



# Pinal County

## Newsletter

March, 2010



### USDA Service Center

Pinal FSA Office  
520 N Camino Mercado Ste 10  
Casa Grande, AZ 85122  
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

### 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, FLM  
Kent Erickson, FLO  
Patrick Fox, FLPT

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### IRS Disclosure Forms

Deadline is June 15, 2010



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

Very Important Information

## Assignment of your DCP/CC Payments to Your Lending Institutions.

Farm Service Agency recognizes your lending institutions' request for assignment of your Direct and Counter Cyclical, and Loan Deficiency Payments for designated crop year. These Assignment of Payment documents will remain in effect *until revoked by the lending institution* or the assignment is fulfilled. All assignments from your lending institution must show your proper identification number and the correct name **as you operate** in the respectful county of operation. It is the responsibility of each and every producer to be aware of the assignment contract that they sign and to assure that the lending institution revokes any pending assignment or of any changes in these assignments. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your county office for addition clarification or information on current assignments on file.

### **Banking Changes**

We are experiencing continued issues with banking accounts closed. This puts DCP/CC payments "in-limbo" until this issue is resolved. If you close or change banks, please contact your county office, it is a quick correction to update your information. Thank you for your assistance.

### **2009 Livestock Forage Disaster Program Extension**

Due to continued severe weather conditions in the high country of Arizona, producers have been unable to apply for the current Disaster Program. The Livestock Forage Disaster Program application period has been extended to April 2, 2010 for all of the applicable counties.

Livestock owners/producers who suffered loss due to the drought in 2009 in Pinal, Pima or Santa Cruz counties are encouraged to contact the phone numbers above for additional information or to apply for the livestock disaster programs for year 2009.

### **DCP Signup Continues**

Signup for the 2010 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP)  
Program continues until the  
**June 1, 2010 deadline.**

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

## Choice of Administrative County

Until recently the County Administrative office for program participants was basically the county office in which the principal farm operator resided. Now a change in a farm's administrative county may be permitted without completing a farm combination in the receiving county, if the producer documents that the changed Administrative County Office is significantly more convenient. Changing an Administrative County Office because of convenience is a **onetime selection (for the current operator)** and **will not** be used to evade program rules.

Those who use the convenience method will still be able to vote for county committee candidates running for county committee in their original county's Local Administrative Area, however they will not be permitted to be a candidate for that county's committee.

A farm transfer can be initiated by the farm's operator or owner or the receiving or transferring county committee. All owners and operator must sign a FSA-179, **TRANSFER OF FARM RECORDS BETWEEN COUNTIES.**

## 2009 EARNING STATEMENT

Form CCC-1099G, Report of Producer Payments, will be mailed in January to all FSA program participants who received payment in 2009. These reports are mailed from FSA's Kansas City Office; please watch your mail for your report. If you do not receive form CCC-1099G, or if it does not match your records, contract our office immediately so that corrective action can be taken. It is important that the 1099G be accurate, because the data is reported to the Internal Revenue Service. **Please remember, refunds made to FSA will not show on your CCC-1099G.** FSA has also made modifications to 2009 1099G to prevent overstating DCP direct payments. Producer's with eAuthentication Level 2 accounts can login online and obtain a 1099G report and obtain a report showing any refunds made to FSA.



## Consent to Disclose Tax Information 2009/2010

### 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 to IRS could result in payments 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](http://www.fsa.usda.gov). A consent form must be completed for EACH legal entity and EACH individual. DEADLINE TO RETURN TO IRS, JUNE 15, 2009.

## Civil Rights Complaint Process

Any person, class or group of persons may file a discrimination complaint within 180 days of an alleged discriminatory action. Complaints may be filed in writing or orally with the agency head, any designated agency official or the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Assistance in filing a complaint can be obtained by calling or visiting any FSA office.

## CROP CERTIFICATION DEADLINES

(CCC 578-Acreage Reports)

### Deadlines:

**May 15<sup>th</sup> Small Grains Certification**  
(Wheat, Barley and Oats)

**July 15<sup>th</sup> Upland cotton (UPCN) Corn, Sorghum & All Other cropland uses**

## 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 15 <sup>th</sup>  |
| ✓ Corn    | May 31 <sup>st</sup>  |
| ✓ Sorghum | July 31 <sup>st</sup> |

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

## 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.

## LOANS FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) can make and guarantee loans to socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family size farms and ranches. Funds specifically for these loans are reserved each year. A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asians and Pacific Islanders. Contact your Farm Loan Officer, Kent Erickson, at the Pinal County FSA Office (520/836-1960) for more details and assistance in applying.

## **Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS)–**

This is USDA's annual economic survey. Around 125 farmers and ranchers were selected. NASS is currently collecting data from these producers and will continue through April 9. The ARMS project gives producers an opportunity to let policymakers know what the costs and returns are for Arizona farming enterprises. USDA economists and congressional staffers use the data to adjust farm programs and to help specific sectors of agriculture.

The survey is important and is your chance to inform policymakers about the issues you face today.

March Agricultural Survey - This survey is currently being conducted and should be completed by March 19. The survey went out to about 400 Arizona producers asking them what they plan to plant for the 2010 crop year.

*This intentions survey is one of the most looked at reports of the year because it provides a glimpse into what farmers intend to do for 2010 both in Arizona and throughout the U.S.*

If contacted, we hope that you will help USDA and complete the surveys. If you have any questions, please contact USDA-NASS at 1-800-645-7286 or visit them on the web at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

## **LO-DOC Loans?**

What is a Lo-Doc loan? Simply put, it is a loan that requires less paperwork than the standard FSA loan. To qualify for a Lo-Doc loan, you must meet the following requirements:

- 3 Be current on all payments to all creditors including the Agency (if an Agency borrower)
- 4 Have not received primary loan servicing on any Agency debt within the past 5 years
- 5 Meet one of the following sets of criteria:
  - 6 The loan requested is \$50,000 or less and the total outstanding Agency Operating Loan (OL) loan debt at the time of loan closing will be less than \$100,000; or
  - 7 The loan requested is to pay annual operating expenses and the applicant is an existing Agency borrower who has received and timely repaid at least two previous annual OL loans from the Agency.

Your Lo-Doc Application request must include the following documents before it can be processed:

- 1 completed loan application (FSA-2001)
- 2 entity information (if applicable)
- 3 environmental information
- 4 farm operating plan (FSA-2038)
- 5 payment of credit report fee
- 6 balance sheet (FSA-2037)

The loan application will not be processed until all the requirements are met. Your FSA Loan Officer may require additional information from what is listed here if needed to make a determination on the loan application. See your local FSA Farm Loan Officer for more details.

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



## IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

March 24<sup>th</sup> Pinal County Committee Meeting 8:00 AM

May 15<sup>th</sup> Small Grain Certification

\*\*\*June 15<sup>th</sup> IRS CCC-927/928 Disclosure DEADLINE! \*\*\*

June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to enroll in DCP/CC Program \*no late file available

FSA Homepage: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

Arizona State FSA Homepage: [www.fsa.usda.gov/edso/az/az.htm](http://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