



June/July 2011

# Goshen County News

Goshen County FSA Office  
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## June/July 2011 Edition

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8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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FSA Home Page  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

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## **CRP Signup Results**

We have received the results of the recently conducted General CRP Signup 41. Applicable applicants will be notified of the results with individual letters. Those applicants with accepted offers will be directed to follow up with the next steps required in this process.

## ***DCP/ACRE Signup Extension***

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program is permitted through August 1, 2011. Producers can visit any USDA Service Center to complete their 2011 DCP/ACRE contract.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2011, eligible producers may request advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment.

Through ACRE, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to traditional Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price. ACRE payments are made when both state- and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20% reduction in direct payments and a 30% reduction in loan rates. A decision to elect ACRE binds the producer to the program through the 2012 crop year, the last crop year covered by the 2008 Farm Bill. For more details contact your local FSA office.

## ***Crop Reporting***

The annual, timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans and Load Deficiency Payments.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. And, crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. In Wyoming, producers need to file their acreage reports by July 1 for all crops.

**Prevented Planting:** Prevented planting needs be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

**Failed Acreage:** Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

## ***Signup for SURE Program***

Signup for the 2009 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) is ongoing. SURE 2009 covers producers who suffered crop production losses during crop year 2009.

The deadline for 2009 SURE applications has been set as July 29, 2011.

For more information on the SURE program, please visit the county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

### ***Farm Loan Program Information***

Farm Service Agency (FSA) has loan programs that could help farmers and ranchers experiencing financial problems in today's economy of tight profit margins. Several types of loan programs are offered through FSA.

Under the Guaranteed Loan program, FSA guarantees farm ownership, term operating loans, and lines of credit used for annual operating through conventional agricultural lenders for guarantees up to 95%. The guarantee generally allows the conventional lender to provide the applicant with longer terms and lower rates of interest. All applicants must meet certain qualifying criteria to be eligible for guarantees. Farmers and ranchers interested in Guaranteed Loans should apply directly with a conventional lender, who arranges for the guarantee.

For those unable to qualify for a Guaranteed Loan FSA offers Direct Loans, which are made and serviced by FSA officials. Funding is limited for Direct Loans, and applicants must sometimes wait until funds are available. To qualify for a Direct Farm Ownership or Operating Loan, the applicant must meet eligibility criteria and have sufficient repayment ability and loan collateral. FSA will work with you to analyze your situation, provide technical assistance, and tailor loans to meet your needs.

Youth between the ages of 10 and 21 may also apply for a direct loan up to \$5,000 associated with their 4-H, FFA, or other youth organization activities.

Farm Service Agency is an Equal Credit Opportunity Lender. Beginning farmers and members of traditionally underserved gender and ethnic groups are encouraged to apply for guaranteed and/or direct loan assistance from FSA. Each year, farm ownership and operating loan funds are temporarily set-aside to meet the needs of beginning farmers and traditionally underserved groups.

Anyone having questions please call your local Farm Service Agency in Torrington WY at 307-532-4880.

### ***COC Nominations Open***

The County Office Committee (COC) plays a crucial role in helping the county office staff implement Farm Bill programs. Producers are encouraged to participate in the FSA COC election process by nominating an eligible candidate by Aug. 1.

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. This form is available at your local FSA Office, or online at: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov); select *News & Events* then *County Committee Elections*. Nomination forms for the 2011 COC elections must be postmarked or received in the county office by close of business on August 1, 2011.

In Goshen County this year, the election takes place in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2, which includes all of Townships 24 and 25, in the middle of the county.

FSA county committee members serve three-year terms and make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues. Committees consist of three to five members elected by eligible local producers.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning November 4, 2011. Completed ballots must be dropped off or received via mail at the county office by December 5, 2011.

### ***2010 ACRE Certification Deadline Extended***

The deadline for a 2010 production certification to comply with the ACRE provisions for production reports has been extended to COB September 1, 2011. Because of this extension, using a register on September 1, 2011, is **not** authorized. The extension is for completing both the farm benchmark yield (2005 through 2009) and the actual farm yield (2010). For more details contact your local FSA office.

