned the unshorn lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter and sell the unshorn lamb for immediate slaughter. Immediate slaughter is considered slaughter of the lamb within a 7 to 10 day period, after the loss of beneficial interest. Eligible producers are considered to have lost beneficial interest on the date of delivery or the date of the receipt of payment, whichever comes earliest. The completion of a CCC-633EZ LDP Agreement is also required on unshorn pelts before beneficial interest is lost.

The FSA office is accepting page 1 of the CCC-633EZ, Loan Deficiency Payment Agreement for 2011. These forms were mailed out to producers and must be completed prior to loss of beneficial interest as explained above. If you did not receive this form in the mail, please contact the FSA office.

MAL and LDP requests for 2011 graded and ungraded wool, mohair and unshorn pelts will be accepted through January 31, 2012.

Note:

- Unshorn pelts are eligible for LDP only.
- Wool Loan, Loan Repayment and LDP rates are announced weekly on graded and ungraded wool/mohair. Rates may be viewed at the internet site:
http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/mktpriclean2.xls.

Dates for CRP General Signup Announced

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has set general signup for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to begin on March 14, 2011, and continue through April 15, 2011. During the signup period, farmers and ranchers may offer eligible land for CRP's competitive general signup at their county Farm Service Agency (FSA) office.

Land currently not enrolled in CRP may be offered in this signup provided all eligibility requirements are met. Additionally, current CRP participants with contracts expiring this fall may make new contract offers. Contracts awarded under this signup are scheduled to become effective Oct. 1, 2011.

As administrator of the Conservation Reserve Program, FSA will evaluate and rank eligible CRP offers using an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) that assists in calculating the environmental benefits to be gained from the contract. The EBI consists of five environmental factors (wildlife, water, soil, air and enduring benefits). Cost factors are also entered into the equation.

In addition to the general sign-up, FSA's CRP Continuous Sign-up Program is ongoing. Continuous acres represent the most environmentally desirable and sensitive land. For more information, visit www.fsa.usda.gov and view *Conservation Programs*.

Notice to Hispanic and/or Women Farmers or Ranchers

Compensation for claims of discrimination – If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: www.farmerclaims.gov

The claims packet will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.

Farm Record Changes

June 1, 2011 is the deadline to provide changes to your farm records at the local FSA office for the 2011 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.

Hay Net – Your No-Cost Online Buying and Selling Market

Hay Net is a free, online hay locator service on the FSA website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet>. Producers who want to buy or sell hay can post their ads at no charge to make connections. Hay Net is a popular site for farmers and ranchers who have an emergency need, such as the one caused by the current extreme winter conditions. Individual ads can be posted by producers after completing a simple online registration form.

County Office Committee (COC) Election process begins

COC elections provide farmers and ranchers the opportunity to represent producers in their community by running for a seat on FSA COC.

The 2011 COC election will be held in Local Administrative Area 3 (LAA 3). LAA 3 includes all Campbell County producers south of Interstate 90.

All county producers are encouraged to run for election to the COC by submitting a nomination form (FSA-669A) for themselves or other eligible candidate. The nomination period ends August 1, 2011. Nomination forms are available at any Farm Service Agency office or the internet web site noted below.

Election ballots will be mailed to producers in the LAA holding the current year election. Ballots will be mailed no later than Nov 4, 2011. Voters are strongly encouraged to return ballots after having selected the candidate of their choice.

Additional election information, Nomination forms (FSA-669A's) and fact sheets are available at the Internet web site <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>

Direct and Guaranteed Loans

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,119,000. Producers are encouraged to apply early so a loan can be processed in a timely manner.

FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Beginning and Limited Resource Loans

FSA has a program to assist beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more that 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's median size.

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements. Loan approval is not guaranteed.

Additional program information is available at the local USDA Service Center or visit www.fsa.usda.gov and www.nrcs.usda.gov .

Join USDA and FSA in celebrating Earth Day 2011

April 22 marks Earth Day 2011. In recognition of the power of millions of individual actions, Earth Day 2011 will be organized around A Billion Acts of Green®: Personal, organizational and corporate pledges to live and act sustainably. The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970. The passage of the landmark Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act and many other groundbreaking environmental laws soon followed. The Earth Day Network (EDN) works with over 22,000 partners in 192 countries and more than 1 billion people now participate in Earth Day activities each year, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

For more information about Earth Day, visit www.earthday.org

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CAMPBELL COUNTY SERVICE CENTER
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GILLETTE, WY 82716-4127

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**Next County Committee Meeting – April 6th
April 15, 2011 – CRP General Signup Deadline**

**IMMEDIATELY --File Notification of Loss Forms within 15 Days of Loss of crops
--File Notification of Loss Forms within 30 days of livestock losses due to a weather event**

**--Notify County office of any changes in Direct Deposit information,
--Payment limitation changes, Farm records changes, 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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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”