



USDA Service Center
 Pima/Santa Cruz
 FSA Office
 3241 N Romero Road
 Tucson, AZ 85705-9223
 CG (520) 836-1960
 Phone: (520) 292-2999
 FAX: (520) 836-1297

Office Hours

Thursday-
 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
 All other weekdays
 By Appointment Only

County Committee

Gary Deen, Chairman
 Andrew Smallhouse, Vice
 Chairman
 Robert Noon, Member
 Marie Pyeatt, Advisor

Farm Programs Staff

Debbie Hopkins, CED
 Lori Emmert, PT
 Shirley Ciskowski, PT
 Michelle Ontiveros, PT
 Angie Carranza, PT
 Kathy Fanning, PT

Farm Loan Staff

Shawneen Stevenson,
 Farm Loan Manager
 Kent Erickson, FLO
 Patrick Fox, FLPT

IN THIS ISSUE

DCP Enrollment

SURE?



We Proudly
 Support our Men
 and Women in
 the Armed Forces.

***The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program
 (SURE) is open for 2009 Crop Losses!***

Did your farm suffer a crop loss related to weather in 2009?

If you did, you can apply for the 2009 SURE (Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program).

SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that were incurred January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. *You may recall this program took the place of the old Crop Disaster Program (CDP).* To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to have crop insurance on **ALL** crops of economic significance in all counties; or, if crop insurance is not available, to have purchased Non-Insured Crop Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for the crops grown. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without insurance or NAP coverage's.

Producers who think they may qualify for disaster benefits should contact the FSA office, (520) 836-1960, as soon as possible to file an application before the July 29, 2011 deadline.

DCP SIGNUP & ADVANCE PAYMENTS

DCP contract signatures for enrollment are due by the **signup deadline of June 1, 2011**. For more information producers can contact their local FSA office for an enrollment appointment.

OUR SINCERE APOLOGY

January Newsletter reported the election results naming Marie Pyeatt as 2nd alternate to Gary Deen in LAA-1 West Pima County; when in fact, **Marie Molina Whillock** is the 2nd alternate to Gary Deen.

Our congratulations to Mrs. Whillock and look forward to her participation in County Committee meetings in 2011.



DEADLINE TO CERTIFY SMALL GRAINS (WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS)

****MAY 16, 2011****



NAP Coverage Reminder

The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance.

Statute limits NAP to each commercial crop or agricultural commodity, except livestock, for which CAT is not available.

Producers who already have coverage on 2011 NAP crops may choose to continue coverage on the same crop or crops for 2012, if the applicable service fee is submitted by the application closing date. A new CCC-471, application for coverage is not required to be signed when applying for continuous coverage of the same crop or crops. Producers who choose to add a new crop(s) or delete a crop(s) from previous year's coverage or changing crop shares must file a new CCC-471 with signatures and pay the applicable service fee.

Producers are reminded about the need for insurance coverage or NAP on ALL crops to be eligible for the agency's Disaster Assistance Programs such as SURE, LFP, ELAP and TAP.

Producers with NAP coverage must remember to complete the following to qualify for benefits:

1. **Timely file acreage reports** (May 15th for Wheat, Barley & Oats and July 15th for all other crops) .****Includes Rangeland**
2. Keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. For example, bale weights or other means of determining quantities of hay are required and **timely file production records** (July 15th of the subsequent crop year)
3. **File a "Notice of Loss" within 15 days** of when a loss is apparent, so the loss can be appraised and production counted before the crop is put to another use, abandoned or destroyed. ****Includes Rangeland.**
4. Timely file all eligibility forms (July 15th of the subsequent year)

Did You Receive LFP Benefits?

If so... you may be receiving a letter in the mail soon! Previously our Agency issued Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) payments for the 2008 and 2009 years during 2010. However, program software was not available at that time, and therefore payments were issued manually. Now software is available and County Offices have been asked to reprocess these payments. As a result, you will likely receive a statement showing a receivable has been created and paid off (hopefully totaling a disbursement of \$0). We just wanted to give you a heads-up! Should you have any questions after reviewing this statement, please feel free to give our office a call!

