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- [2015 Livestock Forage Disaster Program Available in 21 Montana Counties - Feb 1 Deadline](#)
- [Montana's Next Generation Conference Jan. 29 and Jan. 30 in Shelby; Registration Open Until Jan. 22](#)
- [2015 Livestock Indemnity Program – Feb. 1 Application Deadline](#)
- [NAP Producer Meetings Scheduled for February in Bozeman, Billings, Missoula, Kalispell, Browning, Great Falls and Sidney](#)
- [Montana FSA Hiring Additional Loss Adjusters: Feb. 8th Deadline to Apply](#)
- [Conservation Reserve Program 49th Enrollment Period Underway; Feb 26th Deadline to Submit Offers to FSA](#)
- [Deadline to Purchase 2016 NAP Coverage for Spring Planted Crops is March 15th](#)
- [2016 Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program \(ELAP\)](#)
- [Enrollment Period Underway for USDA Safety Net Coverage](#)
- [Initiating Disaster Designations](#)
- [Emergency Loans – Disaster Designations in Montana](#)
- [Farm Loan Program Availability](#)
- [IRS Reporting for Tax Year 2015](#)
- [Working with RMA](#)
- [Upcoming FSA Deadlines in Montana](#)

Montana FSA: January 2016 eNewsletter

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2015 Livestock Forage Disaster Program Available in 21 Montana Counties - Feb 1 Deadline

Montana livestock producers in 21 Montana counties have a Feb. 1, 2016 application deadline to apply for 2015 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP). LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or fire on federally managed land.

State Committee:

Steve Carney, Chair
Floyd Dahlman
Kelly Flaherty-Settle
Anita Matt
Patricia Quisno

Eligible producers must own or lease grazing land physically located in a county affected by a qualifying drought during the normal grazing period for the county. 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.

Montana USDA Directories:

[Online Directory of FSA Offices](#)

[PDF of Montana FSA Directory](#)

[PDF of Montana USDA Directory](#)

A total of 21 Montana counties have triggered drought eligibility for the 2015 LFP Program. Qualifying livestock producers with land in **Broadwater, Gallatin, Madison counties** are eligible for one monthly payment. Livestock producers in **Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Flathead, Glacier, Granite, Jefferson, Lake, Lewis and Clark, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Pondera, Powell, Ravalli, Sanders, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole counties** are eligible for four monthly LFP payments.

Reasonable

Accommodations: People with disabilities who require accommodations to participate in FSA programs should contact the County Executive Director in the FSA Office in your area or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. Alternatively, you may also contact Montana FSA Civil Rights Coordinator Jennifer Cole at (406) 587-6786 or jennifer.cole@mt.usda.gov.

“USDA Farm Service Agency in Montana reminds all livestock producers who own or lease grazing land in any of the 21 Montana counties that they have until Feb. 1 to apply for the 2015 LFP program,” Nelson said. “We highly encourage livestock producers to visit their FSA office ASAP and submit their application by the Feb. 1st deadline. The LFP program is important to Montana ranchers affected by drought.”

For 2015 and subsequent years, eligible livestock producers must complete a CCC-853 and the required supporting documentation no later **Feb. 1, 2016**. Additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, is available at your local FSA office or online at: www.fsa.usda.gov.

[LFP Factsheet](#) (pdf)

Montana’s Next Generation Conference Jan. 29 and Jan. 30 in Shelby; Registration Open Until Jan. 22

Early-Bird Registration Deadline is Jan. 15; Late Registration will be accepted until Jan. 22

Registration is open for Montana’s Next Generation Conference Jan. 29 and Jan. 30 in Shelby. The 3rd annual succession planning and production conference is hosted by Glacier and Toole County Farm Service Agency (FSA), local MSU Extension, Marias River Livestock Association and the Front Range Counties Farm Bureau.

“Historically, 70 percent of farms and agribusinesses will fail to transition from the first to a second generation,” said conference speaker Kevin Spafford of Legacy by Design, LLC. “Of the 30 percent that do make it, 90 percent will fail in the transition to a third generation. Of the few remaining after that, 96 percent will not go to a fourth.”

