



# NEWSLETTER



Laramie County

11221A US Hwy 30 – Cheyenne, WY 82009

May 2016

## Farm Service Agency

307-772-2314 Phone  
855-415-3429 Fax

Office Hours  
Monday – Friday  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

## FSA Staff

Laura Kessler, CED  
Sarah Gordon, PT  
Kendal Sedman, PT  
Karla Warren, PT  
Terri Coulson, PT

## County Committee

Theron Anderson  
Brian Jacobsen  
Dale Martin  
Louise Jacobsen

## Farm Loan Staff

Duane Wisroth, FLM  
Torrington 307-532-4880  
Dixie Mount, FLO  
Wheatland 307-322-4050

## Need to File a Notice of Loss for Prevented Planted or Failed Acreage?

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.

**RMA covered commodities:** A prevented planted CCC-576 must be filed within 15 days of the RMA final plant date. For crops that are going to be considered failed, CCC-576 must be completed in the office before destruction of the crop.

**NAP covered Commodities:** Crops that are covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.

If you are unaware of the final plant dates for a crop or you have general questions about this process, please contact your local insurance provider or the office at 307-772-2314.

## Acreage Reporting Deadline July 15th

Producers are reminded to complete their crop acreage reporting requirements as they complete their spring crop plantings. Appointments allow the Farm Service Agency to better plan and serve you, the customer. Appointments can be arranged by calling 307-772-2314.

Acreage reports are required for programs such as but not limited to ARC/PLC and CRP. The acreage reporting deadlines for crops coincide with the crop insurance reporting requirements. Reports are accepted after the crop is planted and before the established deadline.

Established Reporting Deadlines:

- **November 15:** Alfalfa, perennial grasses intended for hay or pasture. Wheat, Triticale and Rye. 2016 Reports were due last fall. Late-filing provisions will apply if not already reported
- **July 15:** All other crops not listed above.
- Anyone who misses an above deadline can use the Late Filing or Reporting Fee Option. This allows a producer to file an acreage report with FSA after the deadline. The fee to file a late acreage report is \$46 per farm and evidence of the crop must be verifiable.

## **ARC/PLC - Enrollment Period for 2016 USDA Safety Net Coverage Ends Aug. 1**

The Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs 2016 Sign up period ends August 1, 2016. Producers who chose coverage from the safety net programs established by the 2014 Farm Bill, known as ARC/PLC, can visit the Laramie County FSA office through Aug. 1, 2016, to sign contracts to enroll in coverage for 2016.

Although the choice between ARC and PLC is completed and remains in effect through 2018, producers **must** still enroll their farm by signing a contract each year to receive coverage.

Producers are encouraged to contact the office at 307-772-2314 to schedule an appointment to enroll. If a farm is not enrolled during the 2016 enrollment period, producers on that farm will not be eligible for financial assistance from the ARC or PLC programs should crop prices or farm revenues fall below the historical price or revenue benchmarks established by the program.

The two programs were authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill and offer a safety net to agricultural producers when there is a substantial drop in prices or revenues for covered commodities. Covered commodities include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium grain rice (which includes short grain and sweet rice), safflower seed, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat. Upland cotton is no longer a covered commodity. For more details regarding these programs, go to [www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc).

## **Non-Insurable Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) – Production Requirement Reminder**

The office would like to remind producers that carried NAP coverage that their production is due by the next crop reporting deadline for that crop. For example: 2015 Millet for hay production is due July 15, 2016. 2015 mixed forage hay was due November 15, 2015. Production is due by the next time you certify the crop you carry coverage on. Just remember to bring in your production records to the office as soon as you are done cutting to avoid any potential losses on NAP payments.

## **2016 COC Election**

The Laramie County FSA office is requesting your help in soliciting COC member nominations for LAA #2 starting June 15, 2016. This area is the south east part of Laramie County. The County Committee administers FSA farm programs at the county and area level. It is very important for the COC to be fairly representative of the producers in the county or area, with special emphasis in recruiting minorities and women so programs are administered fairly among all producers.

