



January/February 2008

## Wayne County FSA News

Wayne County Farm  
Service Agency

**County FSA Office**  
138 South Main  
Loa, Utah 84747  
435-836-2711 (phone)  
435-836-2364 (fax)

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**  
Merrill Chappell, Chairman  
Douglas Pace, Vice-Chair  
Darren Nelson, Member  
DesiRee Johnson, Advisor

**Staff**  
Paul W. Pace, CED  
Sheila Torgerson, PT  
Korry Soper, FLM  
Debbie Higgs, FLO  
Randy Blackburn, FLO

### **County Committee Election Results**

Congratulations to Darren Nelson for his re-election to the Wayne County Committee. Darren will represent Local Administrative Area (LAA) #1, Fremont, Loa, and the surrounding area.

We appreciate all of our committee members and their willingness to spend time and effort on behalf of the agricultural producers in Wayne County.

### **Crop Disaster Program (CDP)**

Farmers who suffered crop losses because of natural disasters may be eligible to receive benefits through the new Crop Disaster Program.

You may be eligible if you suffered losses from natural disasters that occurred in 2005, 2006 or 2007. The Crop Disaster Program has been amended to **include all crops planted for the 2007 crop year. This would include all spring planted crops.** Producers must have suffered losses in excess of 35 percent of their expected production to qualify.

**Note: Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of the loss will be eligible for CDP benefits.**

Eligible damaging conditions would include drought, excessive moisture, hail, excessive wind and freeze.

If you have any questions, call the Wayne County FSA Office at (435) 836-2711.

### **Livestock Compensation Program (LCP)**

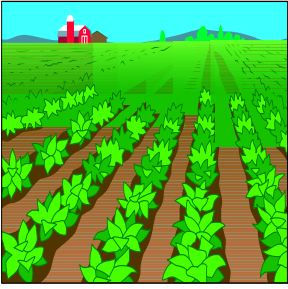
Livestock producers in Wayne County who suffered forage losses due to drought in 2007 may be eligible for benefits under this program. Caineville and Hanksville are the only areas in Wayne County that had forage losses due to drought. However, livestock producers in Wayne County who have grazing permits or private pastures in **Sevier, Piute, Garfield, and/or Emery counties** may be eligible, because these counties all suffered losses.

Eligible livestock includes beef cattle, equine, elk, sheep and goats. To be eligible, livestock must have been located in an eligible county on January 1, of the applicable year and must have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation.

Please provide our office with the following information when you come in to apply:

- Animal numbers on January 1, of the applicable year.
- Producers who run on BLM, Forest Service or State Lands must bring in their billing statements for the applicable year so that we can determine how many AUM's you paid for during the grazing season.

**Note: Animal numbers need to be very accurate.** If you are selected for spot-check and are currently running fewer animals than certified to, you will be required to provide sales documentation or other documentation showing what happened to the animals.



## ***Reporting Farm Changes***

If you have bought, sold, or are renting different land, make sure you report the changes to the FSA Office as soon as possible after they occur. For farm ownership changes, you will need to provide a recorded deed or recorded land contract. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility.

## ***Deadline for Insuring Spring Planted Crops***

The FCIC sign-up deadline for spring planted crops is **March 15, 2008**. The only crop in Wayne County that is insured through FCIC is barley harvested for grain.

## ***Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Deadline***

**March 15, 2008**, is the final day to sign up for coverage on spring planted crops for the 2008 crop year. This would include corn, barley for forage, oats, and wheat. NAP fees are \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per producer, per county.

## ***Deadline for Wool Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP)***

The Wool Loan Deficiency Payment program provides payments to eligible producers for wool produced and shorn from live sheep. Producers who have sold wool in **2007** need to bring their receipts into the Wayne County FSA Office, and complete their request for a Wool LDP by **January 31, 2008**.

Note: Payments will be made to the person whose name is on the receipt.

## ***Foreign Buyers Notification***

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

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. It is the foreign person's responsibility to report the land transactions.

## ***Power of Attorney***

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office for more information.

## ***Controlled Substance***

Any person who is convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting, or growing a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium, poppies, and other drug producing plants.

## ***Bank Account Changes***

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA County Office if your account has been changed, or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA Office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

## ***Applications for FSA Loans***

### ***Spousal Signatures***

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.



Farmers and ranchers that intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Filing early will help ensure that your loan is processed and approved as early as possible so that planting decisions can be made. Failure to apply early can result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications that must be processed in date order. Contact your local FSA Farm Loan Manager or Officer for more details and assistance in applying.

### ***Appeal Process***

After an FSA official makes a decision on your request for USDA services or application, you will be sent a letter informing you of the decision and options you can pursue if you disagree.

Generally, program participants have three choices — an informal review with the original agency decision-maker; an opportunity for mediation; and finally an appeal to the next level of authority within the agency.

### ***Youth Loans***

Remember, FSA makes operating loans to individual rural youth ages 10 through 20 to establish and operate income-producing projects. These projects must be of modest size and be initiated, developed, carried out by rural youth participating in 4-H Clubs, FFA, or a similar organization, or with a vocational teacher or County Extension Agent. The project must be an organized and supervised program of work. It must be planned and operated with the assistance of the organization advisor; produce sufficient income to repay the loan; and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. Contact your local FSA Office for more details.

### ***Loans for Socially Disadvantaged***

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) can make and guarantee loans to socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family size farms and ranches. Funds specifically for these loans are reserved each year. A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Contact your local FSA Farm Loan Manager or Officer for more details and assistance in applying.



### ***Customer Statement***

January signals the beginning of a new year, and a time to gather financial records and start thinking about filling out a 1040. Producers who have signed up for a USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account will be able to access their farm data via their Customer Statement. The Customer Statement puts a range of USDA services and programs into a single report that's at your fingertips and available online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

It allows USDA customers to view their participation, application, and payment status in various commodity and conservation programs; information on farm loans; and conservation plan and land unit information.

## USDA STREAMLINES FORMS & RULES FOR FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

Bruce Richeson, Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Utah, reports that the forms and rules for USDA's Farm Loan Programs will be modernized by January 1, 2008, to make it easier for farmers, ranchers, and producers to apply for loans. "This streamlining initiative is part of a historic transformation in agriculture farm lending programs," said Richeson.

## Wayne County Eligible for USDA Emergency Loans

On August 21, 2007, President Bush declared a major disaster in Utah. As a result of the major disaster, agricultural producers are eligible for FSA emergency loans due to physical and production losses. These losses were a result of multiple disasters, including severe drought, insect infestations, killing frosts, hot dry winds, below normal runoff, wildfires, and flash floods that occurred January 1, 2007, and continuing. Farmers and ranchers in Wayne County can apply for an emergency loan to cover part of their actual losses, and must apply by **April 21, 2008**. To be eligible, producers must have suffered a 30% loss of normal production; be able to repay the loan; be unable to get credit elsewhere; have adequate security; and must have obtained multi-peril crop insurance or have signed an insurance waiver. Call 896-5489.

## *Special Accommodations*

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA Office Staff directly or by phone.

## Ag Census Forms Due February 4, 2008

The Census provides information that is not available anywhere else—information that benefits agricultural producers and their communities in many ways. The Census is very important—it is the voice of farmers and ranchers, it is their future, and their responsibility. **BE SURE TO FILL IT OUT!**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.