Given Spafford’s statistics, agricultural succession planning and education is crucial to successfully transferring the operation’s management into the capable hands of the next generation. Montana’s

Next Generation conference in Shelby will provide both succession planning for the agricultural operation and producer education for beginning and experienced producers.

Events kick off Fri., Jan. 29, at 1 p.m. at the Shelby Civic Center with Kevin Spafford. Spafford will lead participants through an introductory succession planning session that will include hands-on activities for all generations. This is a great opportunity to bring multiple generations together to lay a foundation to start the succession planning process or continue it along.

For those who want to take the succession planning process a step further, there will be a follow-up workshop on Feb. 13 for families who have attended one of Kevin Spafford's beginning succession planning workshops and are serious about moving forward in the process. Space for the Feb. 13 session will be limited, so watch for details as they become available and make sure to attend the Jan. 29 introductory session for your family to be eligible for the more in-depth follow-up sessions later with local succession planners.

The evening of Fri., Jan. 29 will include a trade show featuring agricultural businesses and organizations, a roast beef dinner, and a keynote address by Tim Gill, President and Chief Executive Officer of Montana Livestock Ag Credit. Gill has worked in agriculture finance for the past 36 years and has served in his current capacity since 1986. Gill will share his experiences of the changes in Ag financing over the past 35 years and his observations on what has made family operations successful enough to weather the storms of variable commodity and input prices and still be viable in production agriculture today.

Events on Sat. Jan 30 at the Shelby High School feature an outstanding lineup of industry speakers and professionals offering a total of 36 workshops throughout the day with specific workshops geared to beginning producers, experienced producers, farmers, ranchers and workshops for those who want to learn more about succession planning in a smaller group setting.

Crop topics will include talks on Crop Synergy, Crop Insurance, Managing for Protein, Crop Production Basics, The 411 on What's Going on in Your Fields, Micronutrients Introduction, Crop Specific Micronutrients, Crops Marketing Tools and USDA Crops Programs.

There will be forage and grazing talks on Hay Field Renovation and growing cereal and annual forages, Optimizing Hay Production, Grazing Management Principles and Post Fire and Drought Grass Management.

Livestock topics include Cattle Production Management, Livestock Marketing, Animal Health, Beef Cattle Nutrition, Genetics and Bull Selection and USDA Livestock Programs.

Financial and management related topics will include sessions on Financial Recordkeeping, Estate Planning specifics, Tax Management for the Good and Bad Years, The Legal Side of Succession Planning, Dying without a Will, Lease Options, Ag Safety and Understanding Your Tax Return and Depreciation. Producers who attend the Montana Ag Safety presentations may be eligible to receive up to a 4 percent discount on their Worker's Compensation premiums.

Three private or two commercial pesticide applicator points will be available throughout the day at specific workshops as well. The afternoon of Sat., Jan. 30th will conclude with both a crops and livestock 'Hot Seat Session,' where four area producers will give a short talk on a specific innovations they are applying to their operation. To close out the weekend, a beef brisket dinner, live entertainment by the Crawford Brothers Band, and a no-host social will be available at the Shelby Coyote Club. The Sat., Jan. 30th workshops will fulfill FSA's Production and Financial Management training requirements for producers.

Registration forms are available online at http://www.mariasriverlivestock.com/next_generation_conference.html, or by calling 406-873-

2239. Updates will be available via the Facebook page, Montana's Next Generation Conference. Cost is \$20/individual/day, or \$30/couple/day if registrations are submitted by the Jan. 15 Early Bird deadline. Late registrations will be accepted until **Jan. 22** at \$30/individual/day, or \$40/couple/day. Daycare will be available for the Jan. 30th session at \$15/child, which includes snacks and meals.

Discounted motel rates of \$75/night are available at the Best Western Shelby Inn & Suites (406-424-4560) or the Comfort Inn (406-434-2212) at \$70/night for a single room or \$75/night for a double room if booked in advance of the conference.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this event should contact Lacy Roberts at 406.873.5618, ext. 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 by **Jan. 25**.

If you have any questions, please contact Lacy Roberts, of FSA, at 406-873-5618 or Kari Lewis, of MSU Extension, at 406-873-2239. Please watch for conference updates and daily workshop spotlights on the Facebook page, Montana's Next Generation Conference.

