

GUADALUPE COUNTY FSA NEWS

September 9, 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 – Vice Chairman
Gilbert Lee Gallegos - Member
Teresa T. Cribbs – Advisor

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

BUY-IN WAIVER Producers can establish 2008 eligibility for the new disaster assistance programs by paying a fee as required by the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (the 2008 Farm Bill).

Ordinarily producers who wish to participate in the new disaster programs would need crop insurance or non-insured crop disaster assistance (NAP) coverage on all farms in all counties in which they have an interest. Since the 2008 Farm Bill was enacted after the application periods had closed for those programs, producers who did not have insurance coverage could not comply with this requirement in order to be eligible. However, the Farm Bill authorizes a waiver that allows producers to pay a fee, called a "buy-in" fee, to be eligible for the new disaster assistance programs.

The buy-in fee is due no later than September 16, 2008, 90 days after the date of enactment, as required by the 2008 Act. Payment of the applicable fees will allow the producer to be eligible for financial assistance under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), Tree Assistance program (TAP); Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP); and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey bees, and farm-raised fish (ELAP) programs. Those who miss this opportunity will not be eligible for 2008 disaster assistance. Producers are also reminded that the payment of the applicable buy-in fee does not provide the producer crop insurance or NAP coverage; it only affords eligibility for the disaster programs.

2008 Buy-in Fees for CAT and NAP Covered Crops

- \$100 per crop, but not more than \$300 per producer per county, or \$900 total per producer, for all counties, less any previously paid fees for CAT and/or NAP.

Producers who meet the definition of a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource Producer, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher as defined in Section 2501 (e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(e)), do not have to meet this risk management purchase requirement and, therefore, are not required to pay the buy-in fee. **CONTACT THE LOCAL FSA OFFICE TO APPLY OR FOR MORE INFORMATION. SEPTEMBER 16 - DEADLINE**

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.

William Ortiz, a Newkirk Area rancher, currently represents LAA-2 on the COC. William has been nominated to seek reelection. He is our only nominee.

Ballots will be mailed out beginning November 3rd. Voters in LAA-2 have until December 1, 2008, to return their properly completed ballots to the County Office. Elected Committee Members and alternates take office on January 1, 2009.

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.

If you have any questions about your voter Eligibility, please contact your county office staff.

ELECTION PERIOD:

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”

YOUTH LOAN The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000. Must be 10 to 21 years of age.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms.

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

The 2008 DCP signup period began June 25, 2008 and ends **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.

Participants can expect their final direct payment to be directly deposited into their personal bank account sometime during the first few weeks of October. Producers who did not elect to receive an advance direct payment will receive their entire direct payment for the year in one lump sum after the end of the fiscal year (September 30th).

The direct Payment for a crop equals 85 percent of the farm's base acreage times the farm's direct payment yield times the direct payment rate.

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 575-472-5401-3.

NAP COVERAGE – The Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) was designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disaster cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic (CAT) insurance. The application deadline date for the 2009 coverage on fall seeded crops has been extended to December 1, 2008. **NAP coverage for 2009 costs \$250 per crop**, but not more than \$750 per producer per county. Producers who already have coverage on 2008 NAP crops – NATIVE Grass, may choose to continue coverage on the same crop by submitting \$250 fee by January 31, 2009. If you purchased NAP insurance for your Native Grass for 2008 – **NOVEMBER 1, 2008 IS THE DEADLINE TO FILE A LOSS ON NATIVE GRASS**. A loss of 50% or greater must be suffered to be eligible for program benefits.

The United State 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
PO BOX 502
Santa Rosa, NM 88435

PRSRT STD
US Postage PAID
ALBUQ NM
PERMIT NO. 470