



# GRAHAM/GREENLEE COUNTY Farm Service News

## Farm Service Agency Graham/Greenlee

### County / State Office

305 E Fourth ST  
Safford AZ 85546  
928-428-5560 Ex 2  
Fax (928) 428-4248  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

### Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### County Committee

John Howard

Albert Noland

Kathy Sargent

Pearl Willis

Jane Wyatt

### County Executive Director

Ruth Veit  
[ruth.veit@az.usda.gov](mailto:ruth.veit@az.usda.gov)

For further details and to discuss your own operation's eligibility for any program, contact your nearest FSA local office.

For a list of local offices, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/ca](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ca)

## DCP SIGNUP CONTINUES

Signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program continues until June 1, 2009. The June 1, 2009 deadline is mandatory for all participants. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications.

The electronic DCP (or eDCP) service will save you time, reduce paperwork and speed up contract processing at FSA offices. It is available to anyone eligible to participate in the DCP Program and can be accessed at [www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp). To access this on-line service, you must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

FSA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2009, you may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. FSA will issue advance direct payments later this month. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price.

Eligible producers for the DCP Program are also eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program or the Counter-cyclical Program. The enrollment period for the ACRE Program will begin in the spring. You may first enroll in the DCP Program, receive advance direct payments and then later modify your enrollment to the ACRE program or you may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time in spring 2009.

## CROP DISASTER PROGRAM SIGNUP

### DEADLINE

The Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Crop Disaster Program (CDP) signup period for years 2005-2007 will end Feb. 27, 2009.

The ending date of Feb. 27 applies to the receipt of a signed and completed FSA-840 application along with all supporting documentation and required forms at the applicable county FSA office. Sign-up information and required forms are available at each county FSA office. Late filed applications will not be approved after the Feb. 27 deadline.

All application determinations will be made by March 27, 2009. For further questions about CDP and the sign-up deadline, producers may contact their county FSA office or visit FSA's website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

## PAYMENT LIMITS & DIRECT ATTRIBUTION

For commodity and disaster programs under the new farm bill, the AGI limitation was reduced from \$2.5 million from all sources to a three-year average **non-farm AGI of \$500,000** such that a person or entity shall not be eligible for such programs if the non-farm AGI exceeds \$500,000. Also, under the new regulations, an individual or entity must have a 3-year average AGI less than or equal to \$750,000 per year from farm income in order to qualify for direct payments issued under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

For conservation programs, the average nonfarm AGI limitation is \$1 million or less for eligibility. However, an individual or entity who has non-farm AGI in excess of \$1 million remains eligible for conservation programs only if 66.66 percent or more of the total AGI is derived from farming, ranching and forestry operations. In addi-

tion, the AGI limitation for conservation programs may be waived on a case-by-case basis if it is determined that environmentally sensitive land of special significance would be protected.



Program payments are limited by direct attribution to individuals or entities. A legal entity is defined as an entity created under Federal or State law that owns land or an agricultural commodity, product or livestock. Through direct attribution, payment limitation is based on the total payments received by the individual, both directly and indirectly. Qualifying spouses are eligible to be considered separate persons for payment limitation purposes, rather than being automatically combined under one limitation.

Individuals and entities must be "actively engaged in farming" with respect to a farming operation in order to be eligible for specified payments and benefits. To be "actively engaged in farming," the individual or entity must make significant contributions to the farming operation of: (1) capital, equipment, land, or a combination; and (2) personal labor or active personal management, or a combination. For more detailed information contact your local FSA office.

### **KANSAS CITY MAILS 1099-G**

During the last week of January, producers who have received payments from FSA should have also received a CCC-1099-G from the Kansas City office. A CCC-1099-G is a report to the Internal Revenue Service about FSA payments made to you during the previous calendar year. The CCC-1099-G is a service to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participant's responsibility to report income to the IRS.



If you received a CCC-1099-G, we recommend that you check the amounts shown with those in your records to see that the amounts are correct. Refunds will no longer be reported on the 1099-G, but will be available online from the FSA Financial Inquiries (FSA-FI) web-based database. Program participants with eAuthentication user ID's and passwords can access their refund information at FSA-FI

and select "Inquiry Type 1099/Refund Reports". Refund amounts are displayed on the Producer's Year-to-Date Activity web page.

If you have a question concerning the 1099-G refund information, you may contact your local FSA office for assistance locating the correct payment data. If you choose to visit the office, bring your CCC-1099-G with you.

