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## Message from the FSA State Director

Greetings from the South Dakota State FSA Office,

Earlier this month I had the opportunity to wrap up a project that I started this spring, visiting each of our 55 FSA Service Centers. The office visits gave me an opportunity to see firsthand the great diversity which makes up South Dakota agriculture. Even the FSA office buildings are situated in diverse locations. From the FSA office in Watertown in east central South Dakota with a corn field out their front door, to the office in Hot Springs residing on a busy commercial downtown street.

The one common theme with each of the 55 offices is our middle name, Service. My visits came on the heels of the office doors being reopened and a return to normalcy after two years of being closed with limited access to our producers. During my office visits I learned what I had already suspected, the FSA staff adapted to get the job done during the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021. They found a way to make it happen, in some offices it was having a walkup window to service farmers and ranchers; for other offices it was a picnic table in the parking lot; and probably the most common trick was the hood of a pickup truck.

It didn't matter what methods the FSA staff used, farmers and ranchers got signed up for the ongoing FSA farm program and countless COVID/disaster programs. Through it all FSA staff made sure farm and ranch families did not miss a beat during the past two years.

During my office visits I learned that many of the FSA offices were stocked with "readers" for farmers and ranchers who may need a little assistance in reading the print. One of my favorite things are the candy dishes most offices have. I know readers and a candy dish may seem like little things, but it is another example of the extra step the FSA county office staff takes to make your visit a pleasant one.

The folks in the FSA County offices are federal employees who are dedicated to deliver services to South Dakota's farm and ranch families. Just like farmers and ranchers provide a safe and reliable food supply to our nation, FSA employees also play an equally important role in that process.

The next time you are in your FSA office please thank the staff for the extra effort they've put in during the past two years and the ongoing service they do every day!

Also, tell us what you think about the service you are receiving from USDA. On November 9, 2022, USDA released a nationwide survey to help the Department improve and increase access to its programs and services for America's farmers and ranchers. The survey gathers feedback on programs and services available through FSA, NRCS and RMA.

The survey is an Office of Management and Budget requirement supported by the Biden-Harris administration's President's Management Agenda (PMA), which identified FSA and NRCS as High-Impact Service Providers. These agencies provide critical customer-facing services and are expected to use the survey data to make targeted improvements.

The survey is available online at [farmers.gov/survey](https://farmers.gov/survey), and producers should complete by March 31, 2023.

As always, if you would like more information on the services FSA can provide, please contact your local [USDA Service Center](#) or reach me at [steve.dick@usda.gov](mailto:steve.dick@usda.gov).

Sincerely,

Steve Dick  
State Executive Director  
USDA - Farm Service Agency

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## Message from the NRCS State Conservationist

Greetings,

Fall hunting seasons are upon us. Meeting wildlife species year-round habitat needs is the key to abundant wildlife. Consider reaching out to our [partner habitat advisors and biologists](#) with questions. You can use this [map to find partnering habitat advisors near you](#). They are experts in both conservation programs and habitat planning. They are available to assist landowners anywhere across the state in designing, developing and funding habitat improvements on private land.

I invite you to visit our booth at the [2022 South Dakota Local Foods Conference](#) located in Sturgis, South Dakota, November 17-19. Sessions include pasture-based systems, seed libraries, cover crop strategies and more. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offers conservation assistance to growers and is a sponsor of the event.

Be aware that our new [NRCS website](#) has been released. The site is being upgraded to improve visitor experience, as well as enhanced content. Please be patient as we work through the upgrading process.

Finally, don't delay working with your [local NRCS office](#) for your specific natural resource needs. Local staff can contact NRCS specialists and technical experts as needed. Funding opportunities occur throughout the year.

Thank you to all South Dakota farmers, ranchers, and landowners who are moving the needle of conservation in our state.

Sincerely,

Tony Sunseri  
State Conservationist  
USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service

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## New NRCS Website

We're excited to unveil our new website, which was designed for you, whether you're a farmer, rancher or forest landowner who uses Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation programs or one of our partners who helps us deliver on the conservation mission.

