

February 2014



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## San Luis Obispo County FSA News

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### San Luis Obispo FSA Office

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**County Executive Director:**  
Jennifer Anderson

**Farm Loan Manager:**  
Gary Troester

**Program Technicians:**  
Denise Lopez

Stacy Alcorn

Jody Lyon

Kyle Cosgrove

**Next County Committee Meeting:** Feb. 11 at 9 am

### CRP Drought Assistance

**Emergency Grazing of CRP.** Emergency Haying and Grazing of CRP has been approved in San Luis Obispo County effective Feb. 1, 2014. Contact the county office to file appropriate forms and receive approval. Maximum grazing period is 90 days. A revised conservation plan is required and no grazing is allowed during primary nesting season, April 1-July 1. A 25% payment reduction will be applied to payment of grazed acres.

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### Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) for Drought Assistance

**USDA California Farm Service Agency announced ECP availability.** ECP can assist producers in implementing emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought. ECP is available to livestock producers with severe water shortages to assist where feasible with rehabilitation of springs, new or deepening of livestock wells, development of seeps, pipelines, tanks, troughs, and dugouts. The program will also assist with water hauling costs to confined livestock. Producers must submit their requests for ECP prior to beginning construction. ECP participants can receive up to 75% of the cost to implement approved emergency conservation practices. Contact your local service center with questions or to make an appointment.

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## 2013/2014 NAP Coverage and Payments

**2013 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)** software was recently re-opened and payments are currently being processed for eligible producers who purchased 2013 NAP coverage on crops affected by

approved losses.

**2014 NAP Acreage Reporting Requirements.** Producers are reminded to file acreage reports for 2014 crop year NAP coverage. If you have been prevented from planting due to drought a claim must be made within 15 days of the final planting date for the crop. The final planting date for barley forage is January 31st and for mixed Forage February 15th.

**2014 NAP Losses must be filed within 15 days from the date it becomes apparent the crop has suffered a loss.** Losses related to natural weather related events must be claimed within 15 days of the apparent date.

**2014 NAP Provisions.** If you have purchased NAP coverage for your crops, you are required to file an accurate and timely acreage report on the crop you have insured, provide production records after your crop is harvested, and if applicable, file a notice of loss within 15 days of a disaster event. The NAP program provides catastrophic coverage against crop losses due to natural weather related disasters, and generally covers eligible production losses greater than 50 percent, at 55% of the market price of the crop.

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## Farm Loans

**San Luis Obispo County declared a disaster county.** Producers may now apply for low interest **emergency loans** for help in recovering from production and physical losses due to extreme drought. Producers have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for this assistance. The maximum emergency loan amount is \$500,000.

**Other Loans.** A variety of financing options are available through FSA for your farming needs. Contact the local service center for information on loan options that may be available.

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## 2014 Crop Acreage Reporting Dates

Producers Planning to or currently participating in FSA programs should file a crop acreage report each year. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. For all crops, including NAP crops, acreage reports should be certified by the dates listed below. If a producer acquires additional acreage after the reporting date, the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after the purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office to support the acquisition. For more information contact the county office.

### 2014 Crop Acreage Reporting Dates:

09/15/2013 Strawberries Planted 6/15/2013 through 8/15/2013

12/15/2013 Perennial Forage, Native Grass for Grazing

01/15/2014 Strawberries planted 8/16/2013 through 11/15/2013

01/15/2014 Avocados, Blueberries, Lemons, Oranges, Citrus, Sugar Beets

03/15/2014 Barley, Wheat, Oats, for Grain or Forage Hay

03/15/2014 Alfalfa Seed, Apples, Cherries, Figs, Apricots, Peaches, Nectarines, Pears, Plums, Nut Crops

05/15/2014 Grapes

06/15/2014 Forage for Seed: alfalfa, rye grass, sudan, grasses grown for seed

07/15/2014 Caneberries, Corn, Dry Beans, Tomatoes, Grain Sorghum, Mint, Onions, Rice Safflower, CRP

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## **County Committee COC Election Results**

The San Luis Obispo County Office Committee Elections took place on January 22, 2014. The election area this year was local administrative area (LAA#1) or coastal San Luis County. Don Warden was elected COC member for a three year term effective February 1, 2014. Thanks to all who voted and nominate your agricultural representative.

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