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County Office Message

Greetings Lincoln County Farmers and Ranchers!

Many of you may have noticed some additional deposits in your bank account. The last week of September, FSA released an additional top up of 2021 and 2022 Emergency Livestock Relief Program (ELRP) payments, based off of livestock entered on 2021 and 2022 Livestock Forage Program (LFP) applications. If you have any additional questions, please give the office a call.

Please bear in mind, as we enter winter weather season, that if you have any weather-related livestock losses, please notify the office within 30 days of becoming aware of your loss. Losses can be reported to the office in person, and also via phone or email.

As always, please be sure to let the office know about any changes to your operation.

Please note the following important dates and deadlines:

October 9, 2023 – OFFICE CLOSED – Columbus Day Holiday

November 10, 2023 – OFFICE CLOSED – Observed Veteran's Day Holiday

November 23, 2023 – OFFICE CLOSED – Thanksgiving Holiday

December 1, 2023 – NAP Sales Closing Date for 2024 coverage

Within 15 days of noticing crop loss – File NAP Notice of Loss

Within 30 days of noticing livestock, pasture, or feed loss, or beginning additional feed, livestock, or water transportation due to drought – File LIP/ELAP Notice of Loss.

Apply for Livestock Forage Losses

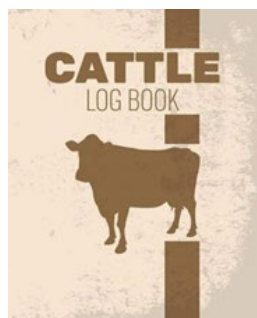
Producers in Lincoln County are eligible to apply for the 2023 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) benefits on native and improved pasture.

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, 2024, for 2023 losses.

For additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact your Lincoln County USDA Service Center at 307-886-9001 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

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 Lincoln County USDA Service Center at 307-886-9001 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

New Technology Helps Ranchers Maximize Grass Production

One out of every three acres in the U.S. is rangeland. Two-thirds of these are privately owned, mainly by ranchers who graze their livestock in the open country of the American West. Our rangelands produce premium beef, wool, and dairy. But it's the plants that feed these livestock that are the foundation for profitable agriculture in the West. But ranchers haven't had a good way to measure how their grass is faring — until now.



The Rangeland Analysis Platform (RAP), developed in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the University of Montana, allows producers to track changes in the amount and types of plants growing on their property.

RAP is a free online resource that provides data on vegetation trends across the West from the mid-1980s to the present; and it calculates how productive those plants are. A combination of long-term datasets shows landowners how their lands have changed over time, which translates directly into their operation's profitability.

Farmers in the central and eastern U.S. have been using technology to track changes in crop production for decades. As soon as they see that their plant productivity is declining — and revenues following suit — they can take steps to address the limitations and boost productivity again.

RAP provides the same power to ranchers. RAP can show ranchers the gap between their potential production and the actual production they realize in terms of pounds-per-acre of grass. It helps landowners understand how much they can potentially gain by changing management practices to boost available forage and close the gap.

Landowners can see how their plant production has changed in a single month or over the span of several years. The technology can be used to visualize plant productivity in an area as small as a baseball diamond or as large as several states. New technology like RAP helps us “help the land” in order to sustain wildlife, provide food and fiber, and support agricultural families long into the future.

Ask the Expert: A Farm Operating Loan Q&A with Jack Carlile

In this Ask the Expert, Jack Carlile, Farm Loan Manager for the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), answers questions about farm operating loans and when producers should apply in order to secure funds for the current crop year.

As the Farm Loan Manager for the Cherokee County Service Center, Jack is responsible for managing the loan making and loan servicing activities for five counties in northeast Oklahoma. His office provides services for over 650 farm loan customers. Jack was raised on a cross bred cow/calf operation that his grandparents started. Over the years, each generation has added to the operation by purchasing additional pasture. The operation also grows and bales their own hay. Jack’s agriculture background and degree in agriculture economics from Oklahoma State University help him better understand the financing needs of his producers.



Who can apply for FSA Farm Loans?

Anyone can apply for FSA’s loan programs. Applications will be considered on basic eligibility requirements. To apply for a loan, you must meet the following general eligibility requirements including:

- Be a U.S. citizen or qualified alien.
- Operator of a family farm or ranch.
- Have a satisfactory credit history.
- Unable to obtain credit elsewhere at reasonable rates and terms to meet actual needs.
- Not be delinquent on any federal debts.

To read the full blog visit farmers.gov/blog/ask-the-expert-farm-operating-loan-qa-with-jack-carlile.



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