The new NRCS site has been designed to support and enhance our mission by delivering relevant, timely, customer-focused information in an easy-to-navigate platform.

Key features include:

- It's been designed using the U.S. Web Design System, so you'll see a certain "family resemblance" among USDA and other federal websites, including farmers.gov.
- It's accessible (or 508 conformant), meaning the site is designed for use by people with disabilities.
- It's mobile responsive, meaning that it should work on a phone or tablet as easily as on a desktop computer.

Be sure to check out our:

- [Guides and Instructions](#)- Search by resource type, NRCS program, natural resource concern, and state.
- [Getting Assistance](#)- Learn more about available technical and financial assistance and how you can get support online as well as with the NRCS at your local Service Center.
- [Conservation by State](#)- Find information on NRCS programs, services and other information in your state.

If you can't find something that you used to find on our website, [contact us](#) and we can help.

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## Farmers Can Now Make 2023 Crop Year Elections, Enroll in Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Programs

Agricultural producers can now change election and enroll in the [Agriculture Risk Coverage \(ARC\) and Price Loss Coverage](#) programs for the 2023 crop year, two key safety net programs offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Signup began Monday, and producers have until March 15, 2023, to enroll in these

two programs. Additionally, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) has started issuing payments totaling more than \$255 million to producers with 2021 crops that have triggered payments through ARC or PLC.

### **2023 Elections and Enrollment**

Producers can elect coverage and enroll in ARC-County (ARC-CO) or PLC, which provide crop-by-crop protection, or ARC-Individual (ARC-IC), which protects the entire farm. Although election changes for 2023 are optional, producers must enroll through a signed contract each year. Also, if a producer has a multi-year contract on the farm and makes an election change for 2023, they must sign a new contract.

If producers do not submit their election by the March 15, 2023 deadline, their election remains the same as their 2022 election for crops on the farm. Farm owners cannot enroll in either program unless they have a share interest in the farm.

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 and short grain rice, safflower seed, seed cotton, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat.

### **Web-Based Decision Tools**

In partnership with USDA, the University of Illinois and Texas A&M University offer web-based decision tools to assist producers in making informed, educated decisions using crop data specific to their respective farming operations. Tools include:

- [Gardner-farmdoc Payment Calculator](#), a tool available through the University of Illinois allows producers to estimate payments for farms and counties for ARC-CO and PLC.
- [ARC and PLC Decision Tool](#), a tool available through Texas A&M that allows producers to obtain basic information regarding the decision and factors that should be taken into consideration such as future commodity prices and historic yields to estimate payments for 2022.

### **2021 Payments and Contracts**

ARC and PLC payments for a given crop year are paid out the following fall to allow actual county yields and the Market Year Average prices to be finalized. This month, FSA processed payments to producers enrolled in 2021 ARC-CO, ARC-IC and PLC for covered commodities that triggered for the crop year.

For ARC-CO, producers can view the [2021](#) ARC-CO Benchmark Yields and Revenues online database, for payment rates applicable to their county and each covered commodity. For PLC, payments have triggered for rapeseed and peanuts.

For ARC-IC, producers should contact their local FSA office for additional information pertaining to 2021 payment information, which relies on producer-specific yields for the crop and farm to determine benchmark yields and actual year yields when calculating revenues.

### **By the Numbers**

In 2021, producers signed nearly 1.8 million ARC or PLC contracts, and 251 million out of 273 million base acres were enrolled in the programs. For the 2022 crop year signed contracts surpassed 1.8 million, to be paid in the fall of 2023, if a payment triggers.

Since ARC and PLC were first authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill and reauthorized by the 2018 Farm Bill, these safety-net programs have paid out more than \$34.9 billion to producers of covered commodities.

### **Crop Insurance Considerations**

ARC and PLC are part of a broader safety net provided by USDA, which also includes crop insurance and marketing assistance loans.