LFP Sign up

Livestock Disaster Assistance Programs

According to the March 8, 2011 Drought Monitor Pima, Santa Cruz, Cochise and Graham are rated D3 (Extreme Drought) and therefore are eligible for two months of LFP. If the D3 determination continues for 4 weeks, or rated a D4 (Exceptional Drought) intensity at any time, producers would be eligible to receive assistance in an amount equal to three monthly payments.

LFP provides payments to eligible livestock producers who have suffered livestock grazing losses due to qualifying drought or fire.

For more information or to apply LFP and other USDA Farm Service Agency disaster assistance programs, please contact the Pinal County Office at (520) 836-1960 or visit the FSA county office web site at www.fsa.usda.gov.

***NOTE:** Your local Farm Service Agency urges ranchers to take pictures and or get other documentations from outside sources for the purpose of application for various drought related livestock programs.*



Notice to Hispanic or Women Farmers and Ranchers: Compensation for Claims of Discrimination

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. You may be eligible if:

1. You sought a farm loan or farm-loan servicing from USDA during that period; and
2. The loan was denied, provided late, approved for a lesser amount than requested, approved with restrictive conditions, or USDA failed to provide an appropriate loan service; and
3. You believe these actions occurred because you are Hispanic or female. If you want to register your name to receive a claims package, you can call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or access the following website: www.farmerclaims.gov

In 2011, a Claims Administrator will begin mailing claims packages to those who have requested one through the Call Center or web-site. The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process. In order to participate, you must submit a claim to the Claims Administrator by the end of the claims period. If you are currently represented by counsel regarding allegations of discrimination against USDA or in a lawsuit claiming discrimination by USDA, you should contact your counsel regarding this claims process. USDA Cannot Provide Legal Advice to You. You are not required to hire an attorney to file a claim, but you may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider in your community for additional guidance.

Biomass Crop Assistance Program:

The Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP), created in the 2008 Farm Bill, is a primary component of the domestic agriculture, energy, and environmental strategy to reduce carbon pollution, and spur rural economic development and job creation. BCAP provides incentives to interested farmers, ranchers and forest landowners for the establishment and cultivation of biomass crops for heat, power, bio-based products and biofuels. Crop producers and bioenergy producers will be able to team together to submit applications to USDA to be selected as a BCAP project area. If selected, crop producers will be eligible for reimbursements of up to 75 percent of the cost of establishing a bioenergy perennial crop. Producers also can receive up to 5 years of annual payments for grassy crops (annual or perennial), and up to 15 years of annual payments for woody crops (annual or perennial). Assistance for the collection, harvest, storage and transportation of biomass to biomass conversion facilities

will be available for 2 years, per producer, in the form of a matching payment for up to \$45 per ton of the delivery cost to the facility. For more information on BCAP, please visit FSA's BCAP website at [http:// www.fsa.usda.gov/bcap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/bcap).

Loan Deficiency Payments

***2010 Wheat, Barley and Oats LDP payments
must be requested for payment by
May 15, 2011.***

Consent to Disclose Tax Information 2009/2011 CCC-927 and CCC- 928

Consent forms are now available at your local Service Center for your completion and return to the Internal Revenue Service. Failure to return forms to IRS could result in payment(s) refunded to FSA. It is the producer's responsibility to pick these forms up at the FSA Service Center or go online to: www.fsa.usda.gov. A consent form must be completed for EACH legal entity and EACH individual.

(Failure to return form(s) CCC-927/928 could result in returning all payments earned in 2009, 2010 and 2011)



1099's

It is very important this year that producers closely review their 1099's to ensure it accurately reflects 2010 payments. If there are inaccuracies or producers have any questions about the data, please contact this office.



Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) Program

Note: February Start Month Dairies must present your February UDA Production Statement to FSA for payment.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Pinal County Farm Service Agency
520 N Camino Mercado, Suite 10
Casa Grande, AZ 85122-5754

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

April 7th Pima Santa Cruz County
Committee Meeting @Plant
Material Center



**It is imperative you call the office to
schedule
your appointment for enrollment.**

Homepage: www.fsa.usda.gov
Arizona State FSA Homepage:
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