



## Colorado

State – Wide  
August 2012

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#### Dates to Remember

Sept 1 –NAP Sales Closing  
Asparagus, Caneberries,  
Canola, Garlic, Rye, Speltz,  
Triticale, Value loss Crops  
(Aquaculture, Sod Grass,  
Flowers, Christmas Trees,  
Nursery)

Sept 30 – NAP Sales Closing  
Wheat and Barley

Nov. 15 – Deadline to certify  
Apiculture, Fall Barley,  
Perennial Forage, PRF, Fall  
Wheat, and other Fall-Seeded  
Small Grains

#### Immediate – Deadline

File AGI Verification Consent  
Forms with IRS

#### CRP Emergency Haying and Grazing

All counties in Colorado are eligible for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) emergency haying and grazing because of the new provision announced by Secretary Vilsack on July 23, 2012.

In addition to the 25 percent CRP payment reduction being reduced to 10 percent for all 2012 emergency haying and grazing authorizations, participants may now sell the harvested hay or lease grazing privileges for profit under the new emergency provisions. Subleasing of the grazing privileges will not be permitted and participants are limited to one hay cutting.

Colorado CRP participants who were previously approved for managed haying or grazing may elect to switch to emergency use by contacting the local FSA office to request approval.

Eligible CRP land can be used for emergency haying until August 31, 2012, or emergency grazing until September 30, 2012. Please contact your local FSA to request emergency haying or grazing approval. Eligible producers must also obtain a modified conservation plan from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

#### All Colorado Counties are Eligible for FSA Emergency Loans

As of July 12, 2012, all counties in Colorado were declared a disaster using the new, streamlined Secretarial Disaster Designation process.

The disaster designation was a direct result of several program improvements announced by Secretary Vilsack on July 11, 2012. The program improvements include a streamlined Secretarial Disaster Designation process that automatically qualifies a disaster county once it is categorized as a severe drought for eight weeks according to the U.S Drought Monitor. Other improvements include a reduced interest rate for emergency loans that lowers the rate from 3.75 percent to 2.25 percent.

Eligible producers can apply for low-interest emergency (EM) loans.

Emergency loans help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding and other natural disasters or quarantine. The current emergency loan interest rate is 2.25 percent.

Producers have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. Emergency loan applications will be accepted through March 12, 2013, for production and physical losses.

### **PRODUCERS MUST REPORT CROP LOSSES TO FSA**

Producers must report crop losses resulting from a weather related disaster event within 15 days of the disaster or when the loss first becomes apparent, this includes crops covered by crop insurance, the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crops without insurance coverage. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

Crop losses are acres that were timely planted with the intent to harvest, but the crop failed because of a natural disaster. It is important that producers file accurate and timely loss reports to prevent the potential loss of FSA program benefits.

Producers who have NAP coverage will be required to report crop losses on an FSA form CCC-576 – “Notice of Loss and Application for Payment Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program”.

### **2012 ACRE Designations**

Producers who have planted 2012 ACRE commodities in excess of 118% of their base acres on a farm have until September 30, 2012 to designate the number of acres of each crop for possible ACRE payment. All producers with a share of the ACRE commodities must sign a CCC-528 by this date. If a designation is not signed, ACRE payment acres will be prorated for eligible crops. Contact your local FSA

Additionally, there will be a 10 percent CRP payment reduction for CRP acres used for grazing or haying under these emergency provisions.

To take advantage of the emergency grazing or haying provisions, authorized producers can use the CRP acreage for their own livestock or may grant another livestock producer use of the CRP acreage or the crop may be sold.

For additional information contact your local FSA Office.

### **Change to 2013 Acreage Reporting Deadlines**

FSA and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) have streamlined crop acreage certification deadlines to have common reporting dates. Starting in 2013, deadlines are:

- November 15, 2012 – Apiculture, Fall Barley, Perennial Forage, PRF, Fall Wheat, and other Fall-Seeded Small Grains.
- January 15, 2013 – Apples, Grapes, Peaches
- June 15, 2013 - Onions
- July 15, 2013 – Spring Barley, Corn, Dry Beans, Fresh Market Sweet Corn, Grain Sorghum, Millet, Spring Oats, Popcorn, Potatoes, Silage Sorghum, Soybeans, Sugar Beets, Sunflowers, Spring Wheat, and all other crops

Fall seeded small grain crops include all wheat, oats and rye. Perennial forage crops include all forage crops to be hayed or grazed. Contact your county FSA office for an appointment to certify your fall crops or for more information on acreage reporting requirements.

### **SIGN-UP FOR GOVDELIVERY**

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices are moving toward a paperless operation. Producers are asked to enroll in the new GovDelivery system which will provide notices, newsletters and electronic reminders instead of a hard copy through the mail.

FSA, like many other organizations, is trying to work smarter and be more efficient. Moving to electronic notifications via email will help conserve resources and save taxpayer dollars. County Committee ballots will continue to be mailed to all eligible producers.

Producers can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>.

**Readers are advised that dates for FSA programs in Colorado are often county-specific. Please contact your local FSA office for detailed information pertaining to your operation.**

Selected Interest Rates for February 2012 (Interest rates are subject to change)	
90-Day Treasury Bill	.125%
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	1.25%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	3.375%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Emergency Loans	3.75%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (7 years)	1.375%
Sugar Storage Facility Loans	2.50%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.125%

**Colorado Farm Service Agency**  
State Committee  
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