Producers are reminded that ARC and PLC elections and enrollments can impact eligibility for some crop insurance products.

Producers on farms with a PLC election have the option of purchasing Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO) through their Approved Insurance Provider; however, producers on farms where ARC is the election are ineligible for SCO on their planted acres for that crop on that farm.

Unlike SCO, the Enhanced Coverage Option (ECO) is unaffected by an ARC election. Producers may add ECO regardless of the farm program election.

Upland cotton farmers who choose to enroll seed cotton base acres in ARC or PLC are ineligible for the stacked income protection plan (STAX) on their planted cotton acres for that farm.

### **More Information**

For more information on ARC and PLC, visit the [ARC and PLC webpage](#) or contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

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## **Applying for NAP Payments**

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to you for crops that aren't eligible for crop insurance to protect against lower yields or crops unable to be planted due to natural disasters including freeze, hail, excessive moisture, excessive wind or hurricanes, flood, excessive heat and qualifying drought (includes native grass for grazing), among others.

In order to participate, you must obtain NAP coverage for the crop year by the applicable deadline using form CCC-471 "Application for Coverage" and pay the service fee. Application closing dates vary by crop. Producers are also required to submit an acceptable crop acreage report. Additionally, NAP participants must provide:

- The quantity of all harvested production of the crop in which the producer held an interest during the crop year
- The disposition of the harvested crop, such as whether it is marketable, unmarketable, salvaged or used differently than intended
- Acceptable crop production records (when requested by FSA)

Producers who fail to report acreage and production information for NAP-covered crops could see reduced or zero NAP assistance. These reports are used to calculate the approved yield.

If your NAP-covered crops are affected by a natural disaster, notify your FSA office by completing Part B of form CCC-576 "Notice of Loss and Application for Payment." This must be completed within 15 calendar days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent or 15 days of the final harvest date. For hand-harvested crops and certain perishable crops, you must notify FSA within 72 hours of when a loss becomes apparent.

To receive benefits, you must also complete Parts D, E, F and G of the CCC-576 "Notice of Loss and Application for Payment" within 60 days of the last day of coverage for the crop year for any NAP covered crops. The CCC-576 requires acceptable appraisal information. Producers must provide evidence of production and note whether the crop was marketable, unmarketable, salvaged or used differently than intended.

Eligible crops must be commercially produced agricultural commodities for which crop insurance is not available, including perennial grass forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, bioenergy, and industrial crops.

## USDA Announces Assistance for On-Farm Food Safety Expenses for Specialty Crop Growers

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) plans to provide up to \$200 million in assistance for specialty crop producers who incur eligible on-farm food safety program expenses to obtain or renew a food safety certification in calendar years 2022 or 2023. USDA's new [Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops](#) (FSCSC) program will help to offset costs for specialty crop producers to comply with regulatory requirements and market-driven food safety certification requirements, which is part of USDA's broader effort to transform the food system to create a more level playing field for small and medium producers and a more balanced, equitable economy for everyone working in food and agriculture.

Specialty crop operations can apply for assistance for eligible expenses related to a 2022 food safety certificate issued on or after June 21, 2022, beginning June 27, 2022. USDA is delivering FSCSC to provide critical assistance for specialty crop operations, with an emphasis on equity in program delivery while building on lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and supply chain disruptions. Vilsack made the announcement from Hollis, N.H., where he toured a local, family-owned farm and highlighted USDA's efforts to help reduce costs for farmers and support local economies by providing significant funding to cut regulatory costs and increase market opportunities for farmers in New Hampshire and across the nation.

### Program Details

FSCSC will assist specialty crop operations that incurred eligible on-farm food safety certification and related expenses related to obtaining or renewing a food safety certification in calendar years 2022 and 2023. For each year, FSCSC covers a percentage of the specialty crop operation's cost of obtaining or renewing their certification, as well as a portion of their related expenses.