Don't miss this great opportunity to set the path for your operation's future and hear from industry leaders on pertinent agricultural topics.

2015 Livestock Indemnity Program – Feb. 1 Application Deadline

The deadline to file an application for 2015 Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) is Feb. 1, 2016. The purpose of the LIP program is to provide benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths that are in excess of normal mortality losses caused by adverse weather.

For 2015 and subsequent years, producers who suffered livestock deaths due to adverse weather from Jan. 1, 2015 through Dec. 31, 2015 must complete a CCC-852 and provide the required supporting documentation with their local FSA County Office by the Feb. 1, 2016 deadline. There are NO late filed provisions for the Livestock Indemnity Program.

For 2015 livestock deaths, the notice of loss **MUST** have been filed within 30 calendar days from when the loss was apparent. Livestock producers suffering livestock losses may submit a notice of loss by phone, fax, email and/or in person.

[LIP Factsheet](#) (pdf)

NAP Producer Meetings Scheduled for February in Bozeman, Billings, Missoula, Kalispell, Browning, Great Falls and Sidney

Interested Attendees to RSVP to their local FSA office by Feb. 3rd.

FSA and Montana State University (MSU) Extension are hosting Farm Bill informational meetings in seven communities across Montana. These meetings are being conducted to inform Montana

producers about important changes to the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) authorized by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill).

The NAP program, administered by local FSA offices across Montana, provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occurs due to natural disasters. FSA will provide an overview of the NAP Program and MSU Extension will explain the online NAP Farm Bill Decision Tool that is available to assist current and prospective NAP producers. The decision tool can be accessed at <http://fsa.usapas.com/NAP.aspx>.

Producers are invited to attend any of the seven scheduled meetings. These meetings are free and open to the public. Please RSVP with your local FSA office or to Jennifer Cole at 406.587.6786 or jennifer.cole@mt.usda.gov no later than **Feb. 3**.

NAP Meeting Schedule

- Feb. 8, Bozeman, 10 a.m. to noon, Bozeman Public Library (626 E. Main St.)
- Feb. 8, Billings, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Residence Marriot (956 S. 25th St. W)
- Feb. 16, Missoula, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Guesthouse Inn & Suites (3803 Brooks St.)
- Feb. 17, Kalispell, 10 a.m. to noon, Hilton Garden Inn, Glacier Room 1 (1840 Hwy 90 3 S)
- Feb. 17, Browning, 5 p.m. to 7 pm. Blackfeet Tribal Conference Room, NW of Blackfeet Tribal Office
- Feb. 18, Great Falls, 10 a.m. to noon, Montana ExpoPark Gold Buckle Room (4003 3rd St. NW)
- Feb. 19, Sidney, 10 a.m. to noon, Richland County Extension Office (1499 N. Central Ave.)

For more information, including a [printable schedule](#), visit MSU Extension's Farm Bill website at <http://www.montana.edu/farmbill> and Montana FSA's website at www.fsa.usda.gov/mt.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in a meeting should contact Jennifer Cole on 406.587.6786, or Federal Relay Service at 1-800.877.8339, and jennifer.cole@mt.usda.gov at least two business days prior to the meeting.

Montana FSA Hiring Additional Loss Adjusters: Feb. 8th Deadline to Apply

FSA is currently accepting offers from individuals interested in providing contracted crop adjusting services throughout Montana for the 2016 crop year. Loss Adjuster applications for the 2016 crop year are due Feb. 8, 2016 to the Montana FSA state office.

Loss Adjusters perform crop loss and related program services as assigned by FSA. Duties associated with these services include: 1) visiting farms to inspect damaged or destroyed crops; 2) appraising potential crop production; 3) determining and verifying the cause and time of loss; 4) determining farm-stored production; 5) visiting FSA offices and/or farms to perform inspections, reviews or other loss services.

As part of the contract process, Loss Adjusters must pass a required fingerprint background check

Starting pay for new adjusters is \$10.00/hour. A pay raise to \$18.00/hour is contingent on satisfactory completion of a full certification on at least one crop. Most equipment necessary to perform loss-adjusting activities is provided by FSA. Mileage and per diem will be paid by FSA; however, contracted adjusters are expected to provide their own mode of transportation.