### ***Rotational Clipping/Disking***

Several CRP contracts contain an annual requirement for clipping or light disking 25-35% of a field on a rotational basis. The Goshen County FSA Committee has set the policy that this practice must be completed by September 30 each year. We will be randomly checking these contracts to verify compliance. Things to keep in mind concerning this requirement:

- This practice cannot be done between the primary nesting season dates of May 15 – July 1.
- We ask that you inform this office when the practice is done so we can track completion.
- This requirement is on a per field basis, not on a contract basis. If there are multiple fields in a contract, each field stands on its own.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

## *Commodity Loans and LDP's*

The 2011 commodity loan rates for Goshen County are:

- Wheat-HRS \$2.99/Bu.
- Wheat-HRW \$2.85/Bu.
- Wheat-SWW \$2.61/Bu.
- Corn \$2.05/Bu.
- Barley \$1.89/Bu.
- Oats \$1.37/Bu.
- Sunflower Seed (Oil and Non-oil) \$10.59/cwt.

Eligible producers of these crops can obtain a loan or Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) from FSA. The producer must have beneficial interest in order to receive a loan/LDP. Beneficial interest means the grower has (1) control of the commodity, and (2) title of the commodity.

**FARM STORED LOAN:** An applicant can request either a paid for measured loan or certify the quantity. In either case, a loan for up to 100% production can be made. The commodity must be stored in a structure that can be safely measured and inspected, and be structurally sound. It is the borrower's responsibility to assure the commodity is in good condition and continues to remain so.

**WAREHOUSE LOAN:** A warehouse grain loan can be obtained through a warehouse. The elevator will issue warehouse receipts to the producer, who, in turn, gives them to CCC (FSA) for keeping as security through the life of the loan. The information on the warehouse receipts will be the basis for the loan quantity and loan rate.

**LOAN MATURITY DATE:** Loans will mature on the last day of the 9<sup>th</sup> month following application.

**LOAN SERVICE FEES:** Fees are the smaller of ½ of 1% times the gross loan amount, or \$45/loan plus \$3.00 for each bin or warehouse receipt over one.

**INTEREST RATES:** Commodity loans will carry the interest rate of the month in which the loan is disbursed through December 31 of each year, at which time the rate will change to the January rate.

**LIENS:** If any liens on the commodity exist, we require that the lien holder complete a lien waiver form before the loan is issued. CCC requires first lien on any commodity put under loan.

**REPAYMENTS:** Repayments can be made any time after the loan is disbursed. On farm-stored loans, any quantity can be paid off; however, on warehouse loans, a whole warehouse receipt must be paid off. At the time of repayment, the borrower will pay the lesser of (1) principal plus accrued interest, or (2) the applicable Posted County Price (PCP) times the loan quantity. The second option is referred to as a Market Loan Repayment (MLR) and is only available through the maturity date of the loan.

**LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENT:** A LDP is a payment made to an eligible producer who agrees to forego a loan in return for a direct payment. In order for a LDP to apply, the daily PCP must be below the loan rate for the applicable commodity. FSA currently uses the CCC-633-EZ form for all LDP purposes. It's a one size fits all form you can fill out to indicate your intention to receive loan deficiency payments for any of your crops at the beginning of the crop year, long before you've lost beneficial interest. The same form is then used to submit a request for an LDP any time during the loan/LDP availability period before or after losing beneficial interest.

Commodities harvested as other than grain (hay, silage) are eligible for LDP. In these cases, you will be required to give us information concerning acreages, bale numbers and weights, load weights, crop appraisal information, and yield estimates.

**APPLICATION DEADLINES:** The deadline to apply for either a 2011 loan or LDP is:

Wheat/Barley/Oats	March 31, 2012
Corn/Sunflowers	May 31, 2012
Wool/Mohair	January 31, 2012

In addition to the commodities listed above, the following crops are also eligible for LDP's: Wool, Mohair, Small Chickpeas, and Honey.

For more information, contact your local FSA Office.

## *Emergency Conservation Program*

We have received reports of damaged/destroyed fences along the Laramie and North Platte Rivers due to flooding. We are trying to assess the extent of the damage and need land owners to let us know if they have sustained damages. Please contact this office if you have had any fences, or other structures damaged from the flooding.

Potentially, FSA can help with cost-sharing of replacing these fences through the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). For more information, contact this office.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 FARM SERVICE AGENCY  
 GOSHEN COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE  
 1441 EAST M ST. SUITE C  
 TORRINGTON WY 82240

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
Continuous	Farm Storage Facility Loans
July 4, 2011	Holiday, Office closed
July 1, 2011	Deadline to timely file 2011 acreage report
July 29, 2011	Deadline to sign up for 2009 SURE benefits
Aug. 1, 2011	Deadline to enroll in 2011 DCP/ACRE
Aug. 1, 2011	Deadline to nominate candidates for 2011 County Committee Election

*/s/ Darrell L. Jones*

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