



# NEWSLETTER



## Laramie County FSA

August 2011

### Gary Gompert, CED

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/s/ *Gary Gompert*

(307) 772-2314 phone  
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[www.fsa.usda.gov/WY](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/WY)

### Hours

Monday - Friday  
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Laramie County Staff

Doris Scheel  
Denise Hunt  
Krista Macy  
Kendal Sedman-Temporary

### Farm Loan Officer

Dixie Mount- In the office on  
Tuesday. Located out of the  
Wheatland FSA Office. (307)  
322-4050 phone

### County Committee

Mike Peterson  
Mark Child  
Dale Martin  
Louise Jacobsen, Advisor

## Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans has been established. 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 for compensation. To register for a claims package or for additional information on this and other settlement issues contact:

Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process:  
[www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov) or call 1-888-508-4429

Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation:  
[www.blackfarmercase.com](http://www.blackfarmercase.com) or call 1-866-950-5547

Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement:  
[www.IndianFarmClass.com](http://www.IndianFarmClass.com) or call 1-888-233-5506.

## eNewsletters and eUpdates from FSA – *watch for more news!*

The Farm Service Agency is exploring more cost-effective and resource-conserving options to provide farmers and ranchers with news, information, deadlines and bulletins from your state FSA and from your own county FSA office.

Take a look at the GovDelivery options now available from the USDA / FSA. Just open the FSA home page at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) and click on the E-MAIL UPDATES icon where you can select your subscriptions. Watch for more news and the opportunity to sign up to receive your news quicker and at less cost via e-mail.

## Adjusted Gross Income Report to IRS

Producers are reminded they must submit an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) verification consent form (CCC-927 or CCC-928) to the IRS as soon as possible in order to maintain eligibility for 2009 and 2010 program benefits.

The consent form authorizes IRS to verify for FSA whether a payment recipient's AGI meets the eligibility requirements for FSA programs.

Producers who fail to file these forms before Sept. 2011 will receive a notice from the National Office stating that the producer is ineligible for 2009 and/or 2010 payments.

IRS requires written consent from all individuals or legal entities before verification of the average AGI can be provided to USDA. Individuals must submit form CCC-927 and legal entities must submit form CCC-928.

## Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Reminders

### *Notice of Loss*

A Notice of Loss, CCC-576, must be filed for crop losses within 15 days of the loss event or whenever the loss becomes apparent. Losses not reported timely could result in a loss of eligibility for payment.

## **Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) / Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) Information**

Crop Loans are available for program crops and oilseed crops harvested in 2011. Nine-month commodity loans can be made to eligible producers. The current interest rate for loans disbursed in August was 1.125 percent for farm-stored or warehouse stored commodities. The office is required to do a lien search on all loans in excess of \$50,000 and when the loan is determined to be at risk.

Producers with average adjusted gross nonfarm income that exceeds \$500,000 are not eligible for a marketing loan gain or an LDP.

Marketing loan gains or LDP's will no longer be limited. (There is no limit on the total dollar amount of LDP's.)

Actively engaged determinations are not required for producers requesting MAL or LDP.

CCC will no longer require the execution of UGRSA in storage facilities that are either of the following: federally licensed or state licensed with an operating warehouse licensing program.

It is the producer's responsibility to maintain the quality of the grain in storage.

Both husband and wife must sign the loan document. A notarized or FSA witnessed FSA Power of Attorney Form, FSA-211, may be filed giving the husband and/or wife authority to sign for each other.

Measurement services are available to measure the grain in your storage facility. The cost is \$30 per farm plus \$16 per hour / \$8 for every 30 minutes after the first hour with a minimum charge of 1 hour. Fees must be paid for the measurement before the loan check can be disbursed. **We strongly recommend that producers get a measurement service to avoid penalties for overstating grain in storage.**

Please call the office for more information if you are interested. The loan process does take some time and will be done by appointment only.

### Wool, Mohair, & Unshorn Pelts LDP

Producers who file for a Loan Deficiency Payment on wool or unshorn pelts must indicate their intentions to receive LDP benefits on CCC-633EZ (page 1) before the sale or loss of beneficial interest. Then submit an LDP request (CCC-633EZ page 4) for benefits at any time during the loan/LDP availability period before or after losing beneficial interest.

January 1 is the beginning of the crop year for the wool, mohair, and unshorn pelts. The ending of the crop year is December 31. Applications for 2011 LDP's must be filed by January 31, 2012.

## **Disaster Programs**

### 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 FSA-914. For 2011 a Notice of Loss filed must be finalized by October 31, 2011 as this is the last year of this program in the current Farm Bill.

## **FSA Loans**

### Rural Youth Loans

FSA makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements: United States citizen or a legal resident alien (or permanent resident of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), 10 years to 20 years of age, comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements, reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people, unable to get a loan from other sources, conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work, demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision. Contact Dixie Mount at 301-322-4050 for question and help preparing and processing the application forms.

### Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The new maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are now required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with CCC providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records. An FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, rice, soybeans, oats, peanuts, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas
- Hay
- Renewable biomass
- Fruits (including nuts) and vegetables - cold storage facilities

For more information about FSFL please visit your FSA county office or [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

### 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 and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches.

While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged Applicants.

A socially disadvantaged applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group 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 only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

Laramie County FSA Office  
11221 US Hwy 30  
Cheyenne, WY 82009



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## Farm Program Information

### DCP Cover Requirements

Fallow acreage on cropland that supports DCP base acres must be protected from wind and water erosion and have the weeds controlled. Violations for not controlling weeds and wind or water erosion will lead to penalties.

### Acreage Reporting Deadline Has Passed

**Please call for an appointment. A minimum of \$46 per farm late filed fees will be charged.** Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

### Actively Engaged

FSA wants to remind producers about the rules that govern the requirements to be 'actively engaged' in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program administered by FSA.

Normally the stockholder or a member of a legal entity **must** make contributions of active personal labor and/or active personal management for the farming operation. The contributions are to be performed on regular basis, must be identifiable, and separate from the contributions of others.

The exception to this rule for a stockholder or member of a legal entity only occurs if both of the following apply:

- At least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management; and
- The total direct payments received, both directly and indirectly, by the legal entity and each of the members don't exceed \$40,000.

## Dates to Remember

September 5  
October 10

Labor Day Holiday – Office Closed  
Columbus Day Holiday – Office Closed

The U.S. 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 a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (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 to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.