Applications should be sent to the Montana Farm Service Agency State Office, attention Amanda Ness, P.O. Box 670, Bozeman, MT 59771. All applications postmarked by Feb. 8, 2016 will be reviewed and selections made based on work experience, agriculture background, availability and the need for loss adjusters in the area.

Applications may be found at any FSA county office, online at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/16_mtfsa_lacapplication.pdf, or by contacting Amanda Ness at 406-587-6870 or Shelly Rolando at 587-6877.

Conservation Reserve Program 49th Enrollment Period Underway; Feb 26th Deadline to Submit Offers to FSA

December 2015 Marks 30th Anniversary for the Nation's Most Successful Voluntary Conservation Program

Farmers and ranchers are reminded that the general enrollment period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) began Dec. 1, 2015, and ends Feb. 26, 2016. December, 2015 also marks the 30th anniversary of CRP, a federally funded program that assists agricultural producers with the cost of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees to improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and reduce loss of wildlife habitat.

Participants in CRP establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees (known as "covers") to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat on marginally productive agricultural lands. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. At times when commodity prices are low, enrolling sensitive lands in CRP can be especially attractive to farmers and ranchers, as it softens the economic hardship for landowners at the same time that it provides ecological benefits. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years. The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish native plant species on marginal agricultural lands for the primary purpose of preventing soil erosion and improving water quality and related benefits of reducing loss of wildlife habitat.

Contracts on more than 66,000 acres of CRP are set to expire on Sept. 30, 2016 in Montana. Producers with expiring contracts or producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP.

For more information FSA conservation programs, visit a local FSA office or www.fsa.usda.gov/mt. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

[FSA Factsheet: CRP General Enrollment/Signup 49](#) (pdf)

[FSA Factsheet: CRP Enrollment 49 - Environmental Benefits Index](#) (pdf)

Deadline to Purchase 2016 NAP Coverage for Spring Planted Crops is March 15th

FSA would like to remind Montana producers that they have until **March 15, 2016** to sign-up for the Noninsurable Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2016 spring planted NAP crops. NAP provides a catastrophic level (CAT) coverage based on the amount of loss that exceeds 50 percent of the expected production at 55 percent of the average market price for the crop. Under the 2014 Farm Bill, NAP now offers buy-up coverage for the 2015 through 2018 crop years in

addition to the basic CAT-level coverage, on all crops except those intended for grazing. These additional coverage levels range from 50-65 percent of the expected production, in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price.

In order to meet eligibility requirements for NAP, crops must be noninsurable, commercially-produced agricultural commodity crops for which the catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance is not available. If the Risk Management Agency (RMA) offers coverage for a crop in the county, NAP coverage is not available for that crop. For questions regarding insurability of a crop, please contact your local crop insurance agent. For information on whether a crop is eligible for NAP coverage, please contact your local FSA office.

The NAP service fee for all coverage levels is the lesser of \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 for a producer with farming interest in multiple counties. In addition to the service fee, producers who elect buy-up coverage must pay a premium equal to the lesser of 5.25 percent of the guarantee or 5.25 percent of the payment limit. FSA will waive NAP service fees and reduce buy-up premiums by 50 percent for underserved, limited resource, and beginning farmers. For questions regarding how to calculate the premium, please contact your local FSA office.

For more information, visit the national NAP page at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap>.

[2016 NAP Program – Montana Factsheet](#) (pdf)

2016 Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)

Montana livestock producers, including Honeybee and Farm-raised Fish producers, are reminded that the 2016 Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) program year began Oct. 1, 2015 and continues through Sept. 30, 2016.

Producers who suffer livestock losses not covered under LIP, or losses of eligible stored feed stocks, colony-collapse disorder, etc, are reminded to report these losses within 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent. In addition to filing a notice of loss, a timely filed acreage report for the 2016 program year must also be submitted with the administrative FSA county office. For Honeybee producers who have become aware of colony collapse while in another state, the notice of loss can be filed with the local FSA office in that state.

After producers have timely filed their notice of loss and acreage report, the next step is to make the application for payment. This step must be completed no later than Nov. 1, 2016. Since ELAP funds are limited to \$20 million per fiscal year, the national office must determine if the requested ELAP payments exceed the \$20 million allocation. If the requested 2016 ELAP benefits exceed \$20 million, all payments will be factored.