To be eligible for FSCSC, the applicant must be a specialty crop operation; meet the definition of a small business or very small business; and have paid eligible expenses related to the 2022 (issued on or after June 21, 2022) or 2023 certification.

Specialty crop operations may receive assistance for the following costs:

- Developing a food safety plan for first-time food safety certification.
- Maintaining or updating an existing food safety plan.
- Food safety certification.
- Certification upload fees.
- Microbiological testing for products, soil amendments and water.
- Training.

FSCSC payments are calculated separately for each category of eligible costs. A higher payment rate has been set for socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning and veteran farmers and ranchers. Details about the payment rates and limitations can be found at [farmers.gov/food-safety](https://farmers.gov/food-safety).

### Applying for Assistance

The FSCSC application period for 2022 is June 27, 2022, through January 31, 2023, and the application period for 2023 will be announced at a later date. FSA will issue payments at the time of application approval for 2022 and after the application period ends for 2023. If calculated payments exceed the amount of available funding, payments will be prorated.

Interested specialty crop producers can apply by completing the FSA-888, Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program (FSCSC) application. The application, along with other required documents, can be submitted to the FSA office at any USDA Service Center nationwide by mail, fax, hand delivery or via electronic means.

Producers can visit [farmers.gov/food-safety](https://farmers.gov/food-safety) for additional program details, eligibility information and forms needed to apply.

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## NRCS Announces EQIP Program Sign-Up

*NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS), Huron, S.D., November 4, 2022*— U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) officials announce December 9, 2022, as the batching date for applications for the popular Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) administered by the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

“Now is the time to contact the NRCS to begin developing conservation solutions on your farm or ranch. Local and regional technical specialists with the NRCS can help you develop a plan to address resource concerns. “Those with good conservation plans will be in a better position to apply for financial assistance since they have a solid conservation goals for their operation,” according to Jennifer Wurtz, EQIP Program Coordinator, with the NRCS, Huron, SD.

Applications are batched annually for funding consideration. This year, December 9, 2022, is the date by which an operator or landowner must sign an application at their local NRCS office for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 funding consideration, says Wurtz. This batching date is for general funding opportunities as well as initiative funding such as Soil Health Initiative, Wildlife, Sage Grouse Initiative, Grassland Birds, Animal Waste Management, National Water Quality Initiative, High Tunnel Systems, Organic, and On-Farm Energy to name a few.

“The EQIP Program provides financial and technical assistance to help farmers and ranchers voluntary implement conservation practices to improve natural resources on working agricultural lands. Payment is provided for a variety of practices to address natural resource concerns such as water quality, grazing land health and productivity, soil erosion and soil quality, and wildlife habitat development.

Applications for all NRCS conservation programs are accepted continuously, however the application batching date, or call for ranking, is annual. Wurtz says. “The batching deadline for this popular conservation program comes around quickly and the ranking process can be competitive.” Operators or landowners should apply early, not wait, to visit NRCS in their local U.S. Department of Agriculture Service Center.

For information about technical assistance and conservation programs, visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted). For more information about the EQIP or to apply, please contact your local NRCS office or visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/Programs/FinancialAssistance/EQIP](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Programs/FinancialAssistance/EQIP).

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## USDA Opens 2023 Signup for Dairy Margin Coverage

*Protect Your Operation from Ups and Downs in the Market*

Dairy producers can now enroll for 2023 coverage through the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) Program, an important safety net program from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that helps producers manage changes in milk and feed prices. Last year, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) took steps to improve coverage, especially for small- and mid-sized dairies, including offering a new Supplemental DMC program

and updating its feed cost formula to better address retroactive, current and future feed costs. These changes continue to support producers through this year's signup, which begins today and ends Dec. 9, 2022.

DMC is a voluntary risk management program that offers protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all-milk price and the average feed price (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer.

So far in 2022, DMC payments to more than 17,000 dairy operations have triggered for August for more than \$47.9 million. According to DMC margin projections, an indemnity payment is projected for September as well. At \$0.15 per hundredweight for \$9.50 coverage, risk coverage through DMC is a relatively inexpensive investment.

