



# Pinal County

## Newsletter

April, 2009



### USDA Service Center

Pinal FSA Office  
520 N Camino Mercado  
Suite 10  
Casa Grande, AZ 85222

Phone: (520) 836-1960  
FAX: (520) 836-1297

### Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
7:30 am - 4:00 pm

### County Committee

Mark Hamilton, Chair  
Daniel Nowlin, V-Chair  
John O Nevitt, Member  
Alex Blaine, Advisor  
Vince LaPaglia, Advisor

### Farm Programs Staff

Debbie Hopkins, CED  
Lori Emmert, PT  
Shirley Ciskowski, PT  
Michelle Ontiveros, PT  
Angie Carranza, PT  
Kathy Fanning, PT

### Farm Loan Staff

Shawneen Stevenson,  
UUFLM  
Kent Erickson, FLO  
Patrick Fox, FLPT

### IN THIS ISSUE

DCP Signup  
MILC Signup



We Proudly  
Support our Men  
and Women in the  
Armed Forces.

## DCP Signup Continues

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues with an **Extended Deadline for Enrolling in DCP, Enrolling in Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program, and Adding Pulse Crop Base Acres to August 14, 2009.**

**Signup is mandatory for all participants in Direct and Counter Cyclical Programs.**

**It is imperative you call the office to schedule your appointment; you will need about an hour for enrollment.** We will give you guidelines on the current requirements and the items you will need for enrollment.

## Pinal County Growers 2009 Farm Bill Meeting

**Friday: April 24, 2009 10:00 AM - Noon**  
**Gila River Indian Community**  
**PMIP Engineering Conference Room**  
**192 South "A" Street Sacaton, AZ 85247**

**Tuesday, April 28, 2009 10:00 AM - Noon**

**Central Arizona College-Small Business Center**  
**540 N Camino Mercado Suite 1**  
**(East from Pinal FSA Office- Same Complex)**  
**Casa Grande, AZ 85222**

**\*\*This will be the only location for the Pima County Producers\*\***

**Please contact the Pinal County FSA Office for additional information. 520-836-1960**

## CROP CERTIFICATION DEADLINES (Acreage Reports)



### May 15<sup>th</sup> Small Grains Certification Deadline (Wheat, Barley and Oats)

- ✓ Small Grains May 15<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Sorghum, UPCN, Corn July 15<sup>th</sup>  
& **ALL other land uses**

### Procedure For Prevented Planting

*All prevented planting must be certified on the FSA 578 (acreage report) **NO LATER THAN 15 DAYS AFTER THE FINAL PLANTING DATE.***

#### Final Planting dates for:

- ✓ UPCN May 15<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Corn May 31<sup>st</sup>
- ✓ Sorghum July 31<sup>st</sup>

Please contact your local FSA Office to verify deadlines for all prevented planted crops.

### ***NAP (Non-Insured Assistance Program) Reminder***

#### **NAP Coverage Sales Closing Date**

**2009 Crop Year Sales (Application) Closing Dates** are set by the state committee. Producers are required to apply for the NAP program prior to these dates in order to remain eligible for payments.

- May 29<sup>th</sup> : Artichokes, Beans, Garden Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Canola, Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery, Flowers, Chrysanthemum, Garlic, Greens, All Herbs, Cilantro, Mustard, Onions, Peas, Radish and Tomatoes

Producers are reminded of these dates to ensure continued eligibility for the 2009 crop year.

Producers must: (1) Annually provide records of crop acreage, crop yields, and production evidence for NAP crop to be eligible; (2) Inform FSA **within 15 days of the date any disaster condition occurred or damage to the crop became apparent.**  
**\*\*Producers must file this form even if they intend to harvest the crop.**

### **MILC INCOME LOSS CONTRACT PROGRAM SIGNUP BEGAN DEC 22.**

**February and March Start Month, Please turn in your UDA Statement.**

### **Reconstitutions**

In Farm Service Agency terms, farms are *constituted* to group all tracts having the same owner and the same operator under one farm serial number. When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm *reconstitution* is called for. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. **Deadline to request** a recon is **August 1, 2009** for same crop year. All documentation and signatures are required be submitted before deadline. Contact you local FSA office if you have changes to your operation.

