

August 2016



Crook County FSA Updates

Crook County FSA Office

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County Executive Director:

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County Committee:

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Larry Fowlkes
Jeanne Habeck

Next County Committee Meeting: September 14

Livestock Forage Program (LFP)

LFP Covers Eligible Grazing Losses Due to Drought and Wildfire. Livestock producers who suffer grazing losses occurring in 2016 due to drought or wildfire have until January 30, 2017 to report their losses and enroll in the program.

Producers who have suffered a grazing loss this year should contact the Crook County FSA Office to schedule an appointment to enroll in the program before the deadline.

The application consists of livestock numbers and acres. Livestock are listed by kind, type and numbers needed (eligible) as of June 28th. Paper documentation to support the claimed livestock numbers must be submitted. Additionally, the number of pasture acres and intended grazed crop acres (if applicable) used by the livestock must be reported on form FSA-578 Report of Acreage (crop report). If a FSA-578 was not submitted timely on the grazed acreages a late-filed fee will be assessed in order to file the FSA-578 crop report. (The deadline to file a timely 2016 grazed crop report was November 15, 2015. If you did not meet this deadline your farm(s) crop reports will be "late-filed").

We have a checklist/help sheet available for you to use to fill in the livestock category numbers so they are readily available when you come to your appointment. We ask that this sheet be completed and you have your documentation organized so that the application process time is minimal. Additionally, any land not previously reported to this office will have to be recorded and processed.

When visiting the office to complete an application you must bring your livestock inventory documentation along with the above mentioned checklist/help sheet, written leases for leased land, and a means to pay the late-filed crop report fee - if applicable. Producers with BLM leases must submit those leases as the copy we may have here in the office may not be the most current.

Eligible livestock includes alpacas, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, dairy cattle, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, poultry, reindeer, sheep or swine that have been or would have been grazing the eligible grazing land or pastureland.

For more information about LFP, contact the Crook County FSA Office at 307 283-2870 ext. 2.

Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Producers with a 2016 NAP policy should be filing a notice of loss on any crop they have determined that has suffered a loss in yield or grazing potential. The notice of loss should be filed the earlier of: 1/ within 15 days of the disaster event date that affected the crops production; or 2/ within 15 days of the date the loss was apparent. Notices of loss filed outside of this timeframe are subject to disapproval by the county committee if the loss cannot be verified by a visual inspection of the crop.

Many producers with forage policies on grass hay and small grain hay crops are currently filing notices of loss. Payments on forage policies are based on harvested and/or appraised production for the crop and then compared to the farms historical yield (APH) for that crop. The level of guarantee purchased is then factored in to determine the indemnity payment due. Payment is issued after the

notice of loss has been approved by the county committee and the producer has provided harvested production totals for the crop and/or an appraisal of the failed acreage has been made, and the application for payment has been completed by the county office and signed by the producer. Forage crops covered by a NAP policy that are not hayed and are grazed before an appraisal is performed will not be eligible for payment under the forage provisions.

Producers who have a NAP policy on pasture grass and other grazed crops have started to file notices of loss. Payments on grazing policies are based on the percent of loss set by the county committee from assessments by independent assessors. Payments, if a qualifying percent of loss is determined, will be issued after the December county committee meeting.

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

This year the county office is implementing ECP for damages to livestock fences caused by the Douglas and Kara Creek fires. Signup started August 15th and ends on September 13, 2016. Late-filed applications will not be approved.

This program provides cost share payments to eligible producers to help defray the cost of rebuilding fences destroyed by these fires.

Fences erected under this program must be built according to specific guidelines. If you are interested in participating in this program it is highly recommended that you obtain a copy of the fence construction specifications from this office before starting any work. Fences that are not built according to specs will not be approved for cost share.

Producers may start a fence practice before submitting their application and before that application is approved by the county committee but they need to understand that cost share money will not be available to them if the county office does not receive an allocation for the program.

Additionally, the county office is holding a signup without an allocation of funds. The office will not know if funds are available until after the signup period is over (September 13th). Applicants need to understand that there is no guarantee of funding. Filing an application does not guarantee that cost share money will be available to them for any work performed before and/or after their application is submitted and approved.

We understand that the available time left in the year to complete fencing projects is getting short. If you feel you need to get started before the office knows if funds are available (after September 13th) then you need to understand you run the risk of having to pay for all associated costs on your own with the possibility of no cost share reimbursement.

Interested parties should contact the Crook County FSA Office for further details.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact [Mike Idler](#) at [307-283-2870](#) extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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