

September 2012



Goshen County News

Goshen County FSA Office
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September 2012 Edition

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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FSA Home Page
www.fsa.usda.gov

USDA Home Page
www.usda.gov

Bank Account Changes

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA county office if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

2012 County Committee Election

This year's election in Goshen County covers LAA 3, which covers all of Townships 19-23. Candidates for this year's election are:

- Larry Mullock
- Debra Yeik

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters around November 5. Instructions for voting will be included. December 3 is the last day to return voted ballots to the county office, or postmarked. Please take some time to vote and select your representative on the County Committee.

Newly elected committee members and alternates take office January 1, 2013.

Livestock Producers Affected by Disasters Urged to Keep Good Records

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Juan M. Garcia has urged livestock producers affected by natural disasters, such as Hurricane Isaac, to keep thorough records of their livestock and feed losses, including additional expenses for such things as feed purchases because of lost supplies.

"There are extraordinary circumstances caused by a variety of disasters from fires in the west, floods in Florida, Hurricane Isaac in the Gulf region, storms in the Mid-Atlantic and drought and heat affecting the heartland," Garcia said. "Each of these events is causing economic consequences for ranchers and producers including cattle, sheep and dairy operations, bee keepers and farm-raised fish, and poultry producers."

FSA recommends that owners and producers record all pertinent information of natural disaster consequences, including:

- Documentation of the number and kind of livestock that have died, supplemented if possible by photographs or video records of ownership and losses
- Dates of death supported by birth recordings or purchase receipts
- Costs of transporting livestock to safer grounds or to move animals to new pastures
- Feed purchases if supplies or grazing pastures are destroyed.

Secretary Vilsack also reminds producers that the department's authority to operate the five disaster assistance programs authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill expired on Sept. 30, 2011. This includes SURE; the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP); the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP); and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP). Production losses due to disasters occurring after Sept. 30, 2011, are not eligible for disaster program coverage.

Changes to IRS Forms 1099-G and 1099-MISC for Calendar Year 2012

In past years, IRS Forms 1099-G were issued to show all program payments received from the Farm Service Agency, regardless of the amount. For calendar year 2012, the 1099-G reporting will change.

IRS Form 1099-G (Report of Payments to Producers) will only be issued to producers whose reportable payments total \$600 or more for the calendar year. Additionally, if the producer has at least \$600 in reportable payments received from multiple FSA offices, only one Form 1099-G will be issued. Producers subject to voluntary withholding or backup (involuntary) withholding will receive the appropriate IRS form, even if combined payments are less than \$600.

The same changes will apply to producers and vendors who normally receive IRS Form 1099-MISC from FSA.

Any producer who receives less than \$600 in combined payments should consult a tax advisor to determine if these payments must be reported on their tax return.

For more information regarding IRS reporting changes, please contact your County FSA office.

Attention All Buyers of Agricultural Products

It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's Office to determine if there are liens against the seller of the product. If a lien is found, you are required to place the lien holder's name on the check as well as that of the seller. Ag products include but are not limited to: Livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc.), machinery, equipment, and all other crops. **Failure to place the lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a buyer!** You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at (307) 777-7311.

Commodity Loans Available

We remind you of the availability of the commodity loan program. 2012 loan rates for applicable crops in Goshen County are:

Wheat HRW	\$2.88/bu.	Wheat HRS	\$2.62/bu.	Corn	\$2.05/bu.
Barley	\$1.88/bu.	Oats	\$1.37/bu.	Sunflowers	\$10.60/cwt.

Interest rates are minimal (example: the September 2012 rate is 1.125%) and the term of the loan will be end of the 9th month following disbursement.

2012 loans on small grains can be requested through March 31, 2013. 2012 corn/sunflower loans can be requested through May 31, 2013. The grower must maintain title and control of the commodity (beneficial interest) while the grain is under loan.

For more information, contact this office.

