

# Apache County FSA News

St Johns, AZ  
FSA Program Delivery  
Office

Apache County FSA  
PO Box 70  
St Johns, AZ 85936

Phone: (928) 337-4411  
Fax: (928) 337-2441

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
7:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M.  
Closed Legal Holidays

**County Committee**  
Norman Brown, Chair  
Ray Castillo, V-Chair  
Fay Pase, Member

**Office Staff**  
Gregg W. Norton, CED  
Genetta Thornhill, PT  
Teresa Jim, PT

**Farm Loan Staff**  
Mike Miller, FLM  
Harriet Mann, FLO  
Holbrook FSA  
(928) 524-3214

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## 2010 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)

The USDA has declared Apache County eligible for 2010 drought relief payments under the **Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)**. Apache County was rated by the US Drought Monitor as sustaining a D3 intensity drought for 4 weeks allowing eligible producers to apply for a 3 month payment. **Only those livestock producers who purchased NAP insurance for 2010 are eligible for 2010 LFP benefits.** "Equitable relief" provisions are not available for 2010. Waivers apply for producers who qualify as Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource or Beginning Ranchers. The St Johns FSA office is now beginning to accept applications for 2010 LFP benefits. The following documentation is required for the following types of grazing land:

1. **US Forest Service-** A copy of the 2010 Bill for Collection that shows the AUM allowance on the term permit
2. **BLM-** A copy of the BLM grazing permit
3. **State-** A copy of the state grazing lease or any state approved sub-lease or assignment of lease that shows the acres and the AU allowance
4. **Privately owned-** A copy of 2010 property tax receipts that show the legal description and number of acres
5. **Private leased-** A copy of any lease
6. **Tribal/BIA Grazing permit-** A copy of a valid permit covering the 2010 grazing year

All grazing land must be in the name of the applicant. Grazing land cannot be included in calculating the pasture value for your operation if it is in a different name. This could reduce the amount of payment you can receive.

**The deadline to file an application for the 2010 LFP is January 31, 2011.** Please contact the county office in advance of your visit or if you have any questions about the program.

## NON INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

NAP benefits are based on a producer's individual crop losses and covers all non insurable, commercially grown crops produced

for food and fiber. NAP is available to those producers who share in the risk of producing a crop. Crop losses must be as a result of a weather-related disaster condition such as: drought, hail, excessive moisture, freezing conditions, excessive wind, hurricane, or other related conditions. Coverage costs \$250 per crop per county, up to \$750 maximum for single county farmers or ranchers and \$1,875 for multi-county operators.

**Application filing dates for 2010 crops have passed. Filing dates for 2011 crops are as follows:**

### **Native Range Grazing- October 31, 2010**

*Small Grains (Wheat, Barley, Oats)- October 31, 2010*

*Alfalfa, Alfalfa/Mix, Sudan, and other forage crops- October 31, 2010*

*Coarse Grains (Corn, Grain Sorghum)- February 28, 2011*

Producers with NAP coverage are required to 1) file a Notice of Loss the earlier of 15 days of the date of a disaster or 15 days of when a loss is apparent, 2) timely file an acreage report (May 15- small grains, alfalfa and July 15- native range, coarse grains), and 3) keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. **You must also provide land documentation (leases, deeds, grazing and land use permits).**

If you have any questions, please contact the county office for more information.

**REMEMBER- Participation in NAP on native grazing land is required to be eligible for the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) or any other livestock related disaster program that may become available. You must file your application for NAP by OCTOBER 31, 2010 for 2011 NAP to be eligible for possible LFP benefits for 2011.**



## ***NO NAP SERVICE FEE FOR LIMITED RESOURCE PRODUCERS***

To qualify as a limited resource producer, your Gross Farm/Ranch Sales for each of the past two years must be less than \$142,000 AND; your household income must be **\$22,050** or less. If you meet both of these requirements you qualify as a "Limited Resource Producer" and **NO "Service Fee"** is required.



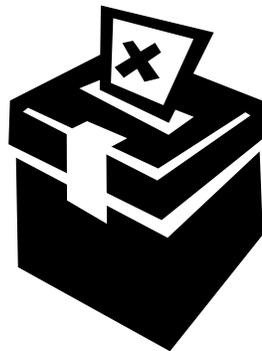
## ***WOOL/MOHAIR 2010 BENEFITS***

It's that time of year again. Time to file your 633-EZ Page 1 so that your wool and mohair will be eligible for payment.

**DO NOT WAIT UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SELL TO SIGN THE FORM.** The form must be RECEIVED in this office before you sell your wool/mohair. Producers should complete page one of the EZ form as soon as possible. Once page one is completed, producers can request benefits any time **up until January 31, 2011.**

Page 1 of the 633-EZ was mailed to all wool and mohair producers that applied for benefits in the prior year. **Please sign and return the form to this office as soon as possible so your wool and mohair is covered.**

When you sell your wool and mohair there is another form that must be completed. Please see our scheduled chapter visits in this newsletter.



