



Pinal County

Newsletter

October, 2010



USDA Service Center

Pinal FSA Office
520 N Camino Mercado Ste 10
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
Phone: (520) 836-1960
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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

IN THIS ISSUE

NAP Deadline

DCP Payments

Marketing MAL/LDP
Payments



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

USDA Announces 2010 DCP- Final Payment Processing

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 was enacted into law June 18, 2008. The 2008 Act authorizes the continuation of the DCP for 2008 through September 30, 2012, and provides for the ACRE/DCP Programs.

Under this program the 2010 final direct payment will be issued through web-based software on or about October 12, 2010. Previous disbursements for the 2010 DCP program we paid at a 22% advance when contract was signed and all eligibility documents were presented for enrollment.

NAP (Non-Insured Assistance Program) Reminder **NAP Coverage Sales Closing Date**

2011 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.

- **Oct 31st** : Barley, Garb-beans, (Yuma Cty) Cantaloupe, **Native Grass (rangeland)** Honeydews, Lettuce, Rye and Wheat
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**** Reminder; to be eligible for SURE – Livestock Forage/Disaster Programs, you must have NAP (Native Grass) or CAT insurance for all crops planted.**

Public may access NAP Basic Provisions (BP) publications/forms on web site:
<http://165.221.16.90/ffasforms/forms.html>

THANK A FARMER

Grocery stores and supermarkets are amazing places. The fresh produce, meat and dairy products on our shelves are astounding. The cereals and breads are so plentiful and various you wonder if anyone has ever taken the time to try them all. The soups, jams, and jellies stretch aisle after aisle. Nowhere in the world is such a wide array of food available to everyday consumers like it is in America. It's important to consider the farmers, ranchers and growers who work every day to produce this bounty of food, fiber and fuel we use every day. We take this opportunity to thank the agricultural producers of Pinal County for their dedication and continued efforts to provide for us and future generations.



Office Closed in Observance of Columbus Day
October 11th, 2010; Business resumes October 12, 2010

Complaint 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.

Changing Banks

Almost all Farm Service Agency payments are made electronically using **Direct Deposit**. This innovation has cut down on the number of missing and late payments and reduced the time required to move funds. It has been calculated that having a problem with a payment is 20 times greater with checks than with Direct Deposit. Another benefit is that Direct Deposit to your account can be made within 48 hours.

To keep the system running smoothly, it's critical to keep the county office staff up to date on changes you might make in your financial institutions.

If you have changed accounts or institutions that might affect the direct deposit of your FSA payments, contact the FSA county office so we can update our files to insure continued uninterrupted service.

It is predicted that all future payments will not be issued from your local county office as in the past. The payments will be web based and will come from USDA payment center in Kansas City. To expedite your payments, please have a correct Direct Deposit on File in your Local FSA Office.

SIGNING AUTHORITY FOR SPOUSES

Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided, in writing, to the county office.

However, spouses are **NOT** allowed to sign on behalf of the other for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities. The exception to this is that spouses may sign on behalf of each other for a husband/wife joint venture with a permanent tax ID number and sole proprietorship, unless written notification denying a spouse authority has been provided to the county office.

In addition to policy regarding signature authority for spouses, county offices cannot provide Agency records of a producer to that producer's spouse unless written authority to provide such records has been provided to the county office.

Dairy Indemnity Payment Program (DIPP)

Under the DIPP, payments are made to dairy producers when a public regulatory agency directs them to remove their raw milk from the commercial market because it had been contaminated by pesticides, nuclear radiation or fallout, or toxic substances and chemical residues other than pesticides. Payments are made to manufactures of dairy products only.

DCP Signup Crop Year 2011 Signup for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP/SURE) Program

October 1st, 2010 begins the program year for Pinal County. As Crop Year 2011 begins, please be aware your new leases must depict full coverage for the entire crop year through September 30th of any given year. These leases must read how you are operating in Pinal County and have all signatures on the documents before submitting to FSA for the DCP/Sure program.

