



# Pinal County

## Newsletter

July 2008



**USDA Service Center**  
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**Office Hours**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**7:30 am - 4:00 pm**

**County Committee**  
Don England, Jr., Chair  
Daniel Nowlin, V-Chair  
John O Nevitt, Member  
Alex Blaine, Advisor  
Vince LaPaglia, Advisor

**Farm Programs Staff**  
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*We Support our men and women in the  
Armed Forces*



## 2008 Disaster Programs

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act), Pub. L. 110-246, was enacted June 18, 2008. The 2008 Act created several new disaster programs under the title, "Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance". To be eligible for these programs, producers **must** purchase at least CAT level of crop insurance for **all** insurable crops and/or NAP coverage for non-insurable crops.

Sales closing dates for CAT and application closing deadlines for NAP have passed for the 2008 crop year for nearly all insurable and noninsurable crops. A waiver has been authorized in the 2008 Act to allow producers to pay,

within 90 calendar days of enactment (**September 16, 2008**), a buy-in fee to be eligible for Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance for crops for which they did **not** purchase crop insurance or NAP coverage for 2008.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE  
BUY-IN PROGRAM, PLEASE  
CONTACT THE PINAL COUNTY  
OFFICE & SCHEDULE AN  
APPOINTMENT!**

\* Producers who meet the requirements of a socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmers or ranchers do not have to meet the Risk Management Purchase requirement and therefore, are not required to pay the buy-in fee.

The 2008 Act amended the Trade Act of 1974 to create:

- an agricultural disaster relief trust fund ("trust fund").
- supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs

### New Disaster Assistance Programs

Funds from the trust fund may be used to make payments to farmers and ranchers under the following 5 new disaster assistance programs:

- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (EALHF) Program
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)
- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program.

### **Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)**

LFP will be available to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock because of:

1. drought, on land that is either of the following:
  - native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover
  - planted to a crop specifically for providing grazing
2. fire, on rangeland managed by a Federal agency if the eligible livestock producer is prohibited from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland.

To be eligible for LFP, the producer **must** have purchased or obtained the following for the grazing land incurring the losses for which assistance is being requested:

- a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, including pilot programs such as the Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Program
- NAP coverage by filing the required paperwork, and paying the administrative fee by the applicable State filing deadline.

**Note:** An eligible livestock producer that suffered 2008 calendar year grazing losses on grazing land and did not meet this requirement may have this provision waived if the producer pays a fee in an amount applicable to the noninsured crop disaster assistance program fee or catastrophic risk protection plan fee by no later than **September 16, 2008**.

An eligible livestock producer that suffers a grazing loss because of drought on owned or leased grazing land or pastureland that is physically located in a county that is rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having either of the following:

- a D2 (severe drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least 8 consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period for that county, will be eligible to receive a payment equal to 1 monthly payment
- at least a D3 (extreme drought) intensity in any area of the county at any time during the normal grazing period for that county, will be eligible to receive a payment equal to 2 monthly payments for at least 4 weeks during the normal grazing period for that county, or
- a D4 (exceptional drought) intensity in any area of the county during the normal grazing period for that county, will be eligible to receive a payment equal to 3 monthly payments.

An eligible livestock producer that suffers grazing losses because of fire on rangeland that is managed by a Federal agency, and the Federal agency prohibits the eligible livestock producer from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland, will receive a payment equal to 50 percent of the monthly feed cost for the total number of livestock covered by the Federal lease. The eligible livestock producer shall **not** receive payments on more than 180 calendar days per year.

### **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)**

LIP will be available to eligible livestock producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality because of adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary during the calendar year, including losses because of hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat, and extreme cold.

LIP payments to eligible livestock producers will be based on:

- 75 percent of a fair market value, as determined by the Secretary, for each specific livestock category
- individual producers' eligible losses.

**Note:** No State, county, or other trigger will be used to define an eligible LIP area.

### **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (EALHF)**

The EALHF Program will provide emergency relief to producers of livestock (including horses), honey bees, and farm-raised fish because of losses from adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary. The EALHF Program is intended to cover disasters that are **not** adequately covered by any other disaster program.

### **Tree Assistance Program (TAP)**

TAP is reauthorized, subject to funds being appropriated, to provide assistance to orchardists and eligible nursery tree growers who produce nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut, or Christmas trees for commercial sale that lost trees because of a natural disaster as determined by the Secretary.

TAP will be provided to producers who lost trees in excess of 15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality). Producers will be reimbursed for 70 percent of the cost of replanting trees and 50 percent of the cost of pruning, removal, and other costs incurred for salvaging trees.

## Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

The SURE Program will be available to eligible producers on:

- farms in disaster counties, including contiguous counties, that have incurred crop production losses and/or crop quality losses during the crop year

**Note:** Disaster counties are counties included in the geographic area covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration that is declared by the Secretary for production losses under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Section 321 (a).

- any farm in which, during the calendar year, the total loss of production of the farm because of weather is greater than 50 percent of the normal production of the farm.

In general, “**farm**” means the sum of **all** crop acreage in **all** counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer.

At a **minimum**, to be eligible for the SURE Program, the producer **must** have purchased or be enrolled in the following, for each:

- insurable crop on the farm, a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act
- noninsurable commodity on the farm, filed the required paperwork and paid the assistance fee by the applicable State deadline, for the noninsured crop assistance program.

**Note:** For 2008, producers who do **not** meet this requirement may have this provision waived if the producers pay a fee in an amount applicable to the noninsured crop disaster assistance program fee or catastrophic risk protection plan fee by no later than **September 16, 2008**.

SURE Program payments will be issued to an eligible producer in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the disaster assistance program guarantee and total farm revenue.

### Disaster Assistance Program Guarantee

The disaster assistance **program guarantee** shall be the sum obtained by adding the following, for each:

- **insurable crop** on the farm, 115 percent of the product obtained by multiplying the:
  1. crop insurance price election for the crop
  2. acres planted or prevented from being planted to the crop
  3. percentage of the crop insurance yield elected by the producer by the higher of the
  4. adjusted APH or the counter-cyclical program payment yield
- **non-insurable crop** on the farm, 120 percent of the product obtained by multiplying:
  1. 100 percent of the NAP program established price for the crop
  2. the acres planted or prevented from being planted to the crop
  3. the higher of the adjusted NAP program yield guarantee or the counter-cyclical program payment yield

### Total Farm Revenue

Total farm revenue for a farm shall be the sum obtained by adding the following:

1. the estimated actual value of each crop produced on a farm by the product obtained by multiplying the:
  - actual crop acreage harvested
  - estimated actual yield
  - national average market price for the marketing year for each crop
2. 15 percent of any direct payments issued
3. the total amount of all counter-cyclical or average crop revenue payments
4. the total amount of all marketing loan proceeds (including certificate gains)
5. the total amount of all crop insurance or NAP indemnities
6. the value of any other natural disaster assistance payments for the same loss.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Pinal County Farm Service Agency  
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## IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

### On-going DCP & CDP, Sign-Up Continues

August 1 <sup>st</sup>	Deadline to request a reconstitution
August 16 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline to certify cotton, corn & all other crops
August 20 <sup>th</sup>	Pinal County Committee Meeting
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline to purchase the Buy-in for 2008 Disaster
September 30 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline to sign-up DCP Program

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