

August 2016



Missouri FSA Newsletter

Missouri Farm Service Agency

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Deadline for Reporting 2017 Hay, Pasture and Other Perennial Forage is Nov. 15, 2016

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit their local FSA Office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline for Perennial Forage. Programs that require certification of perennial forage include the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) and the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage Program (PLC).

Perennial Forage includes, but is not limited to, grass, alfalfa, birdsfoot trefoil, clover and mixed forage intended for hay or grazing.

The acreage reporting deadline for reporting 2017 Perennial Forage is November 15, 2016.

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting date:

- If the crop has not been planted by the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is complete.
- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above

acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendars days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

- If a perennial forage crop is reported with the intended use of “cover only,” “green manure,” “left standing” or “seed,” then the acreage must be reported by July 15th.

NAP policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of November 15 or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

Attention Dairy Producers: Margin Protection Program Reminders

September 1 is the deadline to pay 100 percent of the calculated premium for 2016 coverage for dairy operations that elect coverage above the \$4 level. Dairy operations should receive a letter from FSA showing the remaining balance due. If your letter is lost or misplaced, you can contact your local county office for your balance due.

The Missouri Agriculture and Small Business Development Authority (MASBDA) within the Missouri Department of Agriculture has mailed information to Missouri dairy producers regarding the Dairy Producer Margin Insurance Premium Assistance Program. Refer to your letter for additional information, or contact MASBDA at (573) 751-2129 or masbda@mda.mo.gov. In order to be eligible for the reimbursement from MASBDA, you MUST pay your 2016 MPP premium in full for your buy-up coverage by Sept. 1, 2016. The MASBDA application period for the reimbursement will not go into effect until after September 30, 2016.

September 30 is the deadline to enroll in MPP-Dairy for 2017 coverage.

Contact your local FSA office if you have questions about 2016 premiums or 2017 enrollment.

2017 Coverage Deadlines for Noninsurable Crops

Producers are reminded to apply for 2017 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) benefits by the applicable sales closing date for the crop. Reference the following chart for upcoming sales closing dates.

Sales Closing Dates for Missouri for 2017 Coverage	
Sept. 1, 2016	Greens, aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng root, turf grass sod, mushrooms & floriculture
Sept. 30, 2016	Strawberries & fall-seeded small grains
Nov. 20, 2016	Apples, apricots, grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums & blueberries
Dec. 1, 2016	Honey
Dec. 31, 2016	Potatoes
Feb. 28, 2017	Rice
March 15, 2017	Most spring-seeded crops; forage and pasture

Eligible producers can apply for 2017 NAP coverage at their local FSA Office. The service fee for basic NAP coverage is the lesser of \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 for a producer with farming interest in multiple counties.

The 2014 Farm Bill authorizes higher levels of coverage ranging from 50 to 65 percent of production, in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price. Additional coverage must be elected by a producer by the application closing date. Producers who elect additional coverage must pay a premium in addition to the service fee. Crops intended for grazing are not eligible for additional coverage. Producers interested in buy-up coverage must pay a premium, in addition to the service fee. The maximum premium will be \$6,563.

Producer meeting the definition of a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher, beginning farmer or rancher or limited resource farmer or rancher will have service fees waived. Producers meeting this definition that choose to purchase buy-up coverage will also have service fees waived and the premium will be capped at \$3,282.

The application and service fee must be filed by applicable sales closing date for the crop.

[Click here](#) to learn more about NAP.

Covey Headquarters Newsletter

The Missouri Department of Conservation issues a newsletter called the *Covey Headquarters* to provide timely, in-depth quail-management information for Missouri landowners and quail hunters. [Click here](#) to view recent editions of the *Covey Headquarters* and sign up to receive this newsletter from the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybee, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)

The Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) provides emergency assistance to eligible livestock, honeybee, and farm-raised fish producers who have losses due to disease, adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, not covered by other agricultural disaster assistance programs.

Eligible livestock losses include grazing losses not covered under the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), loss of purchased feed and/or mechanically harvested feed due to an eligible adverse weather event, additional cost of transporting water because of an eligible drought and additional cost associated with gathering livestock to treat for cattle tick fever.

Eligible honeybee losses include loss of purchased feed due to an eligible adverse weather event, cost of additional feed purchased above normal quantities due to an eligible adverse weather condition, colony losses in excess of normal mortality due to an eligible weather event or loss condition, including CCD, and hive losses due to eligible adverse weather.

Eligible farm-raised fish losses include death losses in excess of normal mortality and/or loss of purchased feed due to an eligible adverse weather event.

Producers who suffer eligible livestock, honeybee, or farm-raised fish losses from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 must file a notice of loss the earlier of 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent or by November 1, 2016, and an application for payment by November 1, 2016.

The Farm Bill caps ELAP disaster funding at \$20 million per federal fiscal year.

The following ELAP Fact Sheets (by topic) are available online:

- ELAP for Farm-Raised Fish Fact Sheet
- ELAP for Livestock Fact Sheet
- ELAP for Honeybees Fact Sheet

To view these and other FSA program fact sheets, visit the FSA fact sheet web page at www.fsa.usda.gov/factsheets.

Youth Loans

With a new school year beginning, FSA would like to remind you that we make loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources

- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

Interest Rates and Dates to Remember

Selected Interest Rates for August 2016	
90-Day Treasury Bill	.250%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.25%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	3.50%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Emergency Loans	3.25%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (3 years)	.750%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (5 years)	1.125%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (7 years)	1.375%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (10 years)	1.50%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (12 years)	1.625%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.50%

Dates to Remember	
Sept. 1	NAP application closing date for greens, aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng root, turf grass sod, mushrooms & floriculture.
Sept. 1	Premiums are due for 2016 Margin Protection Program (MPP-Dairy) coverage.
Sept. 5	Labor Day Holiday. USDA offices are closed.
Sept. 30	NAP application closing date for strawberries & fall-seeded small grains.
Sept. 30	Deadline for enrollment for 2017 coverage in the Margin Protection Program (MPP-Dairy)

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).
