



Pinal County

Newsletter

February 2012



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

Donny England Jr, Chair
Daniel Nowlin, V-Chair
John O Nevitt, Member

Farm Programs Staff

Debbie Hopkins, CED
Lori Emmert, 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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Newsletters and eUpdates
Via USDA Web

DCP - Sure
Disaster Programs
AGI Changes

Dates to Remember 2012

Jan. 23, 2012 through June 1, 2012

Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP)

Enrollment (One payment October)

May 15th - Small Grain Certification Deadline

(Wheat, Barley, Oats)

**July 15th - All Other land use/ or non use to include
Rangeland, Certification Deadline**

August 1st Farm Reconstitution Deadline

All documents; leases, Adjusted Gross Income forms

Here are **IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

- 1) All producers planting on **DCP base** acres must be identified on the DCP/ACRE contract and receive a proportionate share of DCP/ACRE payment for the farm.
- 2) Changes on the farm after enrolling June 1st in DCP/ACRE **must** be reported to your local FSA office such as:
 - Ownership changes
 - Producer changes (Individuals and Entities)
 - Change in crop shares arrangements
- 3) Changes cannot be made after Sept. 30, 2012.

There are no late file provisions for DCP Contract signup.

Power of Attorney

For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate another person to conduct your business at the office. If you are interested, please contact our office or any Farm Service Agency office near you for more information.



We Proudly
Support our Men
and Women in the
Armed Forces

Revised Adjusted Gross Income Form

Note: as of 12/07/2011, we have a revised AGI CCC-931 form, if you have previously filed a 2012 AGI form and it is not on the revised form, we will require you to file a new form for you and your operation. This is a requirement for **the 2012 DCP Program signup**. **This form will replace the** need for the program participant to mail the IRS a separate form. The form requires the participant to fill out all items, including a full social or tax identification number. Forms not completed correctly will not be accepted.

NOTE: make sure you use your full name & address used to your file your tax returns. If it is not, IRS will reject it.

*Note: This original form must be returned to FSA within **90 days of the signature date** for the consent to be valid and eligible for payments.*

Power of Attorney documents not authorized.

For more information contact your local FSA office.

Newsletters and eUpdates through GovDelivery!

The Farm Service Agency is providing more cost-effective and resource-conserving options to deliver news, deadlines and bulletins. You have the option to receive information instantly and electronically from your state or local FSA office directly to your farm or ranch. Several states already have GovDelivery for news releases.

Take a look at your current state and county options for electronic delivery by visiting the FSA home page at www.fsa.usda.gov

Click on the small **E-MAIL UPDATES** icon and once you enroll in GovDelivery, you can select electronic subscriptions via e-mail.

 [Email Updates](#)

For more information contact your FSA state office and watch for more news and opportunities to sign up to receive your news quicker and at less cost via e-mail.

IRS form 1099-G Producers annually receive their CCC-1099-G forms detailing payments producers have received from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The annual report of program payments on the CCC-1099-G form is a service intended to help our customers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the producers' responsibilities to report income to IRS.

FSA staff cannot interpret IRS regulations or advise producers about which payments to report on their income

tax returns. However, county office staff can review payments for accuracy.

Move with FSA to Instant Electronic Information

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices are moving toward a paperless operation.

Producers can now enroll in the new GovDelivery system for notices, newsletters and electronic reminders and discontinue their slow and costly paper copies received through the mail.

FSA, like many other organizations, is working smarter and more efficiently. Conversion to electronic notifications via email helps conserve resources and save taxpayer dollars.

County Committee ballots will continue to be mailed to all eligible producers.

Subscribe now to receive free e-mail updates by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe> or use the box "Sign up for updates" on the FSA homepage.

County Committee Election LAA 13 Results:

Don England Jr.	Elected Member
David Gladden	1 st Alternate
Deanna Diwan	2 nd Alternate

Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans has been established.

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.

For additional information contact:

- **Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process:** www.farmerclaims.gov or call 1-888-508-4429.

- **Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation:** www.blackfarmerscase.com or call 1-866-950-5547.

- **Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement:**
www.IndianFarmClass.com or call 1-888-233-5506.

Farm Loan Program Limits

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000 starting on Oct. 1, 2011. .

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan, for loans obligated after Oct. 1, 2011.

To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

Beginning and Limited Resource Farmers

FSA assists beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises with financing through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm not more that 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's median size.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

Program payments are now issued by EFT, changes in your bank or banking account information must be reported to the County Office immediately. Failure to report a change may result in transfers to a wrong or closed account, causing delays in receiving your payments.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

The noninsured crop disaster assistance program (NAP) is a federally funded program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed. These benefits are only available for crops for which the catastrophic level of crop insurance is not available. Application for coverage must be filed by the applicable crop's application closing date.

Production records for all crops must be reported to FSA no later than the acreage reporting date for the crop for the following year. FSA requires that any production reported in a loss year be verifiable according to Agency specifications. NAP Losses must be reported within 15 days of loss.

2012 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 31, 2012** – Beans (garden), Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Greens (*spinach*) Oats, Onions, Peas, Radishes, Tomatoes.

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 th |
| ✓ Corn | May 31 st |
| ✓ Sorghum | July 31 st |

*******Prevented Planting UPCN June 1st, 2012 Deadline*****

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



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

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

- February 20th Office Closed for Presidents Day
- May 15th Small Grain Certification Deadline
- 28th Office Closed for Memorial Day
- 31st NAP Deadline (see article)
- June 1st Enrollment in DCP Program Deadline
- 4th Office Closed for Independence Day
- July 15th All Other land use Certification
to include Rangeland for grazing

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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