



Pinal County

Newsletter

May, 2009



USDA Service Center

Pinal FSA Office
520 N Camino Mercado
Suite 10
Casa Grande, AZ 85222

Phone: (520) 836-1960
FAX: (520) 836-1297

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
7:30 am - 4:00 pm

County Committee

Mark Hamilton, Chair
Daniel Nowlin, V-Chair
John O Nevitt, Member
Alex Blaine, Advisor
Vince LaPaglia, Advisor

Farm Programs Staff

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

Farm Loan Staff

Shawneen Stevenson, FLM
Kent Erickson, FLO
Patrick Fox, FLPT

IN THIS ISSUE

DCP Signup
MILC Signup



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

CROP CERTIFICATION DEADLINES (Acreage Reports)

May 15th Small Grains Certification Deadline (Wheat, Barley and Oats)

- ✓ Small Grains May 15th
 - ✓ Sorghum, UPCN, Corn July 15th
- And ALL other land uses**

May 29th Prevented Planting Short Staple Cotton (UPCN) Certification Deadline

Please contact your local FSA Office to verify deadlines for all prevented planted crops.

All Cropland Certification Deadline July 15, 2009

(Cotton, Corn, etc., and all other land use to include Fallow and ****Rangeland for grazing**)

** New requirement for future Disaster Livestock Programs

DCP Signup Continues

Deadline has been extended for enrolling in DCP and ACRE Programs to August 14, 2009.

Signup is mandatory for Payments from the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program.

It is imperative you call the office to schedule your appointment; you will need about an hour for enrollment. We will give you guidelines on the current requirements and the items you will need for enrollment.

Procedure for Prevented Planting

*All prevented planting must be certified on the FSA 578 (acreage report) **NO LATER THAN 15 DAYS AFTER THE FINAL PLANTING DATE.***

Final Planting dates for:

- ✓ UPCN May 15th
- ✓ Corn May 31st
- ✓ Sorghum July 31st

Please contact your local FSA Office to verify deadlines for all prevented planted crops.

NAP (Non-Insured Assistance Program) Reminder

NAP Coverage Sales Closing Date

2009 Crop Year Sales (Application) Closing Dates are set by the state committee. Producers are required to apply for the NAP program prior to these dates in order to remain eligible for payments.

- May 29th : Artichokes, Beans, Garden Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Canola, Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery, Flowers, Chrysanthemum, Garlic, Greens, All Herbs, Cilantro, Mustard, Onions, Peas, Radish and Tomatoes

Producers are reminded of these dates to ensure continued eligibility for the 2009 crop year.

Producers must: (1) Annually provide records of crop acreage, crop yields, and production evidence for NAP crop to be eligible; (2) Inform FSA **within 15 days of the date any disaster condition occurred or damage to the crop became apparent.**

****Producers must file this form even if they intend to harvest the crop.**



**MILC INCOME LOSS CONTRACT PROGRAM
SIGNUP BEGAN DEC 22.**

**March Start Month, Please turn in your UDA
Statement.**

Disaster Buy-In Waiver Extension

Producers who did not obtain crop insurance or Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2008 can pay a buy-in fee through May 18, 2009 to become eligible for 2008 disaster assistance programs authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

If you have not already taken the necessary steps to become eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP), you are required to comply by May 18, 2009.

- Pay a \$100 “buy-in” fee per crop
- Maximum fee is \$300 per producer, not to exceed \$900 for multi-county producers.

TIMELY FILING OF LOSS

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report yield losses, failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required on ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES. For losses on crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576 (notice of loss) in the FSA County Office within 15 calendar days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. Since most of the state is suffering from drought, it might be time to get this done.

If filing for prevented planting, an acreage report and CCC-576 must be filed within 15 calendar days of the final planting date for the crop.



Items to review:

- ❖ Change in Banking*****
- ❖ Address & Phone Number ****Zip Codes**
- ❖ Change in ownership/lease+++++
- ❖ Signature Authority *****

**COUNTY COMMITTEE
NOMINATIONS OPEN
FOR LAA 11 –
Northeast Pinal County**
(North of Coolidge,
Queen Creek to Globe)



Beginning immediately through **Aug. 1st**, farmers and ranchers can nominate eligible peers or one's self as candidates for election to the Pinal County Farm Service Agency county committee.

Nominations may be you, another producer in same area, women in agriculture, minorities, socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. All are encouraged to apply. The Farm and Rural Investment Act of 2002 significantly expanded the requirements of the agency to expand its county committee members to include all interested participants. All applications must be submitted on form FSA-669A available on website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections> , by mail or in person at Pinal County FSA Office.

"Our goal is to have as many eligible candidates nominated to serve on FSA county committees as possible. We want to encourage everyone to get involved," said Debbie Hopkins, Pinal County Executive Director. This year we hope you'll consider nominating a farmer or rancher you know will make a real difference in his or her community.

Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act 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.

Foreign persons who 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 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.

RURAL YOUTH LOANS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes operating loans to individual rural youths age 10 through 20 to establish and operate income producing projects. These projects must be of modest size and be initiated, developed, and carried out by rural youths participating in 4-H Clubs, FFA, or a similar organization or with a vocational teacher or county extension agent. The project must be an organized and supervised program of work. It must be planned and operated with the assistance of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. Contact your local FSA office for more details.

USDA TOLL FREE NUMBER FOR FSA BORROWERS

Farmers and Ranchers Can Check Account Status 24/7

Direct loan borrowers with USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) can now check the status of their accounts around the clock using a new toll-free telephone number.

This convenient new tool gives customers up-to-the-minute access to their accounts, helping producers better manage the daily operations of their farm or ranch. This secure system is fast, efficient and very user-friendly, and yet another hallmark of our commitment to provide high quality and convenient services.

The toll-free number is 1-888-518-4983 and is available in both English and Spanish. The system delivers information on active FSA loans 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Pinal County Farm Service Agency
520 N Camino Mercado, Suite 10
Casa Grande, AZ 85222-5754

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

- May 15th Deadline to Certify Wheat, Barley, Oats
- May 20th County Committee Meeting
- May 29th Deadline for Crop Disaster Program
(Quality and quantity applications 2005-2007)
Prevented Planting Cotton



FSA 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>

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the county office at the phone number listed above.

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