



Pinal County

Newsletter

August, 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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**END of Year Deadline to
return all missing
documents!**

USDA Announces Sign-up for the Durum Wheat Quality Program to Share Fungicide Application Cost.

Under this program producers may be eligible to receive a 50 percent cost share for applying fungicides to the 2010 durum wheat crop to control Fusarium head blight, commonly known as wheat scab.

To be eligible, a producer must complete a DWQP application and have used an eligible fungicide to control Fusarium head blight on acres planted to durum wheat for the 2010 crop year. In addition, producer must provide verifiable documentation for the purchase of eligible fungicide used to control Fusarium head blight on durum wheat. *May only apply to very wet areas of the country.* For additional information or to apply for DWQP please call your local FSA office or visit our web site: www.fsa.usda.gov

COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR LAA 2 - West Pinal County (Casa Grande, Stanfield to Maricopa)

Deadline for nominations for the FSA county committee election is **August 2, 2010**. Producers who are residents in the LAA-2 holding the election and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee.

The nomination form, FSA-669A, is available at the County Office or may be downloaded from <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/>

SURE SIGNUP FOR CROP PRODUCTION LOSS

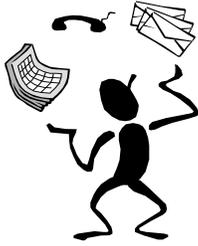
Signup for the **2008** Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) continues until deadline is published. SURE **2008** is for those who suffered crop production losses during crop year 2008.

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit the county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>



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



Livestock Disaster Assistance Programs

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that over \$13 million in disaster assistance for ELAP for 2009 will be issued shortly. Livestock, Honeybee and farm-raised fish producers suffered losses in 2009 because of disease, adverse weather or other conditions. Under ELAP, producers will be compensated for losses that are not covered under other Supplemental agricultural disaster Assistance Payment programs established by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

Other disaster programs covered by the 2008 Farm Bill disaster assistance payment program are the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP); Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); and Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program.

For additional information contact your local FSA office or visit our website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elap>

Nonrecourse Marketing Assistance Loans/Loan Deficiency Payments 2010

Pinal County Arizona is experiencing Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) on Wheat for the first time since 2002.

The 2008 Farm Bill reauthorizes nonrecourse marketing assistance loans (MAL) and loan deficiency payment (LDP) and makes them available for the 2008-2012 crops of wheat, corn grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, non-graded wool and honey.

MALs and LDPs are marketing tools available to producers beginning upon harvest or shearing. The MAL provides an influx of cash when market prices are typically at harvest time lows, which allows the producer to delay the sale of the commodity until more favorable market conditions emerge. Allowing producers to store production at harvest or shearing provides for a more orderly marketing of commodities throughout the year.

MALs for commodities are considered nonrecourse when the MAL can either be redeemed by the repayment of the MAL or by delivering the pledged collateral to the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) as full payment for the MAL at maturity. MAL repayment provisions specify that, under certain circumstances, that producers may repay MALs at less than loan rate (principal) plus accrued interest and other charges. Alternatively, loan deficiency

payment (LDP) provisions specify that, in lieu of securing a MAL, producers may elect to receive and LDP.

LDP Choice:

Producers who are eligible to obtain a MAL, but who agree to forgo the MAL, may obtain an LDP. The LDP rate equals the amount by which the applicable loan rate where the commodity is stored exceeds the effective MAL repayment rate for respective commodity. The LDP amount equals the LDP rate times the quantity of the commodity for which the LDP is requested.

Final Loan (MAL)/LDP Availability Dates.

Producers may obtain MALs or LDPs on all or part of their eligible production anytime during the loan availability period. The loan availability period runs from when the commodity is normally harvested (or sheared) until specified dates in the *following* calendar year.

- January 31st non-graded Wool & Unshorn Pelts
- March 31st Barley, Wheat, Oats and Honey
- May 31st Corn, Grain Sorghum, Soybeans & UPCN

Producer Eligibility:

Producers must have completed timely;

1. Cropland Certification- FSA-578
2. Comply with wetland protections requirements by completing AD-1026
3. Complete (AGI) Adjusted Gross Income certification CCC-526
4. Completed required Farm Operating Plan

For additional information, please contact your local FSA Service Center listed with this newsletter.

2010 Crop Year Graze-Out Payment Program

Graze-Out payments are payments made to eligible producers who, although eligible to obtain a MAL loan or LDP: elect to use acreage planted with barley, wheat, oats or triticale for livestock grazing. Producer must agree to forgo any mechanical harvesting of the commodity on this acreage during applicable crop year. Crop must be certified for forage use.

CCC-633 Grazing – must be signed to request payment for crop year. Deadline is March 31st of the calendar year following the year the crop is normally harvested. Producer must retain beneficial interest through the date the crop is grazed-out.

For additional information, please call or stop by your local Farm Service Agency Service Center.



RURAL YOUTH LOANS

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms. The FSA staff can help you with questions you may have about a particular program.

Applications for FSA Loans

Farmers and Ranchers that intend to apply to the Farm Service Agency for loan assistance for the upcoming crop year are encouraged to file their applications as early as possible. Filing early will help ensure that your application is processed and a decision made as soon as possible so that planting decisions can be made. Failure to apply early can result in a delay in processing loans due to the volume of applications that must be processed in date order. Contact your local FSA farm loan manager or officer for more details and assistance in applying.

USDA/FSA/FLP Outreach Program

FSA places special emphasis on outreach of underserved customers because we understand and recognize that certain groups have not participated in or have received limited benefits from USDA/FSA/FLP programs. Our goal is to increase the participation of the underserved customers, including limited-resource farmers, in FSA programs, with special emphasis on those who are socially disadvantaged or members of racial minority groups.

Underserved customers are farmers/ranchers and landowners/operators with limited resources, minority groups (including American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Aleuts), women, and the physically challenged, who may need but have not fully benefited from USDA assistance; individuals and groups who have not participated in or have received limited benefits from FSA programs, which may improve their quality of life and/or the environment; rural and urban communities; members of religious minorities; small specialty crop framers, organic farms, and other farmers with production practices that are different from most farmers in the area.

FSA administers farm commodity and conservation programs and makes loans to farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain conventional credit. The Outreach Program provides resources to help limited-resource and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers improve their incomes through better farm management and financial planning.

Further information about FSA programs and outreach projects is available at your local USDA Service Center.

SDA 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 85122-5754

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

August 2nd Deadline to return COC Nomination Forms
18th Pinal County Committee Meeting
Sept. 6th FSA Service Center Closed for Labor Day
office reopens 7th



Sept. 30th End of Crop Year 2010 *IMPORTANT*

All missing leases, deeds, certifications, Adjusted Gross Income forms and any other documents preventing your receiving payment must be turned in. Please call your FSA Office if unsure of your status.

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