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## Message From the County Office

### Keeping Livestock Inventory Records

Livestock inventory records are necessary in the event of a natural disaster, so remember to keep them updated.

When disasters strike, the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) can help if you've suffered excessive livestock death losses and grazing, or feed losses due to eligible natural disasters, but eligibility requires good records on your behalf.

To participate in livestock disaster assistance programs, you'll be required to provide verifiable documentation of death losses resulting from an eligible adverse weather event and must submit a notice of loss to your local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss of livestock is apparent. For grazing or feed losses, you must submit a notice of loss to your local FSA office within 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent and should maintain documentation and receipts.

You should record all pertinent information regarding livestock inventory records including:

- Documentation of the number, kind, type, and weight range of livestock
- Beginning inventory supported by birth recordings or purchase receipts
- Dated photographs of livestock losses.

For more information on documentation requirements, contact your Campbell County USDA Service Center at 307 682 8843 or visit [fsa.usda.gov](https://fsa.usda.gov).

### NAP Information

Producers with NAP coverage in 2023 are urged to report their harvested production. FSA can supply maps for you to record your harvested production on a field-by-field basis. Timely and accurately reporting these yields is key to your farm's Actual Production History (APH) and indemnity payments. Producers with no harvested production must have an appraisal completed prior to grazing the acreage. Failure to do this will result in a reduced indemnity payment.

### Interested in NAP for 2024?

In order to potentially receive benefits in 2024 you must be enrolled in NAP and have purchased coverage for the eligible crop you produce in which a loss occurred due to a qualifying natural disaster. **December 1, 2023** is the final day to enroll fall seeded crops, perennial forage and honey for the 2024 program year.

### NAP Service Fees

NAP offers varying levels of coverage, from 50 to 65 percent of expected production in 5 percent increments. Buy-up levels of NAP coverage are available if the producer can show at least one year of previously successfully growing the crop for which coverage is being requested. For all coverage levels, the NAP service fee is the lesser of \$325 per crop or \$825 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of \$1,950 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Beginning, limited resource and targeted



underserved farmers or ranchers remain eligible for a waiver of NAP service fees and premium reduction when they file form CCC-860, “*Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource and Beginning Farmer or Rancher Certification.*”

### **Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP)**

Producers who will be shearing or who have shorn their sheep and are interested in receiving a wool LDP, must sign the CCC-633EZ page 1, prior to losing beneficial interest. If you have already signed page 1, you will be required to furnish the following information on the CCC-633EZ to receive an LDP:

1. Certified or production evidence of wool weights with receipts
2. Flock size, which includes the number of ewes, yearlings and rams shorn
3. Shearing date
4. The breed of your sheep.

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## **Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP)**



### **ELAP Assistance for Hail Damaged Grazing Land**

Numerous hailstorms in the county have caused widespread damage to grazing land. The Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP) provides emergency assistance to eligible producers for grazing losses that are not covered under other crop disaster programs, such as NAP.

To be considered an eligible livestock grazing loss because of hail, the following conditions must be met:

- Producers must have removed livestock from the hail-affected pasture or fed additional livestock feed above normal quantities, required to maintain the livestock until additional feed becomes available
- Grazing losses must be claimed on a field-by-field basis; therefore, only the pasture type and acres affected by hail can be claimed.

FSA requires that an applicant provides livestock inventory numbers, as specific animal types will be converted to animal unit (AU) equivalents as part of the grazing loss calculation. In addition, producers must provide verifiable or reliable documentation of feed fed above normal quantities and/or proof of removing the livestock from the effected pasture.

### **ELAP Assistance for Feed & Livestock Transportation**

Did you have to purchase feed after May 1 above what you would normally purchase? Contact the Campbell County FSA office at 307-682-8843 ext 2 to inquire about ELAP Livestock & Feed Transportation. This program has been offered for the past two years and is available for feed purchases and livestock transportation through the end of December 2023.

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USDA Farm Service Agency  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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**2023 COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

<b>JUN. 15, 2023</b> Beginning of nomination period. Forms available at <a href="https://fsa.usda.gov/elections">fsa.usda.gov/elections</a> .	<b>AUG. 1, 2023</b> Last day to file nomination forms at the local FSA county office.	<b>NOV. 6, 2023</b> Ballots mailed to eligible voters.	<b>DEC. 4, 2023</b> Last day to return voted ballots to the local FSA county office.	<b>JAN. 1, 2024</b> Newly elected county committee members take office.

## Fall Acreage Reporting



Just a reminder that if any planting is done for perennial and fall seeded crops your planting must be reported by **November 15th** to the County office. To avoid any late filed charges please call and make an appointment to complete your Acreage Report.

## Attention all Buyers of Agricultural Products

It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's Office to determine if there are liens against the Seller of the product. If a lien is found, you are required to place the lien holder's name on the check as well as that of the Seller. Ag Products include but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc.), machinery, equipment and all other crops. **Failure to place the lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the Buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a Buyer!** You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at 1-307-777-7311.

## Key Takeaways From Rangeland Production Lost to Woody Encroachment in Great Plains Grasslands

- 22.4 million tons of rangeland production are lost annually in the Great Plains to woody encroachment, and losses continue to increase every year
- Losses in rangeland production were equivalent to 37 million round bales and the annual forage need of 4.7 million cows
- The economic damages due to woody encroachment were estimated to be \$323 million in 2019
- Cumulative losses from 1990-2019 were nearly 350 million tons, valued at more than \$4.5 billion. This loss equates to more than 583 million round bales and the annual forage need of over 73 million cows
- The Great Plains accounts for approximately 95% of the nation's lost rangeland production to woody encroachment
- Without changes in management, record losses in rangeland production are expected to continue

- Going forward, management should employ risk-reduction strategies, defend intact grasslands cores from woody encroachment, and strategically grow cores over time. New guidance can be found at <https://cedarliteracy.unl.edu>.

Information taken from Great Plains Grassland Extension Partnership.

## Important Deadlines

October 1st: Start of Fiscal Year 2024

October 9th: Office Closed in Observance of Columbus Day

November 11th: Office Closed in Observance of Veteran`s Day

November 15th: Deadline to Report Fall Planted Crops

**December 1st: Deadline to Purchase NAP insurance for 2024**



## Campbell County USDA Service Center

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### FSA Staff

#### County Executive Director:

Pamela Smith 307-696-4450  
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#### Farm Loan Manager:

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#### Farm Loan Analyst:

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#### Key Farm Loan Program Technician

Amber Fowlkes 307-696-4447  
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#### Farm Program Technicians:

### NRCS Staff

#### District Conservationist:

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**FSA County Committee:**

Gwen Geis - Chairperson  
Jake Boller- Vice-Chairperson  
Rori Coates- Member

Jessica Van Woerkom 307-696-4454  
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**Campbell County Conservation District:**

Cheyenne Love & Crystal Kellebrew  
Office: 307-682-1824  
Cell: 307-670-0200

**Next County Committee Meeting**  
**October 19th, 2023**