

March 2016



BULLETIN



Crook County FSA Updates

Crook County FSA Office

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Program Technicians:

Susan Johnson
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County Committee:

Ross Garman
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Larry Fowlkes
Jeanne Habeck

Next County

Committee Meeting:

May 18th at 11:00 a.m.

Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) - Application Closing Date is April 1st

The sales closing date to purchase coverage on NAP eligible crops has changed. All perennial grass hay crops, pasture grass, winter wheat, and all spring seeded crops now have a sales closing date of April 1st.

NAP offers two coverage options: 1/ "Basic" Coverage of 50% of your proven yield at 55% of the established market price; 2/ Coverage under the "Buy-Up" option (coverage on all eligible crops harvested for forage). Through "buy-up", coverage can be purchased for levels of 50, 55, 60 and 65 % of the proven yield, and at 100% of the established market price. Premiums are minimal and are paid (billed to you later) in addition to the \$250 per crop service fee for the NAP policy. Call the office to see how "buy-up" coverage can work for you.

If you currently have a 2016 NAP Basic coverage policy and want to purchase "Buy-Up" you simply come to the office by April 1st, select which level of buy-up coverage you want and sign the policy. If you do not currently have a 2016 NAP basic policy you have until April 1st to purchase one by paying the \$250 service fee per crop and then select the level of "buy up" coverage, if desired, and sign all necessary forms.

FSA has a great tool to calculate premiums and loss payments at www.fsa.usapas.com/NAP or visit the office. Our staff can help you determine which level of coverage is right for you.

Remember, the **deadline to purchase NAP coverage is April 1, 2016.**

Crop Report Season to Start Soon

The spring crop reporting season is coming up fast. We will be mailing out appointment cards to those producers who planted spring crops last year (2015) and filed a crop report with our office. If you will be planting spring annual crops this year and do not get an appointment card by June 27th you should contact our office.

The Deadline to file a crop report is **July 15, 2016**. Reports filed after this date may be subject to a late-filed fee.

A "crop report" is the reporting of what your fields are planted to. "Crop production report" or "production report" is the harvested crop in tons or bushels. We have always used these terms this way. There is confusion out there that producers use the term "crop report" to mean "production report" and this causes a misunderstanding in the office when you ask if you've filed your "crop report"

(to you - crop production) and to us this means crops and acres. Please refer to your crops production as a “production report” and not a “crop report”.

Programs that require crop reports for program participation are ARC/PLC, NAP, CRP, and LFP. Crop reports should list all parties that have an interest in your cropland acreages (annual crops and perennial hay crops) and pasture grass.

The LFP program requires that anyone grazing on your land, as either a “cash” lease or “family arrangement” (such as grazing traded in exchange for labor) or “hired hands” that get grazing rights as part of their wages, be listed on the crop report with acres needed to support their livestock. You should ensure your crop report(s) reflects these situations to ensure the eligibility of other individuals grazing livestock on your land.

Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC) Program Signup is Underway

Signup for the ARC/PLC program runs through **August 1, 2016**. It is your responsibility to enroll your farm each year (2016, 2017 and 2018) during the signup period. You can sign your farm(s) up this spring when you file your spring planted crops “crop report” which will be done by appointments. If you don’t visit the office this spring to file a crop report you need to sign your farm(s) contracts by August 1st.

Farms enrolled in ARC-IC (Individual Farm Contract) must report 2015 annual seeded crop grain and hay production by **July 15, 2016** in order to get yield credit for 2015 program payment purposes. Form CCC-863 must accompany this production record of which you can complete the form and sign it in the office when reporting production.

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