

June 2016



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Laramie County FSA Updates

Laramie County FSA Office

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County Committee:
Theron Anderson
Brian Jacobsen
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Next COC Meeting:
TBD

Laramie County Comments

Greetings Laramie County Farmers and Ranchers! We know June is a particularly busy month in the field, but wanted to put out a heads up about the opening of the nomination period for our County Committee. The nomination period is relatively short, so be sure to submit your nominations quickly!

County committee members usually are asked to attend meetings at the Cheyenne office once every month or two, and are stipend for their time and travel. Meetings typically include coffee and some sort of treat (usually donuts or cinnamon rolls)! Please see below articles for more information.

We also want to put out a reminder that spring crop reporting is due by July 15th and ARC/PLC contracts are due by August 1st. Please call to set up an appointment to report and/or enroll at 307-772-2314 ext. 2.

Happy farming!

FSA County Committee Nomination Period in Laramie County Now Open

The nomination period for the Laramie FSA county committee began on June 15, 2016. Nomination forms must be postmarked or received in the Laramie 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 2, which includes the South East corner of Laramie County (South of county road 221 and East of road 136).

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. The form and more information about county committee elections is available online at: www.fsa.usda.gov/elections.

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 11 members.

FSA will mail election ballots to eligible voters beginning Nov. 7. Ballots are due back in the Laramie 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.

For more information about county committees, please contact the Laramie County FSA office at 307-772-2314 ext. 2 or visit www.fsa.usda.gov/elections.

USDA to Provide Agricultural Credit Training, Expand Opportunities for Farmer Veterans and Beginning Farmers

USDA is partnering with the Farmer Veteran Coalition (FVC) to conduct agricultural credit training sessions in the Midwest for military veterans and beginning farmers and ranchers. States under consideration to host the workshops include Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Nebraska.

These workshops will provide individuals interested in farming as a career, including military veterans, with methods to improve business planning and financial skills, and improve understanding of the risk management tools that can help small farm operations.

Other partners include Niman Ranch a community network of more than 700 independent family farmers and ranchers, and the Farm Credit Council and the Farm Credit System, which provides loans, leases and financial services to farmers, ranchers and rural businesses across the United States. The workshops will also include assistance with credit applications and introductions to local or regional food markets.

To learn more about veterans in agriculture, visit www.usda.gov/veterans. Visit www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans or your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office to learn more about FSA's farm loan programs. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>. More information also is available from the Farmer Veteran Coalition at www.farmvetco.org.

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