

# GUADALUPE COUNTY FSA NEWS

JUNE 12, 2009

Guadalupe County FSA Office  
586 S. 9<sup>TH</sup> 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  
Gilbert Lee Gallegos – ViceChairman  
Eduardo Cordova - Member  
Teresa T. Cribbs – Advisor

COUNTY COMMITTEE Meetings held 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of Month 9:30AM

## FSA COC NOMINATIONS START

JUNE 15, 2009

The Nomination period continues through August 3, 2009. Elections take place later this fall. Local Administrative Area #3 is the position up for election. The position is currently being held by Eduardo Cordova. The LAA includes Pastura, Vaughn, West and Southwest of Santa Rosa.

To be eligible to serve on the FSA Co. Committee, a person must participate or cooperate in programs administered by FSA, be an eligible voter, and reside in LLA #3. Producers may nominate themselves, and organizations representing minority and women may also nominate candidates. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A.

We encourage all producers to participate in the Co. Committee Election process by nominating candidates. We are counting on as much participation as possible, because Co. Committees are an important link between the farm community and the USDA. We have seen a trend in recent years of increased nominations of minority and women producers and we hope that will continue.

## ACRE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT CONTINUES THRU AUG. 14<sup>th</sup>

Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program is a new program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill that begins in crop year 2009. Through ACRE, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price. Acre payments are made when both state-level and farm-level triggers are met.

By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates. A decision to elect ACRE binds the producer to the program through the 2012 crop year, the last crop year covered by the 2008 Farm Bill. For more details contact your local FSA Office.

## DCP SIGN-UP THRU Aug. 14th

Enrollment for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program for farms with base acres has been extended until August 14, 2009. This signup extension gives producers ample time to decide whether to participate in ACRE or remain in DCP. DCP and ACRE programs play a critical role in the farm safety net and are vital that we act to support the hard work of the farmers we depend on. USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2009, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 2008. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity. Contact the local FSA Office for more information on DCP and to file an application.

### **NAP PRODUCTION REPORTING**

#### **TIMELY FILING OF LOSS**

The CCC-576, Notice of Loss, is used to report yield losses, failed acreage and prevented planting and may be completed by any producer with an interest in the crop. Timely filing a Notice of Loss is required on **ALL CROPS INCLUDING GRASSES**. For losses on Crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and crop insurance, you must file a CCC-576, Notice of Loss, in the FSA Office within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent.

**HOLIDAY** - The Guadalupe CO. Ag. Service Center will be closed on Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of Independence Day.

## LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

The 2008 Farm Bill created 5 new disaster programs, 1 of which is LIP. Three of the 5 new disaster programs will be covered under a new series titled, "Livestock Disaster Assistance Programs" (LDAP).

LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality, on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011. Losses because of adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary during the calendar year, including blizzards, disease, extreme cold, extreme heat, floods, hurricanes, and wildfires, are eligible for LIP. Livestock producers who have incurred eligible 2008 and/or 2009 eligible livestock death losses because of eligible adverse weather events shall be advised to begin compiling their livestock death loss documentation and file a LIP application.

To be eligible for assistance under LIP, each livestock producer must provide verifiable documentation of livestock deaths. Adequate documentation must be provided that proves the death of eligible livestock occurred as a direct result of an eligible adverse weather event in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. The quantity and kind of livestock that died as a direct result of the eligible adverse weather event may be documented by, but is not limited to:

- Bank or other loan documents
- Records assembled for tax purposes
- Private insurance documents
- Property tax records
- Rendering truck receipts
- Written contracts.
- \* FEMA records
- \* National Guard records
- \* Production records
- \* purchase records
- \* veterinarian records

If adequate verifiable proof of death records documentation is not available, the livestock producer may provide reliable records, along with verifiable beginning and ending inventory, as proof of death. Reliable records may include, but are not limited to:

- Brand inspection records
- \* Pictures
- \* vaccination records
- Contemporaneous producer records existing at the time of the event.

**USDA Enacts Changes to Payment Limitations, Income Qualifications, and Implements Direct Attribution:** For commodity and disaster programs, the AGI limitation was reduced from \$2.5 million AGI from all sources to a three-year average non-farm AGI of \$500,000. An individual or entity must have a 3-year average AGI less than or equal to \$750,000 per year from farm income in order to qualify for direct payments under the DCP program. For conservation programs, the average non-farm AGI limitation is \$1 million or less to be eligible. However, an individual or entity who has non-farm AGI in excess of \$1 million remains eligible for conservation programs only if 66.66 percent or more of the total AGI is derived from farming, ranching, and forestry operations. Program payments are limited by direct attribution to individuals or entities. Individuals and entities must be "actively engaged in farming" with respect to a farming operation. The individual or entity must make significant contributions to the farming operation of: 1. capital, equipment, land or a combination; and 2. personal labor or active personal management or a combination. The contribution must be regular and substantial, and documented as well as separate and distinct from any other members' contribution. The rule limits the ability of passive stockholders to continue to realize benefits from the entity.

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.) The 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, 14<sup>th</sup> 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. 9<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**PO BOX 502**  
**Santa Rosa, NM 88435**

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