## ***2010 FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS***

The Apache FSA Service Center administers programs for Apache County. This county is represented by a three-member County Committee (COC), each member representing

a specific area within the county. In 2010, the representative seat from Local Administrative Area (LAA) 3 is up for election. LAA 3 covers southern Apache County (Round Valley, Nutrioso, Alpine).

COC members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers. COC members are elected by and represent agricultural producers of legal voting age that participate or cooperate in any FSA program. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

### **Election Timeline:**

**November 5, 2010** Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters.

**December 6, 2010** Voters must return completed ballots to the local FSA Service Center.

**Your vote counts!** So please make every effort to complete and return your ballot. For more information on County Committee Elections you can go online

at: [www.fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections) or visit the St Johns FSA Office.



## ***FARM LOAN PROGRAMS***

Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes agricultural loans; provides credit counseling and supervision to farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain private, commercial credit.

FSA places special emphasis on socially disadvantaged applicants (SDA) because we understand and recognize that certain groups have not participated in or have received limited benefits from FSA programs. Our goal is to increase the participation of socially disadvantaged applicants in FSA programs, with special emphasis on those who are members of racial minority groups. FSA lends money and provides credit counseling and supervision to eligible applicants who operate family-size farms. All applicants must meet qualifying criteria to be eligible.



## TYPES OF LOANS AVAILABLE

Farm Ownership (FO)

Farm Operating (OL)

Emergency (EM)

A FSA FO loan provides funds to purchase farm or ranch land; repair buildings and other fixtures; promote soil and water conservation.

Farm Operating loan funds may be used to purchase or lease items needed such as livestock, farm equipment, feed, seed, fuel, farm chemicals, insurance or other operating expenses.

## LOAN AMOUNTS

Direct loans can be made up to \$300,000.00

Guaranteed loans can be made up to \$1,119,000.00

## SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM

Funds are set aside for socially disadvantaged applicants (SDA) to buy and operate family-sized farms and ranches. SDA applicants must meet the same eligibility requirements as other non-SDA applicants.

FSA farm loan employees provide information and assistance to applicants to help them develop sound farm management practices, analyze problems, and plan the best use of available resources essential for success in farming or ranching. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asian and Pacific Islanders.

Operating loans can be repaid within 1 to 7 years depending on the loan purpose. Farm Ownership loans can be repaid from 10 years to 40 years.

## NEWLY REQUIRED AGI VERIFICATION FORMS

EACH INDIVIDUAL AND ENTITY who received 2009 payments or who request 2010 payments must complete and mail to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) a "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information" form. This form will allow IRS to share adjusted gross income (AGI) information with the USDA in order to verify AGI certifications. The purpose is to ensure that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds regulatory limits. **Individuals must file using form CCC-927 and entities using form CCC-928.** These forms are available online at

<http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov> or may be obtained from any FSA office. While FSA can assist you with understanding the form, *FSA is NOT authorized to accept completed consent forms and FSA is NOT authorized to submit these forms to IRS on your behalf.* **Failure to provide this consent form to IRS could result in a producer being ineligible for future FSA payments and could require refund of payments already received.** Contact your local FSA office in order to obtain these forms and for completion instructions.

## FOREIGN BUYER NOTIFICATION

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA. All individuals who are not U.S. citizens, and have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form (FSA-153) could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS/DEADLINES

- ❖ September 6, 2010: Office Closed - Labor Day Observance
- ❖ October 11, 2010: Office Closed - Columbus Day Observance
- ❖ October 31, 2010: 2011 NAP application deadline
- ❖ November 5, 2010: Ballots mailed to eligible voters.
- ❖ December 6, 2010: Last day to return voted ballots to the local FSA office.
- ❖ January 1, 2011: Elected committee members and alternates take office.
- ❖ January 31, 2011: Last day to submit 2010 Wool/Mohair LDP receipts

### 2008 SURE SIGN UP ENDING SOON

The deadline for 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) program payment applications is close of business on September 30, 2010. There are NO provisions for late-file applications.

SURE provides financial assistance for crop production and/or quality losses due to a natural disaster.



*United We  
 Stand!*

### OUTREACH VISITS

We will be making the following visits to take applications for **all** FSA programs available at this time:

Location	Date	Time of Day
Chinle Chapter House	September 21 October 5, 19	10 A.M. to 2 P.M.
St. Michaels USDA Service Center	September 23 October 7, 21	10 A.M. to 2 P.M.
Shonto Chapter House	September 7, 21 October 5, 19	1 P.M. to 4 P.M.
Kayenta NRCS next to Chapter	September 8, 22 October 6, 20	8 A.M. to 12 P.M.
Teec Nos Pos Chapter House	September 29	10 A.M. to 12 P.M.
Red Valley Chapter House	September 29	1 P.M. to 3 P.M.
Rock Point Chapter House	October 13	10 A.M. to 2 P.M.
Navajo Nation Fair - Window Rock	September 8-11	10 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

***This schedule will be in place as long as weather and road conditions permit.***

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English-Federal Relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish-Federal Relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Special accommodations will be made upon request for persons with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call Gregg W. Norton, CED at (928) 337-4411.