

July 2013



# NEWSLETTER



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## **Emergency Haying/Grazing of CRP**

Goshen County has been approved to implement Emergency Haying and Grazing of CRP for 2013. This authorization is based on ongoing drought conditions causing shortages of livestock feed. Basic details of this authorization:

1. First and foremost, the CRP participant must apply for this provision and be approved to do so prior to haying or grazing the CRP. The participant will need to meet first with FSA for application and then with NRCS to complete a haying or grazing plan.
2. Once approved, haying or grazing can begin as of July 16, 2013. All haying must be completed by August 31, 2013. Grazing must end the sooner of which the grazing plan calls for, or September 30, 2013.
3. For haying, at least 50% of each field must be left unhayed for wildlife.
4. For grazing, at least 25% of each field or contiguous CRP field must be left ungrazed for wildlife; or, the participant may elect to graze at no more than 75% of the stocking rate, as determined by NRCS.
5. CRP annual payments will be reduced by 25% on the acres actually hayed or grazed.
6. CRP participants that do not own livestock are permitted to lease their CRP to an eligible livestock producer for this purpose. In these cases, the person leasing the CRP is required to review and sign paperwork with FSA before approval is made.

For more information, please contact this office.

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## **COC Nominations Open**

The County Office Committee (COC) plays a crucial role in helping the county office staff implement Farm Bill programs. Producers are encouraged to participate in the FSA COC election process by nominating an eligible candidate by Aug. 1.

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. This form is available at your local FSA Office, or online at: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov); select News & Events then County Committee Elections. Nomination forms for the 2013 COC elections must be

postmarked or received in the county office by close of business on August 1, 2013.

In Goshen County this year, the election takes place in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1, which includes all of Townships 26 through 30, the north part of the county.

FSA county committee members serve three-year terms and make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues. Committees consist of three to five members elected by eligible local producers.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning November 4, 2013. Completed ballots must be dropped off or received via mail at the county office by December 2, 2013.

### **Farm Loan Program Information**

Farm Service Agency (FSA) has loan programs that could help farmers and ranchers experiencing financial problems in today's economy of tight profit margins. Several types of loan programs are offered through FSA.

Under the Guaranteed Loan program, FSA guarantees farm ownership, term operating loans, and lines of credit used for annual operating through conventional agricultural lenders for guarantees up to 95%. The guarantee generally allows the conventional lender to provide the applicant with longer terms and lower rates of interest. All applicants must meet certain qualifying criteria to be eligible for guarantees. Farmers and ranchers interested in Guaranteed Loans should apply directly with a conventional lender, who arranges for the guarantee.

For those unable to qualify for a Guaranteed Loan, FSA offers Direct Loans, which are made and serviced by FSA officials. Funding is limited for Direct Loans, and applicants must sometimes wait until funds are available. To qualify for a Direct Farm Ownership or Operating Loan, the applicant must meet eligibility criteria and have sufficient repayment ability and loan collateral. FSA will work with you to analyze your situation, provide technical assistance, and tailor loans to meet your needs.

Youth between the ages of 10 and 21 may also apply for a direct loan up to \$5,000 associated with their 4-H, FFA, or other youth organization activities.

Farm Service Agency is an Equal Credit Opportunity Lender. Beginning farmers and members of traditionally underserved gender and ethnic groups are encouraged to apply for guaranteed and/or direct loan assistance from FSA. Each year, farm ownership and operating loan funds are temporarily set-aside to meet the needs of beginning farmers and traditionally underserved groups.

Anyone having questions, please call your local Farm Service Agency in Torrington, WY at 307-532-4880.

### **2013 DCP/ACRE Sign-up**

2013 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) enrollment runs through August 2, 2013.

#### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

- All producers planting on DCP base acres must be identified on the DCP/ACRE contract and receive a proportionate share of DCP/ACRE payment for the farm.
- Changes on the farm after enrolled in DCP/ACRE must be reported to your local FSA office. This includes: Ownership changes; Producer changes (Individuals and Entities); Change in crop shares arrangements.

Note: Changes cannot be made after Sept. 30, 2013.