### **Disaster Buy-In Waiver Extension**

Producers who did not obtain crop insurance or Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2008 can pay a buy-in fee through May 18, 2009 to become eligible for 2008 disaster assistance programs authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

Farmers have an additional opportunity to become eligible for several programs if they suffered 2008 agricultural losses due to natural disaster.

If you have not already taken the necessary steps to become eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP), you are required to comply by May 18, 2009.

- Pay a \$100 “buy-in” fee per crop
- Maximum fee is \$300 per producer, not to exceed \$900 for multi-county producers.

**COUNTY COMMITTEE  
NOMINATIONS OPEN  
FOR LAA 11 –  
Northeast Pinal County**  
(North of Coolidge,  
Queen Creek to Globe)

Beginning immediately through **Aug. 1st**, farmers and ranchers can nominate eligible peers or one's self as candidates for election to the Pinal County Farm Service Agency county committee.

Nominations may be you, another producer in same area, women in agriculture, minorities, socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. All are encouraged to apply. The Farm and Rural Investment Act of 2002 significantly expanded the requirements of the agency to expand its county committee members to include all interested participants. All applications must be submitted on form FSA-669A available on website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>, by mail or in person at Pinal County FSA Office.

*"Our goal is to have as many eligible candidates nominated to serve on FSA county committees as possible. We want to encourage everyone to get involved," said Debbie Hopkins, Pinal County Executive Director. This year we hope you'll consider nominating a farmer or rancher you know will make a real difference in his or her community.*

Committees apply their judgment and knowledge to make decisions on county commodity price-support loan eligibility, establishment of bases and yields, conservation programs, disaster programs, employment and other farm program-related issues.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Nominations and elections are open to all eligible candidates and voters without regard to race, color, religion, nation origin, age, sex, marital status or disability.

**NASS Statistical Survey**

The Quarterly Agricultural Surveys, conducted by the national Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) provide inventory and production estimates for crops and livestock at state and national levels. Each quarter a list sample of farm operators are contacted by mail, telephone or personal interview for inventory information on the land they operate. Sample segments also screened for farm operators. Regularly updating the information helps ensure an orderly flow of goods and services among agriculture's producing, processing, and marketing sectors. Reliable, timely and detailed crop and

livestock statistics help maintain a stable economic climate and minimize the uncertainties and risks associated with the production, marketing and distribution of commodities.

**LO-DOC Loans?**

What is a Lo-Doc loan? Simply put, it is a loan that requires less paperwork than the standard FSA loan. To qualify for a Lo-Doc loan, you must meet the following requirements:

- 3 Be current on all payments to all creditors including the Agency (if an Agency borrower)
- 4 Have not received primary loan servicing on any Agency debt within the past 5 years
- 5 Meet one of the following sets of criteria:
  - 6 The loan requested is \$50,000 or less and the total outstanding Agency Operating Loan (OL) loan debt at the time of loan closing will be less than \$100,000; or
  - 7 The loan requested is to pay annual operating expenses and the applicant is an existing Agency borrower who has received and timely repaid at least two previous annual OL loans from the Agency.

Your Lo-Doc Application request must include the following documents before it can be processed:

- 1 completed loan application (FSA-2001)
- 2 entity information (if applicable)
- 3 environmental information
- 4 farm operating plan (FSA-2038)
- 5 payment of credit report fee
- 6 balance sheet (FSA-2037)

The loan application will not be processed until all the requirements are met. Your FSA Loan Officer may require additional information from what is listed here if needed to make a determination on the loan application. See your local FSA Farm Loan Officer for more details.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Pinal County Farm Service Agency  
520 N Camino Mercado, Suite 10  
Casa Grande, AZ 85222-5754

## IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

April 15<sup>th</sup> Pinal County Committee Meeting

April 24<sup>th</sup> Growers Meeting - Gila River Indian Community

April 28<sup>th</sup> Growers Meeting - CAC-Small Business Center

May 29<sup>th</sup> Deadline for Crop Disaster Program

(quality and quantity applications 2005-2007)

FSA Homepage: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

Arizona State FSA Homepage: [www.fsa.usda.gov/edso/az/az.htm](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/edso/az/az.htm)

USDA eCommerce Home (forms web site): <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov/Main.asp>

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To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for persons with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment upon request. If accommodations are required, please call Debbie Hopkins, CED, at 520/836-2028