



## Lea County FSA Office

401 Tatum Highway  
Lovington, NM 88260

Ph: (575) 396-5857  
Fax: (575) 396-5768

### Hours

Monday - Friday  
7:30 am - 5:00 pm

### County Committee Meeting

Third Wednesday of each month

### County Committee

Hayden Parker—Chair  
John Ingle—Vice Chair  
Rory Wier—Member  
Paul Herrera—Advisor

### County Office Staff

Terry Cater  
County Executive Director

Kathy Priest  
County Operations Trainee

Donna Schooley  
Cheri Sedgwick  
Program Technicians

### Website

[www.fsa.usda.gov/nm](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nm)

August, 2011

## AGI Consent Forms

Lea County FSA reminds producers that they must submit an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) verification consent form (CCC-927 or CCC-928) to the IRS as soon as possible in order to maintain eligibility for 2009 and 2010 program benefits.

The consent form authorizes IRS to verify for FSA whether a payment recipient's AGI meets the eligibility requirements for FSA programs. Producers who fail to file these forms before Sept 2011 will receive notice from the National Office stating that the producer is ineligible for 2009 and 2010 payments. The producer may be responsible for fully refunding all payments received under programs subject to AGI limitations.

If you have received notice from the County office or IRS that this process has not been completed, please call or come by the Lea County FSA Office as soon as possible.

## Life Begins at Retirement Reception

Lea County FSA is sponsoring a "Come and Go" retirement reception for Cheri Sedgwick on Thursday, August 25, 2011 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Lea County USDA Service Center.

Cheri is retiring with 22 years of service with the Farm Service Agency and has worked in the Lea County office for the last seven years.

Please stop by the Service Center and join us in honoring Cheri for her service to the producers of Lea County.

## Livestock Forage Program (LFP)

LFP provides payments to eligible livestock producers that have suffered livestock grazing losses due to qualifying drought or fire. Fire losses apply only to federally managed rangeland. Lea County has been designated as eligible for 2011 LFP for drought.

Applicants must have purchased insurance coverage through FSA's Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) or meet the waiver requirements as defined in the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, Section 2501 (e) (7U.S.C. 2279 (e)) to be a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher.

If you did not purchase NAP, please contact the FSA office to apply for a waiver to be eligi-

ble for Livestock Forage Program assistance. If the waiver is approved by the NM State FSA Committee, you will be required to pay the \$250 NAP fee in order to be eligible for an LFP payment. This fee does not make you eligible for 2011 NAP.

For more information contact the County Office.

## CRP Emergency Grazing

In recognition of the drought conditions in New Mexico, emergency grazing has been extended through October 31, 2011, without penalty.

Producers will be permitted to graze these additional 30 days without an additional payment reduction. This 30 day extension applies to existing and new emergency grazing requests. Producers must comply with the emergency grazing provisions in the conservation plan but will not be required to get a revision of the CPO from NRCS for the extension period.

If you have questions, please contact the County Office.

## DCP and CRP Payments

Final DCP and CRP payments will process after October 1.

Producers should contact the County office if payment is not received by October 15.

## Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA)



Lea County FSA reminds foreign persons with an interest in agricultural lands in the United States that they are required to report their holdings and any transactions to the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Any foreign person who acquires, transfers or holds any interest, other than a security interest, in agricultural land in the United States is required by law to report the transaction no later than 90 days after the date of the transaction.

Foreign investors must file Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) reports with the FSA county office that maintains reports for the county where the land is located.

Failure to file a report, filing a late report or filing an inaccurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land.

For AFIDA purposes, agricultural land is defined as any land used for farming, ranching or timber production, if the tracts total 10 acres or more.

Disclosure reports are also required when there are changes in land use. Foreign investors must also file a report when there is a change in the status of ownership such as owner changes from foreign to non-foreign, from non-foreign to foreign or from foreign to foreign.

For more information, contact the County office.

### Dates to Remember

August 25	Retirement Reception at Lea County Office 1-4 pm
September 1	NAP Application closing date for Garlic, Onions, Sod Grass.
September 5	FSA County Office closed for Labor Day
September 30	NAP Application closing date for Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye, Triticale, Canola
October 10	FSA County Office closed for Columbus Day

## Hispanic and Women Farmers

A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans has been established.

If you believe USDA improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic or female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

## Office Closure

The Lea County USDA Service Center will be closed September 5 for Labor Day and October 10 for Columbus Day.