DMC offers different levels of coverage, even an option that is free to producers, aside from a \$100 administrative fee. Limited resource, beginning, socially disadvantaged or a military veteran farmers or ranchers are exempt from paying the administrative fee, if requested. To determine the appropriate level of DMC coverage for a specific dairy operation, producers can use the [online dairy decision tool](#).

### **Supplemental DMC**

Last year, USDA introduced Supplemental DMC, which provided \$42.8 million in payments to better help small- and mid-sized dairy operations that had increased production over the years but were not able to enroll the additional production. Supplemental DMC is also available for 2023.

Supplemental DMC coverage is applicable to calendar years 2021, 2022 and 2023. Eligible dairy operations with less than 5 million pounds of established production history may enroll supplemental pounds.

For producers who enrolled in Supplemental DMC in 2022, the supplemental coverage will automatically be added to the 2023 DMC contract that previously established a supplemental production history.

Producers who did not enroll in Supplemental DMC in 2022 can do so now. Producers should complete their Supplemental DMC enrollment before enrolling in 2023 DMC. To enroll, producers will need to provide their 2019 actual milk marketings, which FSA uses to determine established production history.

### **DMC Payments**

Additionally, FSA will continue to calculate DMC payments using updated feed and premium hay costs, making the program more reflective of actual dairy producer expenses. These updated feed calculations use 100% premium alfalfa hay rather than 50%. The benefits of these feed cost adjustments were realized in the recent August 2022 margin payment as current high feed and premium hay costs were considered in payment calculations.

### **More Information**

In addition to DMC, USDA offers other risk management tools for dairy producers, including the [Dairy Revenue Protection \(DRP\)](#) plan that protects against a decline in milk revenue (yield and price) and the [Livestock Gross Margin \(LGM\)](#) plan, which provides protection against the loss of the market value of livestock minus the feed costs. Both DRP and LGM livestock insurance policies are offered through the Risk Management Agency. Producers should contact their local [crop insurance agent](#) for more information.

For more information on DMC, visit the [DMC webpage](#) or contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

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## **Apply for Livestock Forage Losses**

Producers in 33 SD Counties are eligible to apply for 2022, Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) benefits on small grain, native pasture, improved pasture, and forage sorghum.



LFP provides compensation if you suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or fire on federally managed land.

County committees can only accept LFP applications after notification is received by the National Office of qualifying drought or if a federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normal permitted livestock on federally managed lands due to qualifying fire. You must complete a CCC-853 and the required supporting documentation no later than January 30, 2022, for 2022 losses.

For additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact your local county USDA Service Center or visit [fsa.usda.gov](https://fsa.usda.gov).

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## Signature Policy

Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and prevent a delay in program benefits.

The following are FSA signature guidelines:

- A married woman must sign her given name: Mrs. Mary Doe, not Mrs. John Doe
- For a minor, FSA requires the minor's signature and one from the minor's parent

Note, by signing a document with a minor, the parent is liable for actions of the minor and may be liable for refunds, liquidated damages, etc.

When signing on one's behalf the signature must agree with the name typed or printed on the form or be a variation that does not cause the name and signature to be in disagreement. Example - John W. Smith is on the form. The signature may be John W. Smith or J.W. Smith or J. Smith. Or Mary J. Smith may be signed as Mrs. Mary Joe Smith, M.J. Smith, Mary Smith, etc.

FAXED signatures will be accepted for certain forms and other documents provided the acceptable program forms are approved for FAXED signatures. Producers are responsible for the successful transmission and receipt of FAXED information.

Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office.

Spouses cannot sign on behalf of each other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities. Likewise, a spouse cannot sign a document on behalf of the other in order to affirm the eligibility of oneself.