[ELAP Livestock Assistance Factsheet](#) - August 2015

[ELAP - ELAP Honeybees Assistance Factsheet](#) - August 2015

[ELAP - ELAP Farm-Raised Fish Assistance Factsheet](#) - August 2015

Enrollment Period Underway for USDA Safety Net Coverage

2016 ARC-PLC Enrollment began Dec. 7th and ends on Aug. 1st

FSA has announced that producers who chose coverage from the safety net programs established by the 2014 Farm Bill, known as the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs, can begin visiting FSA county offices starting Dec. 7, 2015, to sign contracts to enroll in coverage for 2016. The enrollment period will continue until **Aug. 1, 2016**.

Although the choice between ARC and PLC was made by producers in 2015 and remains in effect through 2018, producers must still annually enroll their farm by signing a contract each year to receive coverage.

Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office to schedule an appointment to enroll. If a farm is not enrolled during the 2016 enrollment period, producers on that farm will not be eligible for financial assistance from the ARC or PLC programs should crop prices or farm revenues fall below the historical price or revenue benchmarks established by the program.

The two programs were authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill and offer a safety net to agricultural producers when there is a substantial drop in prices or revenues for covered commodities. Covered commodities include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium grain rice (which includes short grain and sweet rice), safflower seed, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat. Upland cotton is no longer a covered commodity. For more details regarding these programs, go to www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc.

For more information, producers are encouraged to visit their local FSA office. To find a local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Initiating Disaster Designations

Montana Farmers and Ranchers Should Report Physical and/or Production Losses Caused by Weather Events to the County Executive Director in their local FSA Office

FSA reminds individual farmers, ranchers and local governing bodies that they can initiate the process of reporting production losses and/or drought conditions. Producers should report physical and/or production losses caused by weather events to the CED in their local FSA office immediately. It does not take action by the County Commissioners before a disaster designation can be requested, individual farmers/ranchers can begin the process by reporting their losses to FSA. County Executive Directors will collect the information and make the request to the State Executive Director, thereby starting the designation process. For questions, contact your local FSA office.

Agriculture-related disasters and disaster designations are quite common. Many counties in the United States have been designated as disaster areas in the past several years, even in years of record crop production. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to designate counties as disaster areas to make emergency loans (EM) available to producers suffering losses in those counties and in counties that are contiguous to a designated county.

FSA administers four types of disaster designations:

- USDA Secretarial disaster designation;
- Presidential major disaster and Presidential emergency declarations;
- FSA Administrator's Physical Loss Notification; and
- Quarantine designation by the Secretary under the Plant Protection Act or animal quarantine laws.

USDA Secretarial disaster designations must be requested of the Secretary of Agriculture by a governor or the governor's authorized representative, by an Tribal Chairman/Tribal President, or by an FSA State Executive Director (SED). The Secretarial disaster designation is the most widely used and its process is the most complicated of the four.

In 2012, USDA streamlined the Secretarial disaster declaration process to reduce paperwork and documentation requirements at the local FSA level, making the process more efficient and timely for agricultural producers. The program improvements included Fast Track Secretarial disaster designations for severe drought, which provide for a nearly automatic designation when, during the growing season, any portion of a county meets the D2 (Severe Drought) drought intensity value for eight consecutive weeks or a higher drought intensity value for any length of time as reported in the U.S. Drought Monitor (<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>).

For all other natural disaster occurrences, including drought conditions that do not trigger a Fast Track designation, the county must have a 30 percent production loss of at least one crop or a determination must be made by surveying producers that other lending institutions will not be able to provide emergency financing. Physical losses are not restricted to the 30 percent loss and should be reported any time. For questions, contact your local FSA office.

Emergency Loans – Disaster Designations in Montana

FSA's Emergency Loan Program is available for agricultural producers in counties designated as primary or contiguous natural disaster areas (See Map Below of 2015 Montana Designations by County). Contact your local FSA office for specific designations in your area and time frames to apply. Eligible producers have **eight months** from the date of the disaster designation to apply for low-interest emergency loans to 1.) restore or replace essential property; 2.) pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year; 3.) pay essential family living expenses; or 4.) refinance certain debts, excluding real estate. Producers interested in applying for an emergency loan, or other FLP loans, should contact their local FSA office to set up an appointment with the Farm Loan Program staff serving your area.

