



# 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

Daisy Mae Cannon

Kathy Sergent

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 Underway

Signup has started for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program for farms with base acres. Contact your local USDA office or service center now. Signup will continue until **June 1, 2010**. The June 1, 2010 deadline is mandatory for all participants. FSA will not accept any late-filed applications.

An electronic application is also available for DCP (or eDCP) for those who wish to register and explore this option. Contact your local FSA office for more information and to establish the required *eAuthentication Level 2* account.

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 2010, 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.

Producers who are eligible for the DCP Program will also be eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) 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 include the ACRE program or you may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time in spring 2009.

### ACREAGE REPORTING

Acres reporting time will soon be here. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 calendar days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop.

Prevented planting must be reported no later than **15 calendar days** after the final planting date.

Acres reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. Crops can be reported to the FSA office as soon as the crop is in the ground, no later than the May 15 deadline on small grains and a July 15 deadline on all other crops.

Acres reports on crops covered under NAP must be filed by the earlier of May 15 for small grains and July 15 for all other crops, or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acres being reported.

### SMALL GRAIN ACRES.

Small Grain planted acres that are for green manure, grazing, hay, silage or grain are required to be reported by May 15, 2010 as are requirement to the DCP Program.

### LIVESTOCK FORAGE PROGRAM

Deadline has been extended to April 2, 2010 for the Livestock Forage Program. Most Ranchers have either applied or inquired about the program.

Information needed for the application is the livestock numbers broken down as to Adult beef cows and bulls, non- adult beef cattle, equine, swine, sheep, goats and other livestock as of October 13, 2009 Livestock must have been owned at least 60 days prior to October 13, 2009. Livestock sold in 2007, 2008 and/or for drought purposes not normal culls may qualify.

## County Committee Election Results



Congratulations to John Howard & Daisy Mae Cannon. They were elected to represent farmers from LAA1 & 3 on the county committee. John was elected to his last 3 year term. Daisy was elected to her first 3 year consecutive term.

The election results for Local Administrative Area 1 are:

John Howard — elected to the county committee (COC),

Lynn Daley — 1<sup>st</sup> alternate to COC,

The election results for Local Administrative Area 3 are:

Daisy Mae Cannon — elected to the county committee (COC),

Albert Noland — 1<sup>st</sup> alternate to COC,

John Howard was elected Chairperson to the COC and Kathy Sergent Vice-Chairperson. FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

The committee intends to meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Please contact the office if you wish an audience with the committee

### FOREIGN BUYERS 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.

### CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

Any person who is convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant. Prohibited plants include marijuana, opium, poppies and other drug producing plants.



### SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

### POWER OF ATTORNEY

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office or any Farm Service Agency office near you for more information.

### BANK ACCOUNT CHANGES

Current policy mandates that FSA payments be electronically transferred into your bank account. In order for timely payments to be made, producers need to notify the FSA county office if your account has been changed or if another financial institution purchases your bank. Payments can be delayed if the FSA office is not aware of updates to your account and routing numbers.

### APPEAL PROCESS

After an FSA official makes a decision on your request for USDA services or application, you will be sent a letter informing you of the decision and options you can pursue if you disagree. FSA Generally, program participants have three choices — an informal review with the original agency decision-maker, an opportunity for mediation and finally an appeal to the next level of authority within the agency.

### FSA SIGNATURE POLICY

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

There are exceptions to the rule, where spouses may not sign on behalf of each other for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities.

Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents.

For more clarification on spousal signature authority, feel free to contact your local FSA of-

fice.

- members
- Spouses may sign on behalf of each other's individual interest in a partnership, unless notification denying a spouse that authority is provided to the county office
- Acceptable signatures for general partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, estates, and trusts shall consist of an indicator "by" or "for" the individual's name, individual's name and capacity, or individual's name, capacity, and name of entity

For additional clarification on proper signatures contact your local FSA office.

## Customer Statement

It's a new year and time to think about filing taxes. Producers with an USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account will be able to access their farm data via their Customer Statement. The Customer Statement puts a range of USDA services and programs into a single report that's at your fingertips and available online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

It allows USDA customers to view their participation, application and payment status in various commodity and conservation programs; information on farm loans; and conservation plan and land unit information.

### **2011 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. Different varieties may require separate fees. 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.

November 20, 2009	grapefruits, lemons, oranges, and tangelos
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May 31, 2010	artichokes, garbanzo beans, beets broccoli, cabbage, canola, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chrysanthemum flowers, all greens, cilantro herbs, mustard, oats, onions, peas, radish, and tomatoes.
September 1, 2010	crustaceans, stock flowers, and garlic
October 31, 2010	Alfalfa, Barley, Cantaloupe, native grass, honeydews, lettuce, rye, and wheat
November 20, 2010	apples, apricots, cherries, honey, peaches, pears, pistachios, plums and watermelon
November 30, 2009	Potatoes
January 31, 2011	Alfalfa Mix, Cucumbers, grapes, Bermuda and Sudan Grass Basil Herbs, Jojoba, Pecans, and Chili Peppers
February 28, 2011	Pinto Beans, Corn, Upland Cotton, ELS Cotton, Okra, Sweet Potatoes, Pumpkin, Sorghum, Forage Sorghum, Grain Sorghum, and Squash
May 31, 2011	Nursery Crops

## LIVESTOCK PRODUCER/RANCHERS

To be eligible for the livestock programs, native rangeland and/or grazing land needs to be insured through the NAP program.



USDA Farm Service Agency

Name State Office

Street Address

City, State Zip Code



PRESORTED STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

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### Dates to Remember

April 2	<b>LFP Extended deadline</b>
May 15	<b>Small Grain reporting deadline</b>
May 31	<b>Office closed for Memorial Day</b>
June 1	<b>DCP signup deadlin</b>
June 1	<b>Reconstituion deadline</b>
July 5	<b>Office closed for Independence Day</b>
July 15	<b>All crops other than small grain reporting deadline</b>

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