

Subject: 4-29-10 eBlast from NRCS



April 29, 2010

FARM BILL PROGRAM APPLICATIONS DUE OCTOBER 1

The 2008 Farm Bill offers agricultural landowners and operators more assistance than ever before to voluntarily address natural resource concerns on farm and ranch lands. NRCS Utah administers a variety of Farm Bill programs that provide technical and financial assistance to producers and landowners interested in conservation. Applications for participation in these programs may be submitted at any time with your local USDA Service Center. However, to be considered for Fiscal Year 2011 funding, applications for participation in Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) Program, Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP), and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) must be submitted by the cut-off date of **October 1, 2010**.

Congress included new provisions in the 2008 Farm Bill to address the unique circumstances and concerns of historically underserved individuals and groups. Some Farm Bill programs, such as EQIP, provide up to 90 percent of the costs for socially disadvantaged, limited-resource, and beginning farmers or ranchers associated with implementing conservation measures. Up to 30 percent of such payments may be made in advance for purchasing materials or contracting. Under EQIP, 5 percent of the financial assistance dollars will be set aside to assist beginning and limited resource farmers/ranchers and another 5 percent set aside to assist socially disadvantaged farmers/ranchers.

For more information about NRCS Programs, visit your local USDA Service Center or go online to www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov.

Periodic news reports from NRCS Utah



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