

March 2016



BULLETIN



Campbell County FSA Updates

Campbell County FSA Office

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April 1, 2016 – Deadline to purchase NAP Coverage for all crops (including Native grazing) for crop year 2016!

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers to review available USDA crop risk protection options, including federal crop insurance and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage, before the crop deadline of April 1.

County Executive Director: Susan L Kramer

Federal crop insurance covers crop losses from natural adversities such as drought, hail and excessive moisture. NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available, including perennial grass forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, bioenergy, and industrial crops.

Farm Loan Manager: Robert K Weppner

Program Technicians: Judy Bishop Amber Fowlkes Claudette Vander Voort

The following are some of the crops in Campbell County that have a NAP application deadline of April 1, 2016:

Native Range intended for grazing

County Committee: Chuck Tweedy, Chairperson Jody Cheser, Vice Chairperson Nancy Tarver, Regular Member

Grass hay crops

Small grain crops intended for hay

Next County Committee Meeting:

March 30, 2016 @ 1:00pm

Please call the county office for more information and if you have any questions regarding if NAP coverage is available for YOUR crops.

Contact Federal Crop insurance regarding deadlines on the crops insured by RMA.

Livestock Indemnity Program

Livestock producers should be keeping detailed records of births and deaths of all livestock types, including but not limited to dates, causes of death, and approximate weight class of animal and running totals of calves on the ground, any aborted and/or stillborn young. Noting weather conditions that may affect livestock including but not limited to extreme temperatures, precipitation and wind conditions are also vital. These records can be notations on calendars, journal/diary entries. Additional information is available in the county office, for those who wish to come by and pick it up.

Report Livestock Losses

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to eligible producers for 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. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, wildfires, extreme heat or extreme cold.

For 2016, eligible losses must occur on or after Jan. 1, 2016, and before December 31, 2016. A notice of loss must be filed with FSA within 30 days of when the loss of livestock is apparent. Participants must provide the following supporting documentation to their local FSA office no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year for which benefits are requested:

- Proof of death documentation
- Copy of growers contracts
- Proof of normal mortality documentation

USDA has established normal mortality rates for each type and weight range of eligible livestock, i.e. Adult Beef Cow = 2% and Non-Adult Beef Cattle (less than 400 pounds) = 4.3%. These established percentages reflect losses that are considered expected or typical under "normal" conditions. Producers who suffer livestock losses in 2016 must file both of the following:

- A notice of loss the earlier of 30 calendar days of when the loss was apparent or by January 30, 2017
- An application for payment by January 30, 2017.

Additional Information about LIP is available at your local FSA office or online at: www.fsa.usda.gov.

USDA Expands Microloans to Help Farmers Purchase Farmland and Improve Property

Producers, Including Beginning and Underserved Farmers, Have a New Option to Gain Access to Land

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will begin offering farm ownership microloans, creating a new financing avenue for farmers to buy and improve property. These microloans will be especially helpful to beginning or underserved farmers, U.S. veterans looking for a career in farming, and those who have small and mid-sized farming operations.

The microloan program, which celebrates its third anniversary this week, has been hugely successful, providing more than 16,800 low-interest loans, totaling over \$373 million to producers across the country. Microloans have helped farmers and ranchers with operating costs, such as feed, fertilizer, tools, fencing, equipment, and living expenses since 2013. Seventy percent of loans have gone to new farmers.

Now, microloans will be available to also help with farm land and building purchases, and soil and water conservation improvements. FSA designed the expanded program to simplify the application process, expand eligibility requirements and expedite smaller real estate loans to help farmers strengthen their operations. Microloans provide up to \$50,000 to qualified producers, and can be issued to the applicant directly from the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

This microloan announcement is another USDA resource for America's farmers and ranchers to utilize, especially as [new and beginning farmers and ranchers](#) look for the assistance they need to get started. To learn more about the FSA microloan program visit www.fsa.usda.gov/microloans, or contact your local FSA office. To find your nearest office location, please visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

April 1, 2016 – Deadline to purchase 2016 NAP coverage

ANYTIME – Report livestock losses due to eligible adverse weather events within 30 days of loss being apparent.

May 30, 2016 – Memorial Day Holiday – County Office Closed

July 15, 2016 – Spring Acreage reports deadline

August 1, 2016 – ARC/PLC Contract Signup Deadline

Office Hours are from 8:00am to 4:30pm. Producers are urged to call for an appointment, so the office staff can assist you timely. Due to the computer environment, some applications/processes are unable to be completed after 4:00pm.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above dates or information in this newsletter, please contact the County office for

more information (307) 682-8843, ext.2.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. 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).