

September 2015



Topics for September

- [FALL 2016 ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE](#)
- [NAP Participants: Report your 2015 hay production NOW!](#)
- [USDA Packages Disaster Protection with Loans to Benefit Specialty Crop and Diversified Producers](#)

---

## Sheridan-Johnson County FSA Updates

---

### Sheridan-Johnson County FSA Office

1949 Sugarland Drive,  
Ste. 126  
Sheridan, WY 82801  
Phone: 307-672-5846  
Fax: 866-574-1670

### County Executive Director:

Linda Benzel

### Farm Loan Manager:

Rob Weppner

### Program Technicians:

Janice Wheeler  
Rick Miranda  
Staci Steiner Green

### County Committee:

Susan Moyes  
Steve Schuette  
Raymon Turk  
John Buyok  
Thad Stoltz

**Next County Committee Meeting: November 18, 2015**

## FALL 2016 ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE

- **November 15, 2015:** Native Range, Apiculture, Perennial Forage, PRF, Fall Wheat (Hard Red Winter – HRW) and all other Fall Seeded Small Grains
- **January 2, 2016:** Honey

Acres reports are a requirement for almost all programs administered through the USDA. Producers who are enrolled in the Noninsured Assistant Program (NAP), ARC/PLC, purchase multi-peril or catastrophic crop insurance, receive Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) or participate in other USDA farm programs must file an acreage report each year to remain or be eligible for benefits. The crops reported are used in calculating benefits if you suffer a loss.

Our office is currently mailing appointment reminders to known agriculture producers. However, if you believe you need to file an acreage report and have not received an appointment reminder, please feel free to call for an appointment or come to the FSA office to file your acreage report.

---

## NAP Participants: Report your 2015 hay production NOW!

Production records for grass hay crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. We recommend producers submit 2015 production records as soon as harvest is complete. If you fail to report your production it could have an adverse impact on the overall crop yield history and payments.

Actual Production records should include bale count, average weight of bales, irrigation practice (NI, IR), field numbers to calculate acreage, and type of hay. **All production records need to be signed and dated by producer.** On request, our office will gladly prepare maps to assist in documenting production at time of harvest.

---

# USDA Packages Disaster Protection with Loans to Benefit Specialty Crop and Diversified Producers

*Free basic coverage and discounted premiums available for new and underserved loan applicants*

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) has announced that producers who apply for FSA farm loans also will be offered the opportunity to enroll in new disaster loss protections created by the 2014 Farm Bill. The new coverage, available from the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), is available to FSA loan applicants who grow non-insurable crops, so this is especially important to fruit and vegetable producers and other specialty crop growers.

New, underserved and limited income specialty growers who apply for farm loans could qualify for basic loss coverage at no cost, or higher coverage for a discounted premium. The basic disaster coverage protects at 55 percent of the market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of production. Covered crops include “specialty” crops, for instance, vegetables, fruits, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, hay, forage, grazing and energy crops. FSA allows beginning, underserved or limited income producers to obtain NAP coverage up to 90 days after the normal application closing date when they also apply for FSA credit.

In addition to free basic coverage, beginning, underserved or limited income producers are eligible for a 50 percent discount on premiums for the higher levels of coverage that protect up to 65 percent of expected production at 100 percent of the average market price. Producers also may work with FSA to protect value-added production, such as organic or direct market crops, at their fair market value in those markets. Targeted underserved groups eligible for free or discounted coverage are American Indians or Alaskan Natives, Asians, Blacks or African Americans, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, and women.

FSA offers a variety of loan products, including farm ownership loans, operating loans and microloans that have a streamlined application process. Growers need not apply for an FSA loan, nor be a beginning, limited resource, or underserved farmer, to be eligible for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program assistance. To learn more, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap) or [www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans), or contact your local FSA office at <https://offices.usda.gov>.

---

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).