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Crook County FSA Updates

Crook County FSA Office Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) - 2015 Premium Billing Letters

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Next County Committee Meeting:

October 25th

December 12th

Producers who purchased "buy-up" coverage in 2015 have or should be receiving a Summary of Coverage (SOC) letter that contains a "premium" dollar amount that is now due for the level of "buy-up" coverage elected back in 2015. Section "Covered Yield Based Crops" will list the premium due in the far right hand side of the document under the "estimated Premium" column. The premium due date is October 18th. (Page 2 of this letter list the total premium due).

The SOC is meant to provide insureds with information about which crops are covered under a NAP policy and what level of coverage each crop has (see sections "Covered Yield Based Crops" and "Covered Grazing Crops".) Only yield based crops are eligible for "buy-up" coverage. If you elected buy-up on any yield based crop like mixed grass hay the "Coverage Level (Options)" column will list what level of coverage the crop is enrolled in.

Additionally, the SOC will list crops that are not currently covered by a NAP policy ("Eligible Non-Covered Reported Crops"). This is for informational purposes so the producer can make a decision on whether to buy NAP coverage for that crop in 2017. However, some crops (such as Alfalfa, Alfalfa/Grass mix) are listed in this section that are not eligible for NAP coverage.

Now, since this letter is for 2015 the only item of importance is the premium due amount and date its due. However, for 2016, all items addressed above are pertinent and should be reviewed.

The SOC letters for 2016 should be mailed on or about February 1, 2017 and the "premium", on any buy-up crops, will become due on March 1, 2017. The 2016 premiums must be paid by April 1, 2017. If not paid by April 1st the affected crop will not be eligible to be covered by a 2017 policy.

Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) - 2016 Notices of Loss

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 (forage/hay crops) or grazing potential.

Many producers with a "grazing" policy on pasture grass and old hay fields that are grazed have not filed a notice of loss. This should be done as soon as it is determined that at least a 50 percent loss of grazing has occurred. This notice of loss can be filed in person in our office or can be filed by calling our office and reporting such loss. The notice of loss must be filed on form CCC-576 (Notice of Loss).

The percent of loss on grazed crops cannot be determined until after the end of the grazing period which ends on October 15th. The FSA county committee will determine the percent of loss on grazed crops after they receive loss assessments from independent sources. These loss assessments will be reviewed at the December county committee meeting in which the committee will set the percent of loss for all grazed crops (pasture, grass, grass/alfalfa mix, mixed grasses, etc.) If the percent of loss is established above 50% indemnity payments will then be processed.

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 (wildfire on federal lands) have until January 31, 2017 to report their losses and enroll in the program.

Interested producers should contact the Crook County FSA Office to schedule an appointment to enroll in the program.

The application consists of livestock numbers and grazing crop acreages (pasture grass is a crop). Livestock part of the operation on June 28th are eligible. Paper documentation to support the claimed livestock numbers must be submitted.

Additionally, the number of grazing acres must be reported on form FSA-578 Report of Crop Acreage, which is known as a "crop report". If a FSA-578 is not on file for crop year 2016 a late-filed fee will be assessed in order to claim grazed crop acreages on the LFP application. The deadline to file a "timely" FSA-578 for 2016 grazed crops was November 15, 2015. If your acreage was not filed by this deadline your farm(s) crop reports will be late-field and assessed a late-filing fee.

We have a checklist/help sheet available for you to use to compile your livestock inventory numbers so these numbers are readily available when you come to your appointment at our office. We ask that this sheet be completed and you have your documentation organized so that the application process time is minimal. The more organized you are with your paperwork the less time it will take to complete your application. Applicants that do not bring the required documentation to the appointment will not be allowed to complete and sign the application until all documents are provided. This will require another trip to the county office to complete the application.

Additionally, any land not previously reported to this office will have to be recorded and processed in order to add that land to your application. You should bring a copy the lease(s) associated with any applicable land so that we can update our records.

When visiting the office during your appointment you must bring the checklist/help sheet, livestock inventory documentation, written leases for private land effective for crop year 2016, BLM or Forest Service leases, and a means to pay any late-filed crop report fees, if applicable. For leased private land where a written lease is unavailable the county office has a form that must be completed in order for the land to be considered to be included on the application. If the BLM or Forest Service lease we might have on file is not the most current lease the producer must obtain the current lease and submit to our office.

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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