Crop Report Deadlines

2013 and subsequent years' acreage reporting deadlines are:

- Spring seeded crops and CRP-July 15
- Perennial Forage, PRF, Fall Wheat, and all other Fall-Seeded Small Grains-November 15

This means your 2013 perennial hay crops and winter wheat reporting deadline will be November 15, 2012.

Emergency Conservation Program

We have received reports of damaged/destroyed fences due to wild fires. We are trying to assess the extent of the damage and need land owners to let us know if they have sustained damages. Please contact this office if you have had any fences damaged from the fires. Potentially, FSA can help with cost-sharing of replacing these fences through the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). For more information, contact this office.

Wyoming FSA Extends Emergency Grazing to Assist Ranchers Impacted by Drought

(Casper, WY) Sept 5, 2012 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced a two-month extension for emergency grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres, freeing up forage and feed for ranchers as they look to recover from drought.

To assist producers, USDA is permitting farmers and ranchers in drought stricken counties that have been approved for emergency grazing to extend grazing on CRP land through **Nov. 30, 2012**, without incurring an additional CRP rental payment reduction. The period normally allowed for emergency grazing lasts through Sept. 30. The extension applies to general CRP practices and producers must submit a request to their Farm Service Agency county office indicating the acreage to be grazed. USDA's continuing efforts to add feed to the marketplace benefits all livestock producers during this drought.

Wyoming Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director Gregor Goertz stated "Secretary Vilsack is committed to helping the thousands of farm families and businesses who continue to struggle with this historic drought. It is also important that our farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses have the tools they need to be successful during these trying times." Goertz further stated "Producers utilizing CRP through emergency grazing are required to leave 25% of the forage for wildlife benefits. Producers are required to contact their local FSA Office and work with NRCS prior to making any changes in the management of CRP. Producers grazing CRP are responsible for the continued success of the CRP cover and will be penalized if over grazing occurs."

Emergency Haying concluded August 30, 2012 in Wyoming and is not authorized by the Secretary to be included in this extension.

Producers should contact their local FSA Office for further information regarding extension of Emergency Grazing on CRP land.

CRP Highly Erodible Land Initiative

A continuous signup for the new Highly Erodible Land Initiative under CRP started on July 23. Wyoming has been allocated 1800 acres to enroll in this special CRP program. Offers will be accepted until either the state acreage limit is reached or Sept. 30, 2012. The initiative will accept offers on new cropland or CRP acres that are expiring on Sept. 30, 2012 with an Erosion Index (EI) greater than or equal to 20. A review of CRP offers in Goshen County during the last 3 general signups shows that there is eligible cropland in the county that meets the EI requirement. Existing grass stands that are NOT currently in CRP are **NOT** eligible. These will be 10 year contracts.

To determine eligibility, county offices will first need to run through CRP mapping software. If interested in applying, contact this office.

Timely Filing of Loss

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required on **ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES**. For losses on crops covered by the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576 (notice of loss) in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

CRP Requirements and Reminders

CRP participants are obligated to maintain the established cover. Participants shall ensure:

- Adequate approved vegetative cover is maintained to control erosion for the period of the contract.
- Compliance with state and local noxious weed laws. If any noxious weeds are found on CRP, you will be referred to the local weed & pest officials to draw up a plan for weed control.
- Control of other weeds as determined by the County Committee.
- That undesirable vegetation, weeds, insects, rodents, etc. that pose a threat to existing cover or adversely impact other landowners in the area are controlled.
- An annual acreage report must be filed to confirm the acres are still being maintained as CRP.

FSA conducts periodic spot checks on CRP to confirm program compliance. Your neighbor also conducts checks, so it is in your best interest to keep on top of things.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
GOSHEN COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE
1441 EAST M ST. SUITE C
TORRINGTON WY 82240

Dates to Remember	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
Continuous	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Oct. 8, 2012	Holiday, Office closed
Nov. 12, 2012	Holiday, Office closed
Nov. 22, 2012	Holiday, Office closed

/s/ Darrell L. Jones

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