



June 2010

Cochise County Newsletter

Cochise County USDA Service Center

Cochise County FSA
658 N Bisbee Ave
Willcox, AZ 85643
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www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours of Operation
Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

County Committee

Mark Cook, Chair
Lance Owen, Vice Chair
Edward Curry, Member
Twila Shelton, Minority
Advisor

Program Staff

Carol Case, CED
Rebecca Burrignt, PT
Shari Binger, PT
Tonya Ayala, PT
Carrie LaCombe, PT

Farm Loan Staff

Jonna Darnell, FLM
Cissi Graves, FLO
Dee Haupt, PT

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2010 AG DAY SUCCESS

The Cochise County Farm Service Agency participated in the 31st Annual Southeastern Arizona Ag Day and Trade Show at the Willcox Community Center. Although the weather was cold and wet, farmers and ranchers from around the county came together to visit one another, participate in continued education classes and visited the many sponsor booths; FSA was one of them.

In order to draw more individuals into our booth while promoting agriculture, we had our first ever bucket drawings. Being that Willcox is an agricultural based community, we invited farmers, ranchers and agricultural businesses to donate items derived from their areas that would promote and advertise their farms, ranches and businesses. Our original goal was to have one basket to giveaway. To our surprise, with the generous donations received, we were able to prepare and giveaway seven FSA buckets full of goods from all over Cochise County. Drawings were held throughout the day. It was a huge success and we hope to be able to continue our new tradition annually. A special thank you to all those who donated items:

- Apple Annie's
- Bonita Bean Company
- Cochise Groves, LLC
- Coronado Vineyards
- Curry Seed & Chili Co.
- Fort Bowie Vineyards
- Maid Rite Feeds
- Willcox Meat Packing
- Willcox Cowbelles
- Giselle Billadeaux
- Willcox Farm Supply
- Fisher Nursery
- Winchester Grain Co.
- Doubtful Canyon Lavender Co.



- Crop Circle Winery
- Freedom Ford
- Central Implement
- Eurofresh
- Willcox Commercial
- Bar M Bar Cattle Co.
- Bonita Grain Co.
- Friends of the Library
- Terry Brothers Farms
- Easter Arizona Ag
- Marilyn Bowler
- Cook Pistachios
- Briggs & Eggers Orchard
- Kansas Settlement Gin Co.

COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS OPEN

County committees play a crucial role in helping the county office staff implement the Farm Bill. Due to the important services that COC members provide, producers are encouraged to participate in the FSA county committee election process by nominating an eligible candidate by the **August 2, 2010** deadline for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2. LAA 2 covers Portal, Bowie, San Simon and the Chiricahua Monument. The elected will serve a three year term beginning January 1, 2011.

To be a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. Nomination forms for the 2010 election must be postmarked or received by close of business on August 2, 2010.

For more information on FSA county committee elections, visit your local county office or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; click on "Newsroom;" then under the Related Topics Heading, select "County Committee Elections."

EMERGENCY FARM LOANS

USDA's Farm Service Agency provides low interest emergency loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters or quarantine.

Emergency loan funds may be used to restore or replace essential property, pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year, pay essential family living expenses, reorganize the farming operation and refinance certain debts.

Applications for emergency loans must be received within 8 months of the county's disaster designation date. This year there was a disaster determination due to drought for various Arizona counties including, but not limited to Cochise, Graham, Greenlee and Santa Cruz counties. The deadline to apply for an emergency loan related to this disaster is August 3, 2010.

FARM LOAN LIMITATIONS

Loan Type	Maximum	Term	Rate as of 06/01/2010
Farm Ownership Loan (FO)	\$ 300,000	Up to 40 years	Now 5.125%
Operating Loan (OL)	\$ 300,000	1 to 7 years	Now 3.125%
Emergency Loan	\$ 500,000	1 to 40 years	Now 3.750%
Guaranteed Loans (FO & OL)	\$ 1,112,000	By Lender	By Lender, Commercial Rates

DISASTER SET-ASIDE FOR FARM LOANS

The Disaster Set-Aside (DSA) program could be available to you if your operation has suffered losses as a result of a natural disaster and you cannot pay all of your expenses, debts to other creditors and FSA farm loan payments. Under the DSA program, you may be eligible to delay any or all of your FSA farm loan payments due this year or next (but not both). This payment will be moved to the end of your loan to be paid on or before the final due date. Loans with less than 2 years remaining are not eligible. DSA will only be approved if all farm loan payments will be up-to-date after the payments are set aside. The deadline to apply on this disaster is August 3, 2010.

SURE SIGNUP FOR CROP PRODUCTION LOSS

Signup for the 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) began on January 4, 2010. SURE 2008 is for those who suffered crop production losses during crop year 2008.

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

Producers with a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. Producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

If there is no Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit the county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

ACREAGE REPORTING

Producers have until **July 15th** to certify all their acreage including cropland, layout land and rangeland. It is very important for all Producers, including ranchers to report their acreage for compliance purposes yearly to the county office. Contact your local service center to obtain an appointment to certify your acreage.

2011 Sales Closing Dates

This table provides the 2011 sales closing dates for Arizona. The county where the crops are physically grown, will determine whether they are insurable and eligible for catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level or are noninsurable and eligible for noninsured crop disaster assistance program (NAP). Consult your local insurance agent to determine whether the crops you are growing are eligible for CAT or NAP. Please note: Some FSA programs require ALL crops to be insured with either CAT or NAP.

January 31, 2011	February 28, 2011	May 31, 2010	May 31, 2011	September 1, 2010	October 31, 2010	November 20, 2009	November 20, 2010	November 30, 2010
Alfalfa Mix Cucumbers Grapes Grass, Bermuda Grass, Sudan Herbs, Basil Jojoba Pecans Peppers, Chile Raisins	Beans, Pinto Corn Cotton Okra Olives Peanuts Potato, Sweet Pumpkins Sorghum Squash	Artichokes Beans, Gar Beets Broccoli Cabbage Canola Carrots Cauliflower Celery Flowers, Chrysanthemum Greens, All Herbs, Cilantro Mustard Oats Onions Peas Radish Tomatoes	Nursery	Crustaceans Flowers, Stock Garlic	Alfalfa Barley Cantaloupe Grass, Native Honeydews Lettuce Rye Wheat	Grapefruit Lemons Oranges Tangelos	Apples Apricots Cherries Honey Peaches Pears Pistachios Plums Watermelon	Potatoes

United States Department Of Agriculture
Cochise County Farm Service Agency
658 North Bisbee Avenue
Willcox, Arizona 85643

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER



June

- 15 Nomination period begins for County Committee Election
- 30 Cochise County Committee Meeting @ 9:00am

July

- 5 Office Closed in Observance of Independence Day
- 15 Deadline to certify all acreage including fallow ground and native pasture
- 15 Cochise County Committee Meeting @ 9:00am (Tentatively Scheduled)

August

- 2 Deadline to file nomination forms for County Committee Election
- 3 Deadline to apply for Disaster Set-Aside and/or Emergency Farm Loans

“We never know the worth of water till the well is dry” - Author Unknown

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