

GUADALUPE COUNTY FSA NEWS

OCTOBER 12, 2006

Guadalupe County FSA Office
586 S. 9TH Street
PO BOX 502
PHONE: 505-472-5401 Ext. 2
FAX: 505-472-1057

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

COC COMMITTEE:
Alfredo Flores, Chairman
Luis G. Sanchez, Vice-Chairman
William Ortiz – Member
Teresa T. Cribbs – Advisor

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

FSA CO.COMMITTEE ELECTION

This year the election will be held in LAA-3. This Area is the SW portion of the County that includes W. Santa Rosa, W. PDL, and Milagro, Pastura and Vaughn. This year we received three nominations for this area, they are as follows:

1. Eddie Cordova, Area Rancher and Farmer
2. Denise Passwater, Area Rancher
3. Julian Salazar, Area Farmer and Rancher

Only producers in LAA-3 will receive ballots. Ballots will be mailed to voters by November 3, 2006, and must be returned to the FSA County Office or postmarked by December 4, 2006. Eligible voters may contact the local FSA Office if they do not receive a ballot by November 17, 2006

. Who can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of any entire farm can also vote. More information about voting eligibility requirements can be found in the FSA fact sheet titled "FSA County Committee Election – Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a County Committee Member." Producers may contact the local USDA Service Center for more information.

Ballots will be tabulated on Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 9:30AM.

January 1, 2007 – Newly elected committee members and alternates take office.

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

NAP provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops and commodities, including rangeland, when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occurs, due to a natural disaster. Producers who have no crop changes from their 2006 NAP contract have the option of continuous coverage. However, the applicable service fee of \$100 must be paid by the application closing date, up to \$300 maximum unlimited crops per county, with a \$900 cap for multi-county producers.

Coverage does not start until 30 days after application is filed and fees paid.

Deadline to Purchase NAP Coverage are as follows:

November 20, 2006 Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Cranberries, Grapes, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Pistachios, and Plums

December 1, 2006 Honey and Lettuce

January 31, 2007- NATIVE GRASS, Alfalfa, Cucumbers, Mixed Forage, Pecans and Peppers

2006 NATIVE GRASS PRATICIPANTS

If you feel that your range or pasture conditions on your native grass acreage is more than 50% below normal due to drought or other natural causes, you will need to file a **NOTICE OF LOSS BY NOVEMBER 1, 2006**. Please contact the local FSA Office or come by to report your loss. All Range loss condition data or documentation such as rainfall data is welcome and encouraged.

CHANGES - Please report any changes made to your farming or ranching operation as soon as changes occur. If you purchase, sale or lease land. Address change or change in your banking institution need to be reported ASAP to avoid any delays in your payments.



GUADALUPE COUNTY FSA has issued Final 2006 Direct Payments and Final 2005-Crop Corn Counter-Cyclical Payments.

2007 DCP Sign-up Begins October 1. *Producers Encouraged to Enroll Online.*

Enrollment for the 2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP) begins Oct. 1, 2006, and continues until June 1, 2007. Farmers are encouraged to sign up for the program through the online DCP sign-up service. Producers will find the Internet-based DCP sign-up service convenient and very user friendly. The service is an example of the strides USDA is taking to make its programs more accessible, and we encourage producers with Internet access to use the system. DCP participants must sign DCP contracts annually, producers can choose not to participate in the program in any given year. The electronic service is available by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/> and clicking on "access eDCP Service." To access the service, producers must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

The Guadalupe Soil & Water Conservation District has purchased a planting drill, a large sprayer and a seed and fertilizer spreader for use by County Farmers and Ranchers. Contact the local NRCS Office if interested in renting any of the equipment.

RAIN GAUGE PROGRAM - Santa Rosa NRCS is issuing Rain Gauges for producers wanting to volunteer in the precipitation data program. This is a volunteer program. Data should be reported to NRCS Farm Bill Specialist, Erica Chavez, on a monthly basis. The rain gauges are provided by the Guadalupe SWCD and reported by the NRCS. Please pick up a rain gauge if interested.

The Guadalupe Co. Water & Soil Conservation District held their Annual Meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 2006. "Rancher of the Year" award was presented to Enrico and Lucille Serrano, "Farmer of the Year" to Randal and Antij Postl Brown. **Congratulations to both couples.**

2007 EQIP SIGNUP DEADLINE IS – NOVEMBER 3, 2006.

The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) provides a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. The Program offers financial and technical assistance to eligible participants who wish to install or implement structural and management practices on eligible agriculture 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 505-472-5401 Ext. 3

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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).
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