[Cumulative Disaster Designation Map for 2015](#)

[Emergency Loan Factsheet](#)

Farm Loan Program Availability

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agricultural production. As a farmer or rancher, whether you are just starting out or have many years of experience, loans are available for farm operating purposes and/or to purchase or improve a farm or ranch. All qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loan programs. As the "Lender of First Opportunity" FSA targets some of the direct and guaranteed loan funds for beginning and/or underserved farmers or ranchers. For purposes of this program, a beginning farmer/rancher is defined as someone who started in farming or ranching less than 10 years ago; underserved individuals are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian

Americans and Pacific Islanders. FSA loans are only available to applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements and are unable to obtain the needed credit elsewhere. For more information, contact your local FSA office who can schedule an appointment with the Farm Loan Program (FLP) staff serving your area and/or visit the [National FLP Web site](#).

[FSA Factsheet: Farm Loan Program Overview](#) (pdf)

IRS Reporting for Tax Year 2015

Producers who are recipients of program payments during calendar year 2015 will receive form IRS-1099-G detailing payments received from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on IRS-1099-G is a service intended to help our customers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace producer's responsibilities to report income to IRS. The mailing of form IRS-1099-G will occur in late January 2016.

CCC will not issue form IRS 1099-G when CCC program payments total less than \$600 for the calendar year. In addition, producers who receive program payments from multiple counties will receive only one IRS Form 1099-G showing all payments from all counties.

FSA staff cannot interpret IRS regulations or advise producers about which payments to report on their income tax returns. However, county office staff can review payments for accuracy.

Although refund information is not shown on the IRS 1099-G, a Customer's financial data including refund information, program payment amounts, and prior year CCC-1099 information is conveniently available via the internet through the FSA "Financial Inquiries" database (FSA-FI). Instructions for obtaining a FSA-FI user ID and password are available on the FSA web site at: <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/eauthWhatIsAccount.html>.

Working with RMA

The Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 requires the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) to work together to improve program compliance and integrity of the Federal Crop Insurance Program (FCIC). As a result of the passage of the 2000 Act, RMA and FSA are required to coordinate a plan to identify, address and reconcile discrepancies of all relevant producer-derived information, and to coordinate a monitoring program to include fact finding relative to allegations of program fraud, waste, and abuse. FSA will assist RMA and insurance providers in monitoring conditions throughout the growing season and conduct growing season inspections. All suspected cases of fraud, waste, and abuse concerning the Federal Crop Insurance Program will be referred to RMA. FSA will also assist RMA with auditing claims. Producers may also report suspected cases of fraud, waste, and abuse to their local FSA County Office, the RMA Office or OIG.

Upcoming FSA Deadlines in Montana

- **Jan 15:** 2016 Acreage Reporting Deadline for Established Stand Alfalfa Seed, Fall Alfalfa Seed, Cherries
- **Feb. 1:** Deadline for the 2015 Livestock Forage Program (LFP) Notice of Loss, Application for Payment and Supporting Documentation
- **Feb. 1:** Deadline for 2015 Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) Application for Payment

- **Feb. 1:** Deadline for Tree Assistance Program (TAP) Application for Payment and Supporting Documentation for Loss for 2015 (or 90 days after disaster event or loss was apparent)
- **Feb. 1:** Final Availability Date for Loans and LDPs for Mohair, Unshorn Pelts (LDP only) & Wool
- **Feb. 26:** Last Day of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General Signup
- **March 15:** 2016 NAP Application Closing Date for Spring Crops
- **March 31:** Final Availability Date for Loans and LDPs for Barley, Canola, Crambe, Flaxseed, Honey, Oats, Rapeseed, Wheat and Sesame Seed
- **May 31:** Final Availability Date for Loans and LDPs for Corn, Dry Peas, Grain Sorghum, Lentils, Mustard Seed, Rice, Safflower Seed, Chickpeas, Soybeans and Sunflower Seed

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