

Colfax County News June 2009



Acreeage Reports for Program Benefits

Producers are reminded that acreage reports must be filed reporting all cropland on farms participating in DCP, marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Program (wool, mohair, etc.) for which benefits will be received. Filing accurate and timely acreage reports for all crops, planting dates and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of program benefits. Producers are required to file acreage reports for the farm by the applicable final reporting date. County offices shall accept acreage reports from farm operators, farm owners, or persons authorized by power of attorney. Tenants and sharecroppers can only report for crop acreage for which the person has a share. Producers are also reminded that measurement services (MEASVS) are available if necessary. Measurement service is a request for a farm visit or acreage determination that is not required by procedure. The farm visit includes determination of an exact area designated for a specific crop or land use, determining quantity of farm stored commodities, according to price support procedures, re-determining measurements of farm stored production or to make determinations not required to administer a program such as a crop appraisal. County offices may accept measurement service at any time for staking and referencing or measurement after a planting. The basic farm fee is \$25 plus .50 per acre.

NAP LOSS FOR COLFAX COUNTY

The New Mexico State FSA office has concluded its research for the grazing loss for 2008. They have determined the loss for Colfax County to be 33%. The Colfax County Committee has not agreed with this assessment and has sent recommendations to the State Office for review. We will keep you posted as to the outcome of our appeal.

NOTICE OF LOSS

Producers are reminded that if you purchased NAP (Non-Insured Assistance Program) and you have a loss, **You must report the loss and file the paperwork no later than 15 days after the loss is evident.**

Notice of loss shall be denied in each case when submitted beyond the period specified.

Notice of loss is considered filed when all required documentation for the unit including but not limited to an acceptable report of acreage, acceptable production evidence and any documentation or form required to establish producer eligibility. Application for payment must be filed in the county office after a Notice of Loss has been approved. Examples of weather related disasters are wind, hail, excessive moisture, lightning or drought.

County Committee Election

The election of 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 participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the USDA. Committee members help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level, help with decisions by applying their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions and operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. Nomination forms for the 2009 election must be postmarked or received in the USDA Service Center by the close of business on August 1, 2009. Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. The committee position in LAA 3 is up for election. The position is presently held by Gary Shaw

OFFICE CLOSURE

This office will be closed Friday July 3, 2009 in observance of Independence Day. The Office will reopen again on Monday July 6, 2009.

COUNTY OFFICE MEETINGS

County committee meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at the FSA office in the Federal Building, 245 Park Ave., Room 203, Raton New Mexico at 1:00 P.M.



HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY

/S/ Howard G. Wilcox - CED

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
245 PARK AVENUE, ROOM 205
Raton, NM 87740

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