

January 2016



BULLETIN



Big Horn County FSA Updates

Big Horn County FSA Office

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Program Technicians:

Connie Werbelow

County Committee:

Michael Rasmussen
Spencer Ellis
Martin Mercer

Next County Committee

Meeting:

Feb 10, 2016 1:30PM

Livestock Producers

As calving and lambing season gets under way and livestock tends to be more vulnerable, please keep in mind the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) for any death losses with your livestock.

The Livestock Indemnity Program provides assistance to eligible producers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses due to adverse weather, including but not limited to losses due to floods, blizzards, extreme cold with precipitation, lightning, tornados, and wildfires.

For 2016, eligible losses must occur on or after January 1, 2016, and before December 31, 2016. A notice of loss must be filed with FSA within **30 days of when the loss of livestock is apparent**. Supporting documentation necessary for your application include but are not limited to; beginning inventory, proof of death for animals lost to an eligible cause and animals lost due to normal mortality, and documentation of the weather event or confirmed kill records for predator kills.

Acceptable proof of livestock death include but are not limited to: contemporaneous producer records at the time of the event, pictures with a date, brand inspection records, weather data. Documentation to substantiate eligible attacks by animals or avian predators must be obtained by a source such as but not limited to: the following: APHIS, Department of Natural Recourses, other sources or documentation as determined by the Deputy Administrator.

Sign-up is ongoing. Additional details on the types of information required for an application will be provided as part of the sign-up process. Some eligibility restrictions may apply.

USDA Encourages Producers to Consider Risk Protection Coverage Before Crop Sales Deadlines

The Farm Service Agency encourages producers to examine available USDA crop risk protection options, including federal crop insurance and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage, before the applicable crop sales deadline.

Producers are reminded that crops not covered by insurance may be eligible for the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). The 2014 Farm Bill expanded NAP to include higher levels of protection. Beginning, underserved, and limited resource

farmers are now eligible for free catastrophic level coverage, as well as discounted premiums for additional levels of protection."

Federal crop insurance covers crop losses from natural adversities such as drought, hail and excessive moisture. NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available, including perennial grass forage and grazing crops, and small grain hay.

NAP basic coverage is available at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production. A higher levels of coverage is available on crops other than grazing on up to 65 percent of their expected production at 100 percent of the average market price, including coverage for organics and crops marketed directly to consumers.

Deadlines for coverage in Big Horn County is **April 1st**. Contact this office for more information.

Federal crop insurance coverage is sold and delivered solely through private insurance agents. Agent lists are available at all USDA Service Centers or at USDA's online Agent Locator: <http://prodwebnlb.rma.usda.gov/apps/AgentLocator/#>. Producers can use the USDA Cost Estimator, <https://ewebapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/costestimator/Default.aspx>, to predict insurance premium costs.

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).