



Laramie County FSA News

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<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

February, 2010

Farm Program Information

Signup for 2010 Direct & Counter-cyclical Program (DCP)

Producers have from now through June 1, 2010, to timely file CCC-509. Enrollment is not permitted after June 1, 2010. Producers on a farm are solely responsible for ensuring that timely enrollment occurs. Please call for an appointment.

ACRE Program

Through ACRE, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments.

ACRE payments are made when both state and farm revenues are below historic levels. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates.

A decision to elect ACRE binds the producer to the program from the program year elected by the producer through the 2012 crop year. All producers on the farm must agree to the ACRE Program election. Producers must annually report acreage and production to FSA. Failure to do so may result in ineligibility.

ACRE payments are revenue-based payments and are tied to crop production and the National Average Market Price for planted, and considered planted, covered commodity crops on the farm. ACRE payment acreage is limited to the total amount of base acres on the farm, and can only be issued for a crop if two triggers are met for the covered commodity crop.

- State Trigger: The Actual State Revenue for the program year must be less than the State ACRE Guarantee.
- Farm Trigger: The participating farm's Actual Farm Revenue for the program year must be less than the Farm ACRE Guarantee.

An ACRE factsheet and ACRE background information detailing the State and farm revenue calculations are posted at www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp.

Acreage Reports

The FSA Office will take wheat crop reports. Please bring in your planting dates when reporting your crops. While applying for the 2010 DCP, we will collect information from your crops planted.

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) 2009 & 2010

Producers will be required to send a signed CCC-927 (Individual) or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) form to the Internal Revenue Service. This form gives consent to disclose your tax information to the USDA. USDA will receive the results of the AGI with indicators that show whether the producer has or has not exceeded the limits. No actual tax data will be included or dollar amounts. USDA county office personnel will not view tax return information at any time during this process. The information will be used to determine if producers are eligible according to the AGI limits.

Producers are required to complete the forms and mail the completed forms to IRS. The forms are required to be mailed within 60 days of the signature date. FSA will not accept the forms and keep a copy for you. **The deadline to have the forms submitted to IRS is June 15, 2010.**

Forms not received by the deadline will result in all payments received through USDA to be considered ineligible and payments will have to be refunded.

Forms will be provided to you on request. The forms can also be obtained online at www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA and select Forms then select Browse Forms, put the form number in and fill out on line, print, sign and send to IRS.

Payment Limitation

Payments will be limited by Direct Attribution. Program payments and benefits are limited to a person or legal entity. Payments made directly or indirectly to a person are combined with the pro rata interest held in any other legal entity that received payments, unless the payments to the legal entity were reduced by the pro rata share of the person. Payments made directly to a legal entity are attributed to those persons that have a direct and indirect interest in the legal entity, unless the payments to the legal entity have been reduced by the pro rata share of the person.

The payments are recorded by ID number of the individual or entity.

Each legal entity or person must disclose the name and Social Security number of each person and/or the name and Tax ID number of each legal entity that holds or acquires an ownership interest in the legal entity.

The total payments by program are listed below:

<u>Program Payment Type</u>	<u>Limitation (In Dollars)</u>
Commodity Programs	
Counter-cyclical and ACRE	65,000 1/
Direct payments	40,000 2/
Conservation Programs	
CRP annual rental payment	50,000
EQIP	200,000
GRP, WHIP, WRP	50,000
Disaster Assistance Programs	
ELAP, LFP, LIP, and SURE	100,000
NAP	100,000
TAP	100,000

1/ Under ACRE, this amount will be a combined limitation for counter-cyclical and ACRE Payments. If a person or legal entity has a direct or indirect interest in payments earned on a farm participating in ACRE, this limitation will reflect an increase for the amount that the direct payments were reduced.

2/ If a person or legal entity has a direct or indirect interest in payments earned on a farm that is in ACRE, this limitation will reflect a 20 percent reduction in direct payments on each farm that is participating in ACRE.

