



January 2007

*Farm Service Agency*

# GUAM County News

**GUAM County FSA**  
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**Acting County  
Committee**  
Rueben Flores, SED

**County Executive  
Director**  
Thomas A. Camacho

**Farm Loan Officer**  
Laurie F. Talbo

**Staff**  
Janice Ogo,  
Program Technician

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## Congratulations to Guam & CNMI's First Ever County Office Committee!

Congratulations to the members of Guam & CNMI's first and long awaited County Office Committee.

The representatives for GUAM are:

- LAA 1-1 NORTH Ernest Wusstig who will serve a term of three (3) years;
- LAA 1-2 CENTRAL Rick Guerrero who will serve a term of one (1) year; and
- LAA 1-3 SOUTH Kim San Nicolas who will a term of two (2) years.

The representatives for the CNMI are:

- LAA 2-1 ROTA David Calvo who will serve a term of three (3) years,
- LAA 2-2 SAIPAN Ramon Camacho who will serve a term of one (1) year, and
- LAA 2-3 TINIAN Samson Palacios who will serve a term of two (2) years.

Our new members will take office starting January 1, 2007. Please welcome our new County Office Committee members.

## County Office Committee (COC) LAAs

The Local Administrative Area (LAA) boundaries for Guam are as follows:

- LAA #1 Andersen AFB, Yigo, parts of Dededo (north of Ysengsong Road)
- LAA #2 Parts of Yona (north of Route 17), Apra Heights, Piti, Asan, Ordod, Chalan Pago, Mangilao, Barrigada, Barrigada Heights, Sinajana, Agana, Agana Heights, Maina, Mongmong-Toto-Maite, Tamuning-Tumon-Harmon, part of Dededo (south of Ysengsong Road)
- LAA #3 Parts of Yona (south of /Route 17), Santa Rita, Agat, Umatac, Merizo, Inarajan, Talofoto.

The LAA boundaries for the CNMI are as follows:

- LAA #1 The island of Rota
- LAA #2 The island of Saipan
- LAA #3 The island of Tinian

## Annual Production Reports

NAP procedures require that 2006 NAP policy holders report all production to the County Office at the end of the Year. It is highly recommended that producers report production for their crops upon final harvest. Production reports are used to calculate your Actual Production History (AHP) and NAP payment(s) should a claim be made. Without your production records the county office will assign zero (0) production to your crop and will be unable to process and make a payment for your losses due to a natural disaster.

If you are a NAP producer and are required to purchase NAP coverage due to a Crop Disaster Program (CDP) payment for crop year 2002, 2003 and/or 2004 and you fail to fully comply with your NAP policy you will be required to refund all CDP payments made plus interest.

## 2007 Acreage Reports

2007 NAP producers are required to report their crop acreage no later than 15 days prior to the onset of harvest. It is highly suggested that producers report all crop acreage upon completion of planting(s). Acreage reports are currently being accepted via phone (671) 472-7569, fax (671) 472-7580, email, and snail mail. It is the producer's responsibility to ensure that the County office receives your reporting.

## Online Services

If you are among the growing number of producers who have access to the Internet at home, you might be interested in USDA's online services that are available to you. Here's a quick run down of available services.

- The USDA Customer Statement. This provides the producer online access 24/7 to the farm's USDA business transactions in a single report accessed with one login and password. It includes participation, application and payment status in various commodity and conservation programs, farm loans, maps, and land unit information.
- My USDA is an online portal the producer can create. It can be customized so that the news, reports, links, and USDA business data most important to the producer will immediately be viewable.

Stop by the county office for assistance in obtaining a USDA eAuthentication Service Level 2 Customer Account. This provides a single user ID and password that grants access to the Customer Statement, and many other USDA e-Services, including submitting forms online through USDA e-File.

## Wetland Violations

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Before starting any earth or dirt work on the farm, discuss your plans with the staff at your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office. Converting wetlands to cropland use is a violation of swampbuster provisions and could result in the loss of USDA program benefits.

## Preventing Anhydrous Theft

Farmers and ranchers know anhydrous ammonia is an efficient and widely used source of nitrogen fertilizer. Unfortunately, it's also an important ingredient in the manufacture of methamphetamine, or "meth." Meth is an illegal drug that is made from mostly legal and easily obtained ingredients.

If you are concerned that AA can or has been stolen:

- Check tanks and valves to make sure they are tightly closed
- Look for suspicious items left near the tank: a garden hose, bucket, coolers, etc.
- Check for broken or missing ties or seals that you placed on the valve wheels as markers.

To help prevent the theft of AA:

- Have tanks delivered as close to the time of application as possible
- Position delivered tanks in open areas where they can be seen from the road
- Check tanks at night and in the morning for any signs of tampering
- Label tanks with caution labels
- Watch for unusual traffic on normally non-traveled roads
- Watch for vehicles parked in secluded areas
- Watch for activity around deserted buildings
- Watch ditches for signs of meth debris, including cold pill containers, camera batteries, camp stove fuel, lye, rock salt, stained coffee filters, engine starter, gas cans or bottles with hoses attached, aluminum foil and propane tanks with bright blue copper fittings.

If you see signs of AA theft:

- Do not disturb the area
- Contact your local law enforcement.

## FSA Farm Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes direct farm ownership and operating loans to family-size farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank, Farm Credit System institution or other lender. FSA loans can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed and supplies. The loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements.

Loan applicants must meet certain eligibility requirements, demonstrate the ability to repay the loan, and be able to provide collateral to secure the loan.

## Youth Loans

FSA makes loans to individual rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, Future Farmers of America, and similar organizations.

Each project must be part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization adviser, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.

Each year, many young entrepreneurs take advantage of these loans and gain valuable business experience in the process.

Who may borrow?

To qualify for a loan, an applicant must:

- be between 10 and 20 years old;
- be a citizen of the United States (or a permanent resident), which includes Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa;
- live in a town of less than 10,000 people;
- be unable to obtain a loan from other sources; and
- conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work, as outlined above.

Applicants must also be capable of planning, managing, and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project adviser. The project adviser must recommend the project and the loan, and agree to provide adequate supervision.

If you're having trouble getting commercial credit and are interested in applying for a farm operating, ownership, or youth loan, please contact Janice Ogo, Program Technician or Laurie Talbo, Farm Loan Officer at (671) 472-7569 about eligibility, as well as maximum loan amounts, rates, term and use of proceeds.

If you have Internet access, visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/> to learn more about FSA loans and other FSA programs.

### Interest Rates – January 2007

Farm Operating Loan - Direct	5.125%
Farm Ownership Loan- Direct	5.250%
Youth Operating Loan	5.125%

## Annual Financial Statements

With the end of the year fast-approaching, now is a good time to take a look at your financial condition.

No matter how large or small your farming operation is, or whether or not you borrow money, it is a good idea to put together a financial statement every year on the same date. It is an excellent habit.

Whether you decide to jot down what you own and what you owe while you are watching the ball drop in Times Square or at halftime of a bowl game doesn't matter.

The important thing is that you do it the same day every year. Usually this day is Jan. 1 or the beginning of your tax year. This way you can compare your financial condition from one year to the next from the same point in time.

Most agriculture lenders would love to have all of their borrowers get into this habit. This will enable your lender to compare "apples to apples" when reviewing your financial condition and will help them make better informed credit decisions.

Blank financial statements can be obtained from your lender or from FSA.



Dates to Remember	
Jan. 1, 2007	New Year's Day holiday. FSA offices closed.
Jan. 15	Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. FSA offices closed.
Feb. 19	President's Day FSA offices closed.

Visit our Web site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/>



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