

June 2016



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## Crook County FSA Updates

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### **Crook County FSA Office**

PO Box 1070  
117 S. 21st Street  
Sundance, WY 82729  
Phone: 307-283-2870  
Fax: 855-415-3442

**County Executive Director:**  
Mike Idler

**Farm Loan Manager:**  
Rob Weppner  
307-682-8843

**Program Technicians:**  
Susan Johnson  
Pam Schurman

**County Committee:**  
Ross Garman  
Ivan Cranston  
Larry Fowlkes  
Jeanne Habeck

**Next County Committee Meeting:**

**September 21, 2016**

### **County Committee Elections Nomination Period**

The nomination period for the Crook FSA county committee began on June 15, 2016. Nomination forms must be postmarked or received in the Crook County FSA Office by close of business on Aug. 1, 2016.

County Committees are unique to FSA and allow producers to have a voice on federal farm program implementation at the local level.

To be eligible to serve on the FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in an agency administered program, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) where they are nominated. All producers, including women, minority and beginning farmers and ranchers are encouraged to participate in the nomination and election process.

This year, nominations and elections will be held in LAA 1, which includes the northern third of the county (That portion of the county north of: Highway 24 from the South Dakota state line to Hulett; From Hulett, west along highway 112 to New Haven Road turnoff; West along New Haven road to Mule Creek Road. North and westerly along Mule Creek road to the Little Missouri road intersection, westerly along Little Missouri road to the Grazing Association road. North and west along the Grazing Association road to the Campbell County line.)

Producers may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Organizations representing minority and women farmers and ranchers may also nominate candidates. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A.

Elected county committee members serve a three-year term and are responsible for making decisions on FSA disaster, conservation, commodity and price support programs, as well as other important federal farm program issues. County committees consist of three to 5 members.

FSA will mail election ballots to eligible voters beginning Nov. 7. Ballots are due back in the Crook County Office by mail or in person no later than Dec. 5, 2016. All newly elected county committee members and alternates will take office January 1, 2017.

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## 2016 Spring Session Crop Reporting / 2016 Acreage Reporting Dates

The office is currently taking crop reports for "annual" crops planted this spring and summer. Reports are by appointment only. The deadline to file a crop report is July 15th.

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers are encouraged to visit the Crook County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Crook County:

July 15, 2016: All spring planted crops

November 15, 2016: (for 2017 crop harvest) All perennial forage crops, pasture grass, winter wheat.

Note: we will not send out appointment cards for the November 15th deadline. It is your responsibility to report any winter wheat you plant this fall. Failure to report by November 15th will result in a "late-filed" fee being charged per farm.

The following exceptions apply to the above acreage reporting dates:

- 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 completed.
- If a producer acquires additional acreage after the above acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar 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.
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.
- (We have been doing many of the 2017 crop reports now while producers are in our office filing their 2016 report. This is possible because our program software to take 2017 crop reports is available to us right now. If your 2017 crop reports have been done in this manner you do not need to file another report by November 15th unless you change the crops on your fields. Some producers have elected not to file their 2017 crop report now. They will be responsible for filling those reports by the November 15th deadline.)

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## **Filing a Notice of Loss for Crops Covered under NAP (Non-Insured crop Assistance Program)**

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 for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County Office the earlier of:

15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence or date of loss or damage to the crop first becomes apparent.

15 calendar days after the normal harvest date.

The notice of loss notification can be provided by filing a CCC-576, in person, email, fax or phone. Producers who notify the County Office by any method other than by filing the CCC-576 are still required to file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, within the required 15 calendar days.

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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).