



Socorro-Catron County Farm Service Agency
Office Location: **103 Neel St NW**
Mailing Address: **PO Box DD**
Socorro, New Mexico 87801-0537
Office Hours: **8:00 AM – 4:30 PM** (Monday – Friday)
Telephone: **(575) 835-1710, ext. 2** Fax: **(575) 835-3872**
June 2008

SOCORRO-CATRON AGRICULTURAL NEWS

County Committee meetings are the first Wednesday following the first Monday of each month at 10:00 A.M.



LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION PROGRAM (LCP) SIGNUP CONTINUES

LCP compensates livestock producers for feed losses suffered due to a natural disaster. Eligible counties must have received a Secretarial or Presidential declaration of disaster. Socorro and Catron Counties are eligible for drought in 2006.

LCP SIGNUP WILL END ON JULY 18, 2008. NO APPLICATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED AFTER THAT DATE!

You will be asked to provide your livestock head counts on January 1, 2006 and will be asked for current land leases if they are not already on file. All applications are subject to spot check. Irrigated forages and wheat pasture are not eligible to claim for feed loss under program regulations. Livestock maintained in a feedlot are not eligible.

The following types of livestock are eligible for LCP: dairy cattle, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, equine, poultry, elk, reindeer, sheep, goats, swine or deer. Payment limitation for LCP is \$80,000.

If you have not yet signed up call the Socorro Catron FSA Office TODAY!

REPORTING CROP ACREAGE

The annual requirement of reporting to the FSA office can be referred to as crop reporting, acreage reporting, or crop certification. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed and fallow acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, marketing assistance loans, and Loan Deficiency Payments.

Crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must be reported.

Crop reports, form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. Producers are required to file reports by February 15 for Native Grass, May 15 for fall seeded crops, and July 15 for spring seeded crops.

Prevented Planting: Prevented planting needs to be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date.

Failed Acreage: Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the county committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nominations are currently being accepted for the County Committee positions for LAA3 and LAA5. Nominations are open to all eligible candidates and voters without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, marital status or disability. FSA is committed to promoting diversity with its local county committees, making sure all producers, including minority, female, and other under-represented people are represented.

The election of responsible agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers or ranchers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will offer. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

A nomination form signed by the nominee is needed to nominate a candidate. A nomination form and instructions are attached to this mailing for your convenience. The forms are also available in your local FSA office and on the FSA Internet site found at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA> (News & Events tab). Nomination forms are also available in Spanish. Nomination forms for the 2009 election must be postmarked or received by close of business **August 1, 2008**. Ballots will be mailed to voters by November 3, 2008 and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by December 1, 2008.

LAA 3 is the east side of Catron County and west side of Socorro County. It includes the Magdalena, Alamo Indian Reservation, Winston, and Dusty area. John Hand Jr. represents this area; however, due to term limitations, he is not eligible for re-election this year. We appreciate all the hard work John has done and will miss having him around.

LAA5 is the southeast corner of Socorro County and includes Socorro, Bingham, San Antonio, and Bosque Del Apache Refuge. Kate Hoover-Lee represents LAA5 and is eligible for re-election. We also appreciate Kate and her representation on the committee.

FSA Counts on You: Nominate and Vote!

FSA-669A

(02-25-08)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

The County FSA Committee election will be held on the first Monday of December. Ballots will be mailed to voters not less than 4 weeks before the election.

This form allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate. If additional forms are needed, this one may be copied or may be obtained at the County FSA Office or obtained electronically at <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov>. Each form submitted must be:

- A. Limited to one nominee.
- B. Signed and dated by the nominee in Item 4. Nominee must sign if willing to have his/her name placed on the ballot and agrees to serve if elected.

Note: Name shown on ballot will appear exactly the same as in Agency records.

- C. Delivered to the County FSA Office or postmarked no later than August 1.

The County FSA Committee is responsible for reviewing each form to determine the eligibility of nominees. A person who files this form and is found ineligible will be so notified and have an opportunity to file a challenge.

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County FSA committee member if the producer resides in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) in which the election is to be held and is eligible to vote.

Federal regulations may prohibit County FSA Committee members from holding certain positions in some farm, commodity, and political organizations if such positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties. The positions include functional offices such as president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer; and positions on boards or executive committees. Conflict of interest restrictions also apply to employees, operators, managers, and majority owners of tobacco warehouses. Questions concerning eligibility should be directed to the County FSA Office.

A candidate has the option to request that all voted ballots for an individual county committee election be returned to the respective State Office in lieu of being returned to the county office. This request must be in writing and submitted to the local County Executive Director prior to the announced end of the nomination period.