### **NAP PRODUCTION REPORTING**

Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up-to-date. Records submitted must be reliable and verifiable. Records need to show crop disposition. It is recommended producers submit 2008 production records as soon as possible after harvest. ***All production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date.***

### **NAP COVERAGE DEADLINES**

Noninsured Crop Disaster applications are due at different times according to the crop being insured. Producers should apply for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage using form CCC-471 (Application for Coverage). Related service fees are due when the application is filed. The application and service fee **MUST** be filed by the crop deadline date. Contact your local FSA office for the filing dates for your crops.

The service fee is \$250 per crop per county or \$750 per producer per county. The fee cannot exceed a total of \$1875 per producer for individuals with farming interests in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver for service fees.

To qualify, a producer must be a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop.

## **RENTAL RATES**

FSA is asking each producer who is contacted by NASS to respond to the NASS rental rate survey. The information obtained by NASS is essential for running FSA programs cost-effectively and equitably. Information obtained by NASS is kept strictly confidential.

## **USDA Sets Date for Lamb Referendum**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced that it will offer lamb producers, feeders, and first handlers the opportunity to vote in a nationwide referendum on whether to continue or terminate the Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Order, authorized under the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996. The referendum will be held Feb. 2-27, 2009.

The referendum will be conducted at USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) office in Graham/Greenlee county. To be eligible to vote, persons must certify and provide documentation, such as a sales receipt or remittance form, which shows they have been engaged in the production, feeding, or slaughtering of lambs during the period, Jan. 1, 2008, through Dec. 31, 2008.

Beginning Feb. 2, 2009, and continuing through Feb. 27, 2009, persons eligible to vote should obtain form LS-86 from The Graham/Greenlee County FSA office either in person, by mail, fax, or via the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketingprograms>. Persons must vote in the referendum at the Graham/Greenlee County FSA office at 305 E Fourth St., Safford, AZ 85546 where their administrative farm records are maintained. For those persons not participating in FSA programs, the opportunity to vote will be provided at the Graham/Greenlee County FSA office where the person owns or rents land.

Form LS-86 and supporting documentation must be returned in person, by mail, or by fax to the Graham/Greenlee county FSA office. The form and documentation returned in person or by fax must be received in the Graham/Greenlee county office prior to the close of business 4:30pm on Feb. 27, 2009. The form and documentation returned by mail

must be postmarked no later than midnight on Feb. 27, 2009, and received by Graham/Greenlee county FSA office by March 6, 2009.

USDA monitors activities of the American Lamb Board. The mandatory program is financed by producers, seedstock producers (breeders), feeders, and exporters who are assessed one-half cent (\$.005) per pound when live ovine animals are sold. The first handler, primarily packers, pays an additional 30 cents per head on ovine animals purchased for slaughter.

Notice of the referendum will be published in the Dec. 16, 2008, Federal Register. Copies of the Final Rule and Notice are available from the Marketing Programs Branch; Livestock and Seed Program, AMS, USDA; STOP 0251 - Room 2628-S; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW; Washington, D.C. 20250-0251; tel. (202) 720-1115; or via the Internet at [www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketingprograms](http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketingprograms).

## **CROP DISASTER PROGRAM SIGN-UP ENDS FEBRUARY 27**

The USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) administrator Teresa Lasseter announced that the signup period for the 2005-2007 Crop Disaster Program (CDP) will end February 27, 2009.

The ending date of Feb. 27 applies to the receipt of a signed and completed FSA-840 application along with all supporting documentation and required forms available at the Office. No late filed applications will be approved after the February 27, 2009 deadline.

All application determinations will be made by March 27, 2009. For further questions about CDP and the signup deadline, please visit the Office or visit FSA's website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.



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 Graham/Greenlee County  
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 Safford AZ 85546



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 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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Dates to Remember	
February 16	Office Closed
February 28	COC meeting
February 27	2005-2007 Crop Disaster Program Deadline
February 27	Last Day for the LAMB REFERENDUM
February 28, 2008	Pinto Beans, Corn, Upland Cotton, ELS Cotton, Okra, Sweet Potatoes, Pumpkin, Sorghum, Forage Sorghum, Grain Sorghum, and Squash
June 1	Last Day to sign up for DCP
<b>Within 15 days</b>	Notice of loss. Must report damage within 15 days of damage or when damage is apparent. (drought, flood, Hail, Etc)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program 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, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or 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, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.