



# NEWSLETTER



## SERVICE CENTER NEWS

### Campbell County Wyoming

JULY 2012

#### Farm Service Agency County Committee

307-682-8843, ext. 2  
Amanda Sorenson, Chairperson  
Dave Reed, Vice-Chairperson  
Chuck Tweedy, Regular Member

#### Office Staff, ext 2

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

#### Natural Resources Conservation Services

307-682-8842, ext. 3  
Tim Kellogg, District Conservationist  
Katie Nelson, Rangeland Mgmt Specialist  
Tyrel West, Civil Engineer  
Barb Litzinger, Ultima Admin Assistant

#### 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

### Reporting 2012 Losses on Native Grazing and NAP Crops

*If you have NAP coverage on your crops and have suffered a loss due to natural disaster you must file a notice of loss as soon as losses become apparent*

- Prevented planting claims, within 15 calendar days after the final planting date
- Low yield claims and allowable value loss, the earlier of the following:
  - 15 calendar days after the damaging weather or disaster occurrence or date damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent to the producer for low yield claims
  - 15 calendar days after the normal harvest date.

**Losses must be filed prior to tilling or grazing the damaged acres, as an appraisal must be completed to determine your loss and to protect your yield.**

### Emergency Haying and grazing of CRP Acres

Due to severe drought conditions Campbell County has been approved for emergency grazing and/or haying on authorized Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres.

Producers interested in haying and/or grazing CRP must visit the local FSA Office so we can determine if their CRP acres are eligible, and to request approval to hay or graze the eligible acres before beginning. Producers must also obtain a modified Conservation Plan to include haying or grazing requirements, as determined by the Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS). The haying or grazing plan must be site specific. Payment reductions have been reduced to 10% and will apply to all acres approved for haying or grazing.

Please contact the local FSA office for additional information about these special provisions.

### Direct and Counter Cyclical Payments

The 2012 Crop year DCP payments will be made the first part of October.

## **COC Representative Nomination Period Ending**

*The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committee starts with the nomination of eligible candidates.*

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. This form is available at USDA Service Centers and online at: [http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/fsa0669a\\_commiteelectform.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa0669a_commiteelectform.pdf)

Nomination forms for the 2012 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2012.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer's farm records.

## **Loans for the Socially Disadvantaged**

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans to purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, FSA has provided priority funding for socially disadvantaged applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is a member of a group that has been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as a group member without regard to his or her individual qualities.

For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

If producers or their spouses believe they would qualify as socially disadvantaged, they should contact their local FSA office for details. FSA loans are available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

## **NEW 2013 Acreage Reporting Dates**

Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses can prevent loss of many FSA program benefits and is a requirement of many of FSA programs. **Please note the following acreage reporting deadlines:**

Perennial Forage, Perennial Rangeland Forage (PRF), Native Range, Fall Wheat and all other Fall-Seeded Small Grains	<b>November 15, 2012</b>
Honey	January 2, 2013
Established Stand Alfalfa Seed, Fall Alfalfa Seed	January 15, 2013
Spring Alfalfa Seed, Spring Barley, Corn, Forage Seeding, Millet, Spring Oats, Spring Wheat, Sunflowers, and all other crops not listed	July 15, 2013

## **NEW Production Reporting Deadline for 2012 Production**

The deadline for 2012 production and subsequent years is Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> for perennial and fall seeded crops including forage crops. *This only summarizes most crops common to Campbell County. If you don't see your crop here or have questions please call the office.*

## **Quarterly Newsletters**

*The County office newsletters will only be printed and sent out quarterly for the foreseeable future due to budgeting. Please pay special attention to deadlines that effect your operation, as there will not be additional reminders of these dates. The option to receive newsletters by email is available and encouraged. Contact the county office to sign-up for email newsletters.*

## **Over the Counter Channel (OTCnet)**

FSA/CCC is moving toward OTCnet, an electronic method for processing customer check payments. When a check is submitted for payment either in person or through the mail, the check will be converted into an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). The funds will be debited from the producer's account, usually within 24 hours of receipt. Please see the U.S. Department of Treasury legal notices posted in the Service Center or visit the following U.S. Department of Treasury Internet site for detailed information.

