

**August 2014**



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## Imperial County FSA Updates

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**Imperial County FSA Office**

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El Centro CA 92243

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**Website:**

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

**County Committee:**

Gilbert Gonzalez, Chair  
Manuel Castro, Vice-Chair  
Craig Alameda, Reg. Mbr.

**County Executive Director:**  
Rosalinda Singh

**Program Technicians:**

Carmen Perez  
Julia Contreras  
Jamie Duggan-Lara, Intern

**Farm Loan Staff:**

(located in Bakersfield)  
Tom Hunton  
Elsa Mora

### Cotton Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) Enrollment Ends October 7th

CTAP, created by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides interim payments to cotton producers during the 2014 crop year until the Stacked Income Protection Plan (STAX), a new insurance product also created by the legislation, becomes available.

CTAP is based on a farm's 2013 adjusted cotton base acres effective as of September 30, 2013. Under CTAP, there is no requirement that producers plant cotton in order to be eligible for payment; however, eligible producers must have adequate share in enough cropland acres to cover their claimed interest in cotton base acres on form CCC-957. 2014 CTAP payments will be issued to producers who apply and who meet all eligibility requirements. Please contact this office ASAP to arrange an appointment. Enrollment in 2014 CTAP ends October 7, 2014.

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### FSA Offers Farm Bill Website and Online Overview of Farm Bill Programs

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (the Act), also known as the 2014 Farm Bill, was signed by President Obama on Feb. 7, 2014. The Act repeals certain programs, continues some programs with modifications, and authorizes several new programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Most of these programs are authorized and funded through 2018.

For the latest on 2014 Farm Bill programs administered by FSA, please visit our Farm Bill website at [www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/farmbill) and for an FSA program overview please read, download and/or print our recently posted FSA Farm

Ph: 661.336.0967 Xt.2

Bill Fact Sheet titled, [What's in the 2014 Farm Bill for Farm Service Agency Customers?](#)

**Next County Committee Meeting: Aug. 27 @ 9AM**

For more information on FSA, please contact your local USDA Service Center or visit us online at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

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## Margin Protection Program for Dairy Producers

The 2014 Farm Bill authorized the Margin Protection Program (MPP-Dairy) for dairy producers. The new, voluntary risk management program replaces the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program which expires on Sept. 30, 2014.

MPP-Dairy offers protection to dairy producers when the difference (the margin) between the all-milk price and national average feed cost falls below a certain producer selected amount.

Eligible producers may purchase coverage for their dairy operation by paying an annual administrative fee of \$100 and a premium, as applicable, for higher levels of coverage. Producers in the dairy operation will have to select a desired coverage level ranging from \$4.00 to \$8.00, in \$0.50 increments and a desired coverage percentage level ranging from 25 to 90 percent, in 5 percent increments. Producers will also have to decide whether or not to participate in the MPP-Dairy Program or the Livestock Gross Margin program administered by the Risk Management Agency (RMA), but they will not be allowed to participate in both.

A decision tool will be made available in the fall of 2014 to help producers make coverage level decisions. Enrollment will also begin this fall. Dairy operators will establish their production history during signup.

**Verification of the production records will be required.** The regulations for MPP-dairy are still being developed. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

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## Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

### Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision. Contact our farm loan staff for more information.

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## Filing for NAP Losses

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by

any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required for all crops including grasses. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA County Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

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## **Important Dates**

AUGUST 27 - COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 1 - OFFICE CLOSED - FEDERAL HOLIDAY

OCTOBER 7 - DEADLINE TO ENROLL IN 2014 CTAP

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