

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Campbell County January Bulletin - January 30th, 2024

Farm Service Agency | Natural Resources Conservation Service | Risk Management Agency

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# **Message From the County Office**

### **Weather Related Livestock Losses**

Subzero temperatures, combined with wind chill, are forecast to create dangerous conditions for livestock over the next few days. Should you suffer livestock losses and/or injuries resulting in sales due to extreme weather conditions you may be eligible for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

### **Supporting Documentation**

Accurate records and loss documentation are critical following disaster events and are required when filing notices of loss with FSA. Acceptable loss documentation includes:



- Documentation of the number, kind, type, and weight range of livestock that have died, supplemented, if possible, by dated photographs or video records of ownership and losses.
- Beginning inventory supported by birth recordings or purchase receipts.
- Contemporaneous producer records existing at the time of the event
- Brand inspection records
- Documentation that livestock were removed from grazing pastures due to an eligible adverse weather
  or loss condition.
- Costs of transporting livestock feed to eligible livestock, such as receipts for equipment rental fees for hay lifts and snow removal.
- Sales of Injured livestock at reduced prices must include the sale price as well as details on the type and weight sold.

#### Applying for LIP

A livestock owner must have legally owned the livestock on the day the livestock died and/or were injured by an eligible loss condition and have been maintained for commercial use.

A notice of loss and application for payment must be submitted to the FSA office that serves the physical location county where the livestock losses occurred within 60 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the eligible loss condition occurred.

If you have any questions, please contact the county office.

### **Update your Records**

FSA encourages early reporting of any changes to your operation in which you reorganize to form a Trust, LLC or other legal entity. Making these changes now will reduce the possibility of program eligibility complications later in the year. In addition, FSA is cleaning up our producer record database and needs your help. Please report any changes of address, zip code, phone number, email address, bank accounts for direct deposit, or an incorrect name or business name on file to our office. FSA and NRCS program participants are required to promptly report changes in their farming operation to the County Committee in writing and to

update their *Farm Operating Plan* on form CCC-902. To update your records, contact your Campbell County USDA Service Center at 307-682-8843.

# Campbell County FSA is Hiring a Temporary Program Technician

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is hiring a Temporary Program Technician in our Crook County Office. This position will work up to 40 hours per week.

Opening February 19th, closing once the position is filled.

Duties will include:

- Carrying out office activities and functions pertaining to common processes for FSA program administration
- Utilizing various web-based software application to maintain producer information, data entry, and GIS
- Using a high degree of initiative and judgment in planning and carrying out assigned tasks and resolving problems encountered

The Farm Service Agency is an exciting and rewarding place to start, build and/or continue your career. Be part of our team and support the well-being of American agriculture and the American public. You will receive on-the-job training intended to further develop your talent, skills, and abilities to successfully administer farm programs.

A high school diploma or GED, along with strong computer skills and customer service experience are required. Basic familiarity with agriculture are preferred.

For more information, or to apply, contact Pam at 307-682-8843 or pamela.s.smith@usda.gov

# NAP 2023 Production Due July 15th



Producers with NAP hay coverage in 2023 need 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. Production reports are due July 15th.

# **USDA Launches Loan Assistance Tool to Enhance Equity and Customer Service**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) launched a new online tool to help farmers and ranchers better navigate the farm loan application process. This uniform application process will help to ensure all farm loan applicants receive equal support and have a consistent customer experience with USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) regardless of their individual circumstances.

USDA experiences a high rate of incomplete or withdrawn applications, particularly among underserved customers, due in part to a challenging and lengthy paper-based application process. The Loan Assistance Tool is

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available 24/7 and gives customers an online step-by-step guide that supplements the support they receive

when working in person with a USDA employee, providing materials that may help an applicant prepare their loan application in one tool.

Farmers can access the Loan Assistance Tool by visiting <a href="mailto:farm-loan-assistance-tool">farm-loan-assistance-tool</a> and clicking the 'Get Started' button. From here they can follow the prompts to complete the Eligibility Self-Assessment and start the farm loan journey. The tool is built to run on any modern browser like Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or the Safari browser, and is fully functional on mobile devices. It does not work in Internet Explorer.

The Loan Assistance Tool is the first of multiple farm loan process improvements that will be available to USDA customers on farmers.gov in the future. Other improvements and tools that are anticipated to launch in 2023 include:

- A streamlined and simplified direct loan application, reduced from 29 pages to 13 pages.
- An interactive online direct loan application that gives customers a paperless and electronic signature option, along with the ability to attach supporting documents such as tax returns.
- An online direct loan repayment feature that relieves borrowers from the necessity of calling, mailing, or visiting a local Service Center to pay a loan installment.

# **Important Deadlines**

January 30th: Deadline to apply for 2023 ELAP Hail/Feed Transportation January 31st: Deadline to submit LDP for 2023 wool/mohair/unshorn pelts

February, 15th: 2023 NAP Premiums Due

February 19th: Office Closed in Observance of Presidents Day

March 15th: Deadline to Enroll in 2024 ARC/PLC



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**FSA Staff** 

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# **FSA County Committee:**

Gwen Geis - Chairperson Jake Boller- Vice-Chairperson Rori Coates- Member Harold Campbell 307-696-4453 harold.campbell@usda.gov

### **Soil Conservationist**

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### **Campbell County Conservation District:**

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Next County Committee Meeting February 29th, 2024

**Campbell County USDA Service Center**