COC's have a vital role in determining eligibility for Farm Loan Programs and all other programs administered by FSA such as Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage contracts, Conservation Reserve Program, Price Support Loans, and other emergency programs. These programs help stabilize farm income while preserving the quality of the environment.

An eligible nominee is any landowner or operator in Laramie County listed on the eligible voter list for LAA#2 that actively participates in farming or ranching and is at least 18 years old. The candidate must also be willing to serve by filling out an FSA-669A. COC meetings are normally conducted every other month. The successful candidate is stipend for their time and travel.

## **Wednesday Workshops**

The Laramie County FSA Office wants to remind producers of their Wednesday Workshops that take place every second Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. The remaining workshops for the rest of the 2016 calendar year are: June 8 - Marketing Assistance Loans; July 13 – County Committee Elections; August 10 – Conservation Reserve Program –Grasslands; September 14 – Livestock Indemnity Program; October 12 – E-Gov; November 9 – Farm Loan Options; December 14 – Continuous Conservation Reserve Program.

## **Special Accommodations**

**Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.**

## Farm Storage Facility Loans

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) expanded the Farm Storage and Facility Loan program, which provides low-interest financing to producers (Currently 1.625% for May on a 7 year loan). The enhanced program includes 22 new categories of eligible equipment for producers and eased the process for loans under \$100,000.

Farm Storage Facility Loan security requirements have been eased for loans up to \$100,000. Previously, all loans in excess of \$50,000 and any loan with little resale value required a promissory note/security agreement and additional security, such as a lien on real estate. Now loans up to \$50,000 can be secured by only a promissory note/security agreement and some loans between \$50,000 and \$100,000 will no longer require additional security.

The low-interest funds can be used to build or upgrade permanent facilities to store commodities. Eligible commodities include grains, oilseeds, hay, pulse crops, honey, renewable biomass commodities, fruits and vegetables. Qualified facilities include grain bins, hay barns, milk bulk tanks and cold storage facilities for fruits and vegetables.

Producers have to show the need for storage based off of what they have certified over the past three years subtracting what available storage they currently have. Structures can only be for commodities that are raised not purchased. Producers have to show the ability to repay. Please contact the office at 307-772-2314 or visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) for more about FSA programs and loans, including the Farm Storage Facility Loan Program.

## Loans for Underserved Producers

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or to purchase or improve farms or ranches. While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs, FSA has provided priority funding for members of targeted underserved applicants.

A targeted underserved applicant is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of his or her identity as members of the group without regard to his or her individual qualities. For purposes of this program, targeted underserved groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere.

## Change in Farming Operation

If you have bought or sold land, or if you have picked up or dropped rented land from your operation, make sure you report the changes to your local FSA office as soon as possible. When making ownership changes please provide a copy of the land deed or recorded land contract for purchased property. **Please remember this includes deeding your land into a revocable trust.** Other changes that need to be reported are changes in the structure of an entity. If you make changes to your corporation, LLC or partnership please let the office know. The types of changes that need to be reported include but are not limited to change in member, change in share, adding a minor, or current member becomes deceased. A reminder that the failure to maintain accurate farm records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can cause potential loss of program eligibility.



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PRESORTED STANDARD  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 Farm Service Agency  
 PERMIT #G-96

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
Continuous	Farm Storage Facility Loans
Ongoing	Signup for Livestock Indemnity Payments (LIP)
May 15, 2016	Nesting Season Begins – No activity to be conducted on CRP until July 16th
May 30, 2016	Office closed in observance of Memorial Day
May 31, 2016	Final date for 2015 Corn Loans
June 15, 2016	Nomination period begins for COC Election – LAA#2
July 15, 2016	Final 2015 NAP production reports are due for certain NAP crops
July 15, 2016	Deadline to report 2016 spring planted crops
Aug. 1, 2016	Deadline to enroll in 2016 ARC/PLC
Aug. 1, 2016	Deadline to request farm transfer/recon for the 2016 FY
Aug. 1, 2016	Last day to file nominations forms for COC Election - LAA#2

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. 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)