Also required for the new year, Adjusted Gross Income Statement for crop year 2011 for each active member of your organization as completed in previous years. Income for the applicable 3 previous years (2007, 2008 & 2009) when answering questions # 5,6,7 & 8 on the CCC-926 form.

PAPER CHECK CONVERSION (PCC)

Over the next year, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) is moving toward an electronic method for processing producers' checks. This will allow FSA/CCC to process collections faster.

When producers present checks, either in person or through the mail, the checks will be converted into an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). The funds will be debited from the producer's account, usually within 24 hours of receipt.

Please see the U.S. Department of Treasury legal notices posted in the Service Center or visit the following U.S. Department of Treasury Internet site for detailed information:

<https://www.pccotc.gov/pccotc/pcc/usingpcc/Legal%20Notices/legalnotices.htm>

TAPP SIGNUP ANNOUNCED

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Pub.L.110-234, as amended by Pub.L.110298 and Pub.L. 111-005 authorizes TAP. TAP provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and **vines** that were lost by natural disasters occurring on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.

To qualify for TAP, orchardists and nursery tree growers must:

- Suffer qualifying tree, bush, and **vine losses** in excess of 15% mortality (after adjustment for normal mortality) from an eligible natural disaster for the individual stand
- Have owned the eligible trees, bushes, and **vines** when natural disaster occurred; however, eligible growers are not required to own the land on which trees, bushes, and vines are planted.
- Replace eligible trees, bushes and vines within 12 months from the date the application is approved.

Applications available at your local FSA office or on line seek FSA-899 Tree Assistance Program Application.

Loan Deficiency Payments

Final commodity loan availability (LDP) payments for Mohair, Peanuts, **Unshorn Pelts**, and **Wool** must be submitted for payment by January 31, 2011.

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

****IMPORTANT****

LETTERS MAILED TO THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SUBMITTED CCC-927 OR CCC-928

Producers who participated in 2009 or 2010 programs subject to adjusted gross income limitations (AGI) had to certify compliance with AGI rules. The average AGI verification process for 2009 and 2010 payment eligibility requires all program participants to provide written consent to IRS for the disclosure of certain information to FSA.

On October 6, 2010, a letter was mailed to producers **who have not submitted**:

CCC-927: "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-**Individual Form**"

CCC-928: "Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information-**Legal Entity**"

Individuals and legal entities, **including** members of legal entities, that certified to average AGI compliance for 2009 and/or 2010 payment eligibility **must submit** a completed CCC-927 or CCC-928 **to IRS regardless** of whether they received program benefits directly or as a member of a joint operation or entity. These forms must be submitted to IRS in order **to avoid a demand for refund of program payments and benefits received.**

If unsure of your status, contact your FSA Service Center we will check our list of non participants.

NEW FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT WEB PAGE AVAILABLE FOR PRODUCERS

Producers who have level 2 e-authentication access can use the new Public Financial Management Information web page. The website allows producers to generate reports that show both current and historical financial information. This resource will allow users to view details on payments, collections and outstanding debt. The website is a great tool for producers to conveniently access financial information at any time. To view the Financial Management Information web page, visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/fmi>. Please contact your county office if you have any questions regarding the web page.

Note: Website use requires level 2 e-authentication access. Follow the steps below to obtain level 2 access...

1. Go to www.eauth.egov.usda.gov, complete a customer profile and submit it online
2. After submitting your customer profile, you will receive a confirmation email, and you must respond to it within 7 days to activate your account
3. Then you must complete the "Identity Proofing" process by visiting a local USDA Service Center and presenting a photo ID, such as your driver's license.

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



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

October 20th Pinal County Committee Meeting
12th FSA Service Center Closed for Columbus Day
office reopens 12th
29th NAP Rangeland Insurance Purchase Deadline

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

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>

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."