Any member of a general partnership can sign on behalf of the general partnership and bind all members unless the Articles of Partnership are more restrictive. Spouses may sign on behalf of each other's individual interest in a partnership, unless notification denying a spouse that authority is provided to the county office. Acceptable signatures for general partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, estates, and trusts must consist of an indicator "by" or "for" the individual's name, individual's name and capacity, or individual's name, capacity, and name of entity.

For additional clarification on proper signatures contact your local FSA office.

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## South Dakota Grassland Productivity Outlook

The November 1 edition of the South Dakota Grassland Productivity Outlook map is posted on the South Dakota Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Range and Pasture Web page ([www.bit.ly/RangePasture](http://www.bit.ly/RangePasture)). The map is produced using data from the South Dakota Drought Tool. The South Dakota Drought Tool utilizes a two-year weighted average of precipitation data to determine its percent of normal production calculation. The numbers are calibrated based on historical clipping data from across the state. This prediction only relates to grassland forage production (not so much cropland) and will not predict forage quality. Producers utilizing this map should consider local conditions when making decisions as the weather stations used to create the map are not equally spread out across each county of the state.

Conditions have continued to decline over the past two months (according to this map compared to September and October, as well as the U.S. Drought Monitor). Lack of fall precipitation may impact next year's spring growth – especially if winter precipitation is less than normal. In order to conserve the moisture we do receive – consider leaving at least 4 to 6 inches of grass height for this winter. This will not only help catch snow, but also reduce wind erosion over winter, and water erosion next spring if snow melt occurs. Leaving enough residual grass can also help provide soil “armor” or cover to help insulate the soil from evaporation, erosion, and wide swings in soil temperature. Having the right amount of ground cover can influence infiltration rates as well.

If you are planning on winter grazing this year (or year-round grazing as some folks like to call it!), make sure to watch the new video produced by the Growing Resilience project ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYczzr2Lv-SA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYczzr2Lv-SA)). This video includes two rancher's perspectives on year-round grazing, how to successfully implement it, and key considerations needed. Another video that could come in handy this fall/winter season – check out the Bale Grazing video ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdozEwxLZOE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdozEwxLZOE)) – highlighting three producers' use of bale grazing.

The following resources are also available: SD NRCS Range and Drought page: [bit.ly/RangePasture](http://bit.ly/RangePasture) SD Grassland Coalition's Drought Planning website: [sddroughtplan.org/](http://sddroughtplan.org/) National Drought Mitigation Center: [drought.unl.edu/ranchplan/Monitor.aspx](http://drought.unl.edu/ranchplan/Monitor.aspx) National Integrated Drought Information System: [drought.gov/](http://drought.gov/) U.S. Drought Monitor: [droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu) SD State Extension Drought Resources: [extension.sdstate.edu/drought](http://extension.sdstate.edu/drought) SD Growing Resilience Web page: [www.growingresiliencesd.com](http://www.growingresiliencesd.com) SD Grazing Exchange: [www.sdgrazingexchange.com/](http://www.sdgrazingexchange.com/)

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## Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the [AFIDA form](#) could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements. The data gained from these disclosures is used in the preparation of periodic reports to the President and Congress concerning the effect of such holdings upon family farms and rural communities. Click [here](#) for more information on AFIDA.

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## FSA Offers Loan Servicing Options

There are options for Farm Service Agency (FSA) loan customers during financial stress. If you are a borrower who is unable to make payments on a loan, contact your local FSA Farm Loan Manager to learn about your options.

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# Loans for Targeted Underserved Producers

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) has several loan programs to help you start or continue an agriculture production. Farm ownership and operating loans are available.

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.



## USDA in South Dakota

200 4th Street SW  
Huron, SD 57350

### Farm Service Agency

**State Executive Director:**  
Steve Dick

### Administrative Officer:

Theresa Hoadley

### Program Managers:

Owen Fagerhaug - *Conservation*  
Logan Kopfmann - *Disaster Relief*  
Donita Garry - *Program Delivery*  
Ryan Vanden Berge - *Farm Loan Program*

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

**State Conservationist:**  
Tony Sunseri

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