

GUADALUPE COUNTY FSA NEWS

July 16, 2008

Guadalupe County FSA Office
586 S. 9TH Street
PO BOX 502
PHONE: 575-472-5401 Ext. 2
FAX: 575-472-1057

OFFICE HOURS
7:30AM - 5:00PM
Monday - Friday
OFFICE STAFF:
Earl J. Sena, CED
Melecia D. Flores, PT

COC COMMITTEE:
William Ortiz, Chairman
Eduardo Cordova – ViceChairman
Gilbert Lee Gallegos - Member
Teresa T. Cribbs – Advisor

COUNTY COMMITTEE Meetings held 4th Tuesday of Month 9:30AM

2008 Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance

The 2008 Act created several new disaster programs under the title, "Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance". To be eligible for these programs, producers must purchase at least CAT level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and or NAP coverage for non-insurable crops. Five new supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs were created: The four programs subject to the Risk Management Purchase Requirement waiver are:

- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and farm raised fish. (ELAP)

Note: the fifth new disaster program, the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), is exempt from the Risk Management Purchase Requirement and; therefore, does not require a waiver.

LFP producers are required to timely purchase, at a minimum, a plan of insurance or NAP coverage for the grazing land incurring losses for which assistance is being requested. To be considered to have met the Risk Management Purchase Requirement, producers must pay a "buy-in" fee in an amount equal to the applicable CAT fee and/or NAP fee for those crops that currently do not have NAP coverage by **COB September 16, 2008**.

Producers who want to buy-in to these disaster programs must visit their administrative County FSA Office to complete CCC-752 for insurable crops and CCC-753 for non-insurable crops. The "buy-in" fee for both CAT and NAP is \$100 per crop, but not more than \$300 per producer per administrative county, or \$900 total per producer for all counties less any previously paid fees for CAT and/or NAP. Call the FSA Office at 575-472-5401 for more information or come by the office.

County Committee Election

This year our COC Election will be held in (Local Administrative Area) – LAA-2 – which is located East of Santa Rosa and SE of the Pecos River. Area includes Cuervo and Newkirk. **Candidate nominations for the FSA County Committee election will be accepted through August 1, 2008.** Producers who reside in LAA -2 and who participate or cooperate in FSA programs and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Also, organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates.

The nomination form, FSA-669A, is available at the FSA Office. To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. The completed nomination form must be returned to the Co. Office by close of business on August 1, or postmarked by midnight August 1, 2008.

William Ortiz, a Newkirk Area rancher, currently represents LAA-2 on the COC. He is eligible for reelection. He has completed one 3-year term. There is a 9-year term limit.

No one can be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

ELECTION PERIOD:

June 15, 2008 - Nomination period begins

August 1, 2008 - Last day to file Nomination

November 3, 2008 - Ballots mailed to voters

Dec. 1, 2008 – Last Day to return voted ballots

January 1, 2009 newly elected COC take office

FARMERS SERVING FARMERS

"FSA COUNTS ON YOU"

CROP CERTIFICATIONS

Crop Certifications deadline has been changed from July 15, 2008 to **AUGUST 15, 2008**. Crops certified must have a planting date, failed crops, date of planted crops on the same acreage need to be reported timely. You may be ineligible for program benefits if certifications are not done timely. Please call the office to set up an appointment to certify crops.

DIRECT & COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENT SIGNUP UNDERWAY IN NEW FARM BILL

The 2008 DCP signup period will start June 25, 2008 and end September 30, 2008. The program will be administered the same as the 2007 DCP with the exceptions of the following changes:

- Farms that have 10 base acres or less shall not receive a direct or counter-cyclical payment unless the entire farm is owned by a socially disadvantaged or limited resource farmer or rancher.
- Socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher who is a member of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. Limited resource farmers or ranchers must meet both of the following:
- **Gross Farm Sales Determination:** In each of the last two years, was your direct or indirect Gross Farm Sales less than or equal to \$116,800 per year? Gross Farm Sales is defined as: Gross Income entered on IRS Form 1040, Schedule F, in the Farm Income Section.
- **Adjusted Gross Income Determination:** In each of the last two years, was your **Total Household Income** less than the Guadalupe County "County/Area Value" of **\$19,350.00**? Total Household Income is defined as Adjusted Gross Income for all members in your household or the amount you entered on IRS Form 1040, Adjusted Gross Income Section. County/Area Value is calculated as the higher of the National Poverty level or 50% of the County/Area Median Household Income.



2009 EQIP SIGNUP — DEADLINE - OCT, 17, 2008

EQIP offers financial and technical assistance to eligible participants who wish to install or implement structural and management practices on eligible agricultural land. It offers contracts that provide incentive payments and cost-share to implement conservation practices. If you wish to apply or want more information contact NRCS at 575-472-5401, ext. 3.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply of all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audio/tape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (Voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).

USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

GUADALUPE COUNTY FSA OFFICE

586 S. 9th Street

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