Reconstitution of Farms

Producers have until June 1st to request a combination or division of farms. Farms with the same owner / operator are a required combination. Land that is sold can be split from the parent farm using the "landowner designation" method. This method allows the landowner to designate the amount of DCP contract acres to go with the land sold. A written agreement between the buyer and seller must be made before the land sale is final. FSA requires a Warranty Deed or Land Sales Agreement for proof of ownership before a reconstitution of farms can be completed.

Non-insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Beginning with the 2010 crop year there will be a single application closing date of April 1st for all NAP crops in all counties. The Non-Insurable Crop Assistance Program provides a catastrophic level of assistance, to eligible producers, affected by crop losses due to natural disasters. FSA's NAP coverage is for non insurable crops not covered by RMA.

The application service fee for NAP is \$250.00 per crop per county, with a county maximum of \$750.00. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$1,875.00 per producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Producers are required to carry Crop Insurance coverage or NAP coverage on all crops, excluding grazing, in all counties where they have an interest to be eligible to participate in the new disaster program, SURE.

Production Reminder

Producers are responsible for providing accurate and complete information of the harvested production. Acceptable records include verifiable or reliable commercial receipts, settlement sheets, or load summaries if the crop was sold. Documentary evidence, such as contemporaneous measurements, truck scale tickets and contemporaneous diaries to verify information provided of production for crops that were stored, sold, or fed to livestock

Disaster Programs

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program

Signup for the SURE Program for 2008 crop losses began January 4, 2010. Please call for an appointment

SURE is available to eligible producers on:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties that have incurred crop production losses and/or crop quality losses during the crop year. (Laramie County is eligible for the 2008 crop year as Weld County, CO received a Disaster Designation.)
- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than the normal production of the farm.

At a minimum, to be eligible for the SURE Program, the producer must have purchased or be enrolled in the following for the 2008 crop year:

- A plan of crop insurance of at least catastrophic (CAT) level for all insurable crops on all farms.
- And/or Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for all non-insurable crops on all farms.

Note: RMA crop Insurance or NAP coverage on grazing land does not have to be purchased in order to be eligible for SURE. SURE does not pay for losses on crops intended for grazing.

In order to receive payments, the farm must suffer at least a 10% eligible production loss on at least one crop of economic significance. Producers with qualifying losses are eligible to receive 60% of the difference between the SURE Disaster Program Guarantee and the actual farm revenue.

The Disaster Program Guarantee is determined by totaling the calculated guarantee for each crop. For insured crops, the guarantee is based on the level of coverage the producer has elected.

The Total Farm Revenue calculation includes estimated crop value, Crop Insurance Indemnities, NAP payments, Marketing Assistance Loans / LDP, other disaster payments, and DCP payments (15% of Direct Payments plus Counter-cyclical payments and ACRE payments).

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

Losses of livestock due to adverse weather must be reported to the FSA Office within 30 days of when the loss is apparent 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 show death 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 a third party verification of losses, such as, vet records, loan documents, shipping records, brand inspections, etc.

**USDA / FSA
Laramie County FSA Committee
11221A U.S. Highway 30
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Administrative Information

County Committee Information

The County Committee has set the third Thursday of each month at 8:30 a.m. for the regular meeting schedule. Elections were held for Committee positions. Mark Child was elected Chair, Mike Peterson was elected Vice Chair, and Dave Bowman will be Member. Louise Jacobsen was appointed Advisor.

Dates to Remember

February 15	Presidents Day Holiday – Office Closed
March 15	Federal Crop Insurance Deadline for Spring Crops
March 31	Loan / LDP Deadline for Small Grains
April 1	Application Deadline for all NAP Crops
May 31	Loan / LDP Deadline for Feed Grains
June 1	DCP Signup Deadline
July 1	Crop Reporting Deadline

County Committee: Mark Child, Mike Peterson, Dave Bowman **Advisor:** Louise Jacobsen

Office Staff: Doris Scheel, Denise Hunt, and Krista Macy. Dixie Mount – Farm Loan Officer – Laramie County office day is Tuesday of each week. Dixie may be reached by calling the Wheatland FSA Office at (307)322-4050.

/S/ Gary Gompert, CED – Email gary.gompert@wy.usda.gov

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