

April 2014



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## LIVESTOCK DISASTER PROGRAMS

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) announces two Livestock Disaster programs included in the 2014 Farm Bill. The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides retroactive authority to cover eligible losses back to Oct. 1, 2011. LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire. LFP payments for drought are equal to 60 percent of the monthly feed cost for up to a five month period (depending on drought severity). LFP payments for fire on federally managed rangeland are equal to 50 percent of the monthly feed cost for the number of days the producer is prohibited from grazing the managed rangeland, not to exceed 180 calendar days. The grazing losses must have occurred on or after Oct. 1, 2011. Based on the severity of the drought in 2012 and its lingering effects in 2013 Niobrara County livestock producers are eligible for payments for both years. Applicants will need to provide documentation of grazing acres and documents that show livestock inventory numbers.

The Livestock Indemnity Payment program (LIP) provides retroactive authority to cover eligible livestock losses back to Oct. 1, 2011. LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law, including wolves and avian predators. LIP payments are equal to 75 percent of the market value of the applicable livestock on the day before the date of death of the livestock as determined by the Secretary.

Livestock Death Loss Documentation: Livestock owners should record all pertinent information of livestock death losses due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law. Documentation must include the number and kind of livestock that have died, supplemented if possible by such items as: dated photographs or video records to document the loss, purchase records, veterinarian records, production records, bank or other loan documents, written contracts, records assembled for tax purposes, private insurance documents, and other similar reliable documents.

Eligible livestock for both programs includes: Beef cattle, Dairy cattle, Bison, Sheep, Swine, Horses, and Other Livestock as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture that are maintained for commercial use as part of a farming or ranching operation.

Sign-up will begin on April 15, 2014, at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Service Center at 905 South Main St, Lusk. Producers are urged to call prior to visiting the office to receive full details of program requirements to minimize or prevent return trips to complete an application. Producers without an appointment will be assisted as time allows. Producers can call the office at (307)334-3454, Ext. 2, to schedule an appointment.

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### Questions?

Please contact Tommy Stephens, County Executive Director, at (307) 334-3454, Ext. 2, [tommy.stephens@wy.usda.gov](mailto:tommy.stephens@wy.usda.gov).

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