<http://fms.treas.gov/otcnet/legal.html>

### **What is OTCnet?**

OTCnet is a Web-based online application process for converting paper checks presented to FSA into electronic debits to the producer's bank account. It presents many benefits, such as reducing lost/misplaced checks and paper handling. This improves customer relations, speeds the check clearing process, and reduces the potential for human error.

### **How will my check be handled?**

The check will be scanned into the system and voided. The customer will not receive the check back from FSA. FSA will hold checks for up to 14 calendar days to ensure that the item was successfully processed, and then FSA will shred the check.

### **How quickly will funds be transferred from my account?**

The transfer of funds from your account could occur within 24 hours. Therefore, you should be sure that you have sufficient funds in your account to process the transaction. If you do **not** have sufficient funds, we may initiate the transaction again.

### **How will this transaction appear on my account statement?**

The transfer of funds will be reflected on your account statement. The transaction may be recorded in a different place on your statement than where your checks normally appear, such as under "other withdrawals" or "other transactions".

### **What are my rights if there is a problem with the transaction?**

You have protections under Federal law for an unauthorized electronic fund transfer from your account. You should contact your financial institution immediately if you believe that the transaction reported on your account statement was not properly authorized or is otherwise incorrect.

## **USDA INVITES MINORITY PRODUCERS TO JOIN USDA MINORITY FARM REGISTER**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) invites minority farmers and ranchers in Campbell County and across the nation to voluntarily join the USDA Minority Farm Register to receive information and opportunities from USDA agencies.

The Register is a shared outreach list that will help USDA, community-based organizations and minority-serving educational institutions to communicate with minority farmers and ranchers.

By joining the Register, minority producers may receive outreach materials, newsletters, and program announcements from USDA agencies. They may also receive information and assistance from other USDA-approved outreach partners, such as community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and minority-serving educational institutions. USDA will carefully control access to and use of the Register.

Individuals wishing to join the Register must sign and date a form that provides their name and address. Providing phone numbers, e-mail address, race, ethnicity, gender and farm or ranch location will be voluntary, although the additional information increases the producer's opportunities for receiving timely assistance.

The Register pamphlet with the registration form is available at the Campbell County USDA Service Center or from approved USDA outreach partners. Completed forms may be mailed to: USDA Minority Farm Register, USDA Stop Code 0503, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250. FSA and USDA's Office of Advocacy and Outreach are jointly administering the Register. Registration forms are available in Spanish (AD-2035SP) and English (AD-2035) on the FSA web site ([www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)) under "Forms".

An individual may remove his or her name from the Register by writing to the Minority Farm Register, USDA Stop Code 0503, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250.

For more information, please contact the Farm Service Agency, STOP 0503, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0503 (Call 1-866-538-2610; Fax: 1-866-302-1760; E-mail: [MSDA@USDA.gov](mailto:MSDA@USDA.gov)).

## **Historical Aerial Photography Available**

The United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency has been collecting aerial photography of the United States for over half a century. These aerial photos were originally collected to support federal farm programs throughout the United States. This historic film is now stored at the USDA's Aerial Photography Field Office (APFO) in Salt Lake City, Utah.

USDA aerial photos are high resolution images taken during the growing season and clearly show features such as roads, buildings, vegetation, trees and waterways. Most of these projects covered entire counties over large parts of the U.S. at least once a decade.

The APFO believes that these historic photos would be of great interest to the general public. Because people seeking evidence of historic land use may inquire at their local FSA Service Center, we are conducting a Public Information Campaign to make the FSA Service Centers aware of the services we provide to the public.

The APFO is able to print or digitally scan these photos for public use. Print photos and scans start as low as \$13.00 each. APFO can also certify their photos for use as evidence in court for a small fee.

Additional information about the APFO and available aerial imagery is available at:

[www.apfo.usda.gov](http://www.apfo.usda.gov)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CAMPBELL COUNTY SERVICE CENTER  
601 4-J Court, Suite # B  
GILLETTE, WY 82716-4127

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

**August 1, 2012 – Nomination deadline for 2012 Election**

**November 15, 2012 – Reporting date for 2013 Perennial Forage crops, Native Range, Fall Wheat**

**November 15, 2012 – Deadline to report 2012 production on perennial and fall seeded crops**

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

**--Notify County office of any changes in Direct Deposit information,**

**--Payment limitation changes, Farm records changes, Banking info 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.**

“The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

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.”