



February 2012

## Solano-Napa County FSA Office

1170 N Lincoln St, #109  
Dixon, CA 95620  
707-678-1931 phone  
707-678-5001 fax  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/ca](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ca)

### Hours

Monday - Friday  
8am – 4:30pm  
Closed Federal Holidays

### County Committee

Tom Galindo, LAA 3  
*Chairperson*  
Linda Neal, LAA 1  
*Vice Chairperson*  
Richard Hamilton, LAA 2  
*Member*  
Craig Nakahara  
*Advisor*

### County Executive Director

Lynda Janne, ext. 104  
[lynda.janne@ca.usda.gov](mailto:lynda.janne@ca.usda.gov)

### Staff

Laura VanHoose, ext. 106  
[laura.vanhoose@ca.usda.gov](mailto:laura.vanhoose@ca.usda.gov)  
Bonita Nogales, ext 102  
[bonita.nogales@ca.usda.gov](mailto:bonita.nogales@ca.usda.gov)

## Solano-Napa County FSA Committee Election Results

Congratulations to Richard Hamilton! Richard was re-elected to represent farmers from LAA2 on the county committee. Craig Nakahara will serve as 1<sup>st</sup> alternate.

At its organizational meeting, the COC nominated Craig Nakahara to continue serving as Advisor, Tom Galindo is Chairperson, and Linda Neal is Vice Chair.

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 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.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The county committee system works only because of your participation.

### Get GovDelivery – Instant News, Updates

Farm Service Agency offices are adopting an instant delivery, electronic option. Producers can now enroll in the new GovDelivery system which will provide notices, newsletters and reminders via email, rather than costly paper copies delivered 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 right now to receive your free e-mail updates instantly by going to: [www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe).

## Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

The sign-up for recovery payment for 2010 losses under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) runs through June 1, 2012. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters and is available to eligible producers on:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred crop production or quality losses, or both, and includes all crops grown by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops.
- Any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.

For more details on the SURE program, go to [www.fsa.usda.gov/sure](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/sure).

## 2012 DCP/ACRE Sign-up

2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) enrollment began Jan. 23, 2012 and will end June 1, 2012. PLEASE NOTE:

- 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 after June 1 on a DCP/ACRE farm **must** be reported to the FSA office. This includes ownership changes, producer changes (Individuals and Entities), changes in crop share arrangements.

**Important Note:** Changes cannot be made after Sept. 30, 2012.

For more DCP/ACRE information, go to [www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp).

## NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS OR RANCHERS

### COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

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.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## 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 (ACD).

**March 1, 2012, is the ACD for annual crops (carrots, sunflower, etc).**

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.**

## FSA Signature Policy

Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse.

There are exceptions to the rule, where spouses may not sign on behalf of each other for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities.

Individual signatures are required on the Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) certification, Form CCC-931, and on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents.

For more clarification on spousal signature authority, feel free to contact your local FSA office.

## Payment Limitations

Several FSA programs are subject to payment limitation provisions. Violation of any of these provisions may subject the producer to loss of payment and possible prosecution.

The following are current FSA program payment limitations:

PROGRAM	LIMIT
DCP Program	\$40,000
DCP CC / ACRE	\$65,000
CRP	\$50,000
SURE, LIP, LFP, ELAP	\$100,000
NAP	\$100,000
LDP, Market Gain	No Limit

## Payment Eligibility

Note that specific eligibility criteria exist for the DCP and ACRE programs. Contact your nearest county FSA Office for further information regarding these and other provisions: 1) actively engaged, 2) cash-rent tenant rule and 3) foreign persons.

## Direct Attribution

For 2009 and subsequent crop years, payments will be limited by direct attribution rather than by "person." Under direct attribution, payments made to individuals remain unchanged. However, payments to legal entities such as corporations, limited liability partnerships, limited liability corporations and other similar entities are limited by attributing the payment to an individual based on his or her direct and indirect interest in the entity.



## Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Provisions

For 2012, there are now four qualifying levels for AGI provisions as follows:

- 1) **\$500,000 Nonfarm Income** – if a person or legal entity has AGI nonfarm income that exceeds \$500,000, the person or legal entity is ineligible for all commodity program payments and benefits.
- 2) **\$750,000 Farm Income** – if a person or legal entity has AGI farm income that exceeds \$750,000, the person or legal entity is ineligible for DCP direct payments only.
- 3) **\$1,000,000 Nonfarm Income** – if a person or legal entity has AGI nonfarm income that exceeds \$1,000,000, the person or legal entity is ineligible for all conservation program benefits unless at least 66.66% of total AGI is average adjusted gross farm income.
- 4) **\$1,000,000 Total Farm and Nonfarm Income** – if a person or legal entity has AGI farm and nonfarm income that exceeds \$1,000,000, the person or legal entity is ineligible for 2012 direct payments under DCP.

Form CCC 931 must be completed to authorize the AGI certification process in conjunction with the IRS. The average AGI is based on the average adjusted gross income for the three taxable years preceding the most immediately preceding complete taxable year. For the 2012 program year, the three taxable years for AGI would include 2008, 2009 and 2010.

## 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, and does not reflect refunds. 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.

## Emergency Loans

Solano County recently received a Secretarial disaster designation due to the combined effects of unseasonable cool spring weather, a freeze, hail, below normal summer temperatures, and unseasonable rainfall from April 7-September 30, 2011. This designation allows affected producers in **Solano, Napa, Sonoma, Yolo** and **Sacramento** to apply for FSA emergency farm loans.

Basic eligibility includes:

- ✓ Production loss of at least 30% directly related to the above
- ✓ Have loan repayment ability, but be unable to obtain credit elsewhere
- ✓ Have multi-peril crop insurance if available.

Farmers have until **July 30, 2012** to submit emergency loan applications. Solano and Napa county growers should contact Belle Davis in the Stockton office at 209-472-7127 ext 2 to schedule an appointment.

### IMPORTANT DATES

**March 1:** Last day to apply for NAP coverage on 2012 annuals (sunflower, squash, etc)

**April 30:** Deadline to timely file report of planted small grains

**June 1:** Last day to apply for 2010 SURE

**June 1:** Deadline to enroll in 2012 DCP

**July 30:** Deadline for EM loans