The duties of County FSA Committee members include:

- A. Administering farm program activities conducted by the County FSA Office.
- B. Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of the FSA programs.
- C. Keeping the State FSA Committee informed of LAA conditions.
- D. Monitoring changes in farm programs.
- E. Participating in county meetings as necessary.
- F. Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee

FSA-669A (02-25-08)	U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency
NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION	

1. NAME OF NOMINEE <i>(Type or print Nominee's Full Name)</i>	TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i>	5. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE <i>(MM-DD-YYYY)</i> 6A. COUNTY 6B. LAA NO. 7. STATE
4A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	4B. DATE <i>(MM-DD-YYYY)</i>
DATE OF ELECTION IS 1st MONDAY OF DECEMBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR	

8. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> America Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

- Complete the form as follows:
- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
 - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
 - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
 - C. Willing to serve if elected.
 - ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
 - ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
 - ITEM 4** The nominee must sign and date.
 - ITEM 8** Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1.

NOTE: *The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 7 CFR Part 7. The information will be used to obtain nominees for County FSA Committee.*

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of Discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800)795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

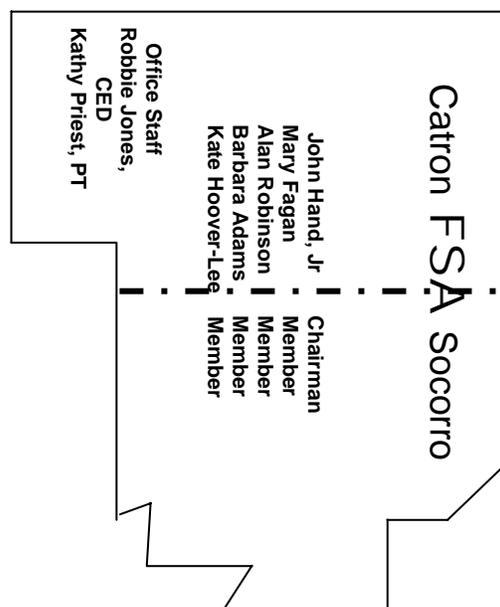
El Departamento de Agricultura de Estados Unidos (USDA) prohíbe la discriminación en sus programas y actividades basadas en la raza, color de piel, lugar de origen, sexo, religión, edad, minusvalía, creencias políticas, orientación sexual y estado civil. (No todas las prohibiciones se aplican a todos los programas.) Las personas con minusvalías que requieran medios de comunicación alternativos (Braille, literatura en letra de mayor tamaño, cintas/audio, etc.) deben comunicarse con el programa TARGET del USDA al (202) 720-2600 (Voz o Teletexto).

Para procesar quejas sobre cualquier tipo de discriminación escriba a USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 202) 720-9410 o llame al (202) 720-5964 (Voz o Teletexto). El USDA proporciona oportunidades y empleos con igualdad.

Any person who is convicted under federal or state law of a controlled substance violation could be ineligible for USDA payments or benefits. Violations include planting, harvesting or growing a prohibited plant. Violations also include convictions for

FSA ensures the well-being of American agriculture, the environment and the American public through efficient and equitable administration of farm commodity programs; farm ownership, operating and emergency loans; conservation and environmental programs; emergency and disaster assistance; domestic and international food assistance and international export credit programs.

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DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IF A SEVERE NATURAL DISASTER HITS YOUR FARMING OPERATION?

Whether it be crops or livestock, Farm Service Agency suggests you do the following immediately after damage occurs: 1) Contact the Farm Service Agency and file form CCC-576, Notice of Loss prior to destroying the crop; 2) Take pictures of the damage and document the event with rainfall or temperature readings; 3) Contact your Crop Insurance Agent, if insured.

It is extremely important to inform the FSA office when your crops/livestock are affected by severe weather. Reports after the crop is harvested may not be accepted. Although there may not be any immediate assistance available, the notice of loss to the above parties may trigger the request for such assistance.

REPORTS OF PRODUCTION - If you had 2007 NAP coverage for any crop OTHER than Wheat or Grass Grazing, you must report all production for that crop and acreage no later than the immediately subsequent crop year. This means that if you had coverage for Alfalfa, watermelons, pumpkins, oats, etc. this year and didn't report a loss, you must provide verifiable/reliable records by July 15, 2008. Don't wait! Bring in your production as soon as possible!

To be considered 'Verifiable' the record should: be dated, show disposition of the crop's production, including both quantity and price, and be crop specific. 'Reliable' records may be provided if verifiable records do not exist. These records include, but are not limited to: copies of receipts, ledgers or income, income statements of deposit slips, register tapes, and pick records.

OFFICE CLOSINGS - The Socorro Catron FSA office will be closed July 4 for Independence Day.

COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON July 9 and August 6 at 10:00 am at the Socorro Catron FSA Office.

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