We remind growers of Fruit & Vegetables (FAV) of possible DCP payment impacts. Applicable FAV's include dry beans, potatoes, onions, and grapes. We suggest that if you are planning on planting any FAV's on a farm that will be enrolled in DCP for 2013, to address your intentions with this office and we can estimate if and how this would affect your payments.

## **Crop Reporting**

The annual, timely and accurate reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. In Wyoming, producers need to file their 2013 acreage reports for spring seeded crops and CRP by July 15, 2013. Late-filed reports will be accepted after this date.

Prevented Planting: Prevented planting needs be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage: Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

2013 and subsequent years' acreage reporting deadlines:

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

This means your 2014 perennial hay/forage crops and winter wheat reporting deadline will be November 15, 2013.

## **Commodity Loans and LDP's**

The 2013 commodity loan rates for Goshen County are:

- Wheat-HRS \$3.06/Bu.
- Wheat-HRW \$2.80/Bu.
- Corn \$2.05/Bu.
- Barley \$1.87/Bu.
- Oats \$1.37/Bu.
- Sunflower Seed (Oil and Non-oil) \$10.48/cwt.

Eligible producers of these crops can obtain a loan or Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) from FSA. The producer must have beneficial interest in order to receive a loan/LDP. Beneficial interest means the grower has (1) control of the commodity, and (2) title of the commodity.

**FARM STORED LOAN:** An applicant can request either a paid for measured loan or certify the quantity. In either case, a loan for up to 100% production can be made. The commodity must be stored in a structure that can be safely measured and inspected, and be structurally sound. It is the borrower's responsibility to assure the commodity is in good condition and continues to remain so.

**WAREHOUSE LOAN:** A warehouse grain loan can be obtained through a warehouse. The elevator will issue warehouse receipts to the producer, who, in turn, gives them to CCC (FSA) for keeping as security through the life of the loan. The information on the warehouse receipts will be the basis for the loan quantity and loan rate.

**LOAN MATURITY DATE:** Loans will mature on the last day of the 9th month following application.

**LOAN SERVICE FEES:** Fees are the smaller of ½ of 1% times the gross loan amount, or \$45/loan plus \$3.00 for each bin or warehouse receipt over one.

**INTEREST RATES:** Commodity loans will carry the interest rate of the month in which the loan is disbursed through December 31 of each year, at which time the rate will change to the January rate.

**LIENS:** If any liens on the commodity exist, we require that the lien holder complete a lien waiver form before the loan is issued. CCC requires first lien on any commodity put under loan.

**REPAYMENTS:** Repayments can be made any time after the loan is disbursed. On farm-stored loans, any quantity can be paid off; however, on warehouse loans, a whole warehouse receipt must be paid off. At the time of repayment, the borrower will pay the lesser of (1) principal plus accrued interest, or (2) the applicable Posted County Price (PCP) times the loan quantity. The second option is referred to as a Market Loan Repayment (MLR) and is only available through the maturity date of the loan.

**LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENT:** A LDP is a payment made to an eligible producer who agrees to forego a loan in return for a direct payment. In order for a LDP to apply, the daily PCP must be below the loan rate for the applicable commodity. FSA currently uses the CCC-633-EZ form for all LDP purposes. It's a one size fits all form you can fill out to indicate your intention to receive loan deficiency payments for any of your crops at the beginning of the crop year, long before you've lost beneficial interest. The same form is then used to submit a request for an LDP any time during the loan/LDP availability period before or after losing beneficial interest.

Commodities harvested as other than grain (hay, silage) are eligible for LDP. In these cases, you will be required to give us information concerning acreages, bale numbers and weights, load weights, crop appraisal information, and yield estimates.

**APPLICATION DEADLINES:** The deadline to apply for either a 2013 loan or LDP is:

Wheat/Barley/Oats	March 31, 2014
Corn/Sunflowers	May 31, 2014
Wool/Mohair	January 31, 2014

In addition to the commodities listed above, the following crops are also eligible for LDP's: Wool, Mohair, Small Chickpeas, and Honey.

For more information, contact your local FSA Office.

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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).