

Santa Fe County FSA
CAPITAL FARM NEWS – MAY/JUNE 2009
WEBSITE: www.fsa.usda.gov



Please note – July 3rd, County Office will close for Independence day! Enjoy!!!!

OFFICE STAFF	SANTA FE COUNTY FSA	COUNTY COMMITTEE
Sheryl LaRue County Executive Director	1911 South Fifth Street - Suite 211 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505	Alfredo Roybal, COC Chairman Jake Vigil, COC Vice-Chairman
Allen Mackrain Farm Loan Manager	PH: (505) 988-6253 OPT 2 FAX: (505) 988-6615	John C Bassett, Board Member Becky King-Spindle, Minority Advisor

Next County Committee Meeting scheduled for June 11th, 2009, 10a.m. – All producers welcome! (Regular Sessions open to the Public, USUALLY held second Thursday each month.) Santa Fe County Committee offering “Informational Meeting” regarding COC Election, Nominations, prior to commencement of each Regular County Committee Meeting – All producers encourage to come!!!

Also - Santa Fe County FSA generally continues to operate a One-Person County Office. Wherein possible, PLEASE call ahead to make appointment prior coming into town to be sure CED is available to assist you. PLEASE leave brief message when calling, so we may return your call.

2009 COUNTY COMMITTEE (COC) ELECTIONS! NOMINATIONS BEGIN in JUNE

FSA COUNTS ON YOU: NOMINATE & VOTE! JUNE 15th COC NOMINATIONS begin again for the 2009 Board. Request nomination forms from FSA or Online @ www.fsa.usda.gov. **Aug 3rd is last day to file** intent with County Office. “LAA” or Local Administrative Area up for Election this year is currently served by Mr. Jake Vigil of Cundiyo. Mr. Vigil, unfortunately for us, has reached term limits & cannot run again in this Election. LAA3 covers the most Northern tip of our Santa Fe County, North of the Santa Fe County Pueblos; Township 20N, encompassing such areas as Cundiyo, Chimayo, Cordova, Santa Cruz, etc.

Election of Ag Producers to FSA Committees is important to ALL Farmers/Ranchers with large or small operations. It's crucial EVERY producer participate in these elections because County Committees are your link between the Ag Community & USDA. Committee Members are a critical component of FSA operations. They help deliver Programs at the local level. Farmers & Ranchers who serve on COCs help with decisions necessary to administer Programs in their Counties, working to make FSA Ag Programs serve the needs of local producers. COCs provide local input on Commodity Price Support loans & payments; Conservation programs; Incentive, Indemnity & Disaster/Emergency programs; Payment eligibility, etc. COCs operate within official Regulations designed to carry out Federal laws.

To become a **Nominee**, eligible individuals must sign FSA-669A (**attached – next page!**). Form includes statement that Nominee agrees to serve if elected. Nomination forms for the 2009 election must be postmarked/received in local USDA Service Center by close of business Aug 3, '09. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Additionally, organizations representing minority & women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the County Committee Election at the County Office that administers the producer's farm records.

To hold office as County Committee Member, persons must meet each of the following basic eligibility requirements: 1) Participate or cooperate in Program administered by FSA; 2) Be eligible to vote in County Committee election; 3) Reside in LAA in which person is a candidate; 4) Person must not have been removed/disqualified from office of County Committee, Alternate or Employee, removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony, or dishonorably discharged from any branch of the Armed Services. People uncertain about their eligibility to vote in the County Committee Election should contact local FSA office. Affirmation of eligibility to vote must be determined in order for a vote to count in an election. Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be **Eligible to vote** if they participate or cooperate in FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises & conducts Farming operations may also be eligible to vote. Contact CED for more info.

FSA-669A (04-17-09)	U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency
<h2 style="margin: 0;">NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION</h2>	

1. NAME OF NOMINEE <i>(Type or print Nominee's Full Name)</i> 2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE	TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION <i>Thereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i>	5. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE <i>(MM-DD-YYYY)</i> 6A. COUNTY 6B. LAA NO. 7. STATE
4A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	4B. DATE <i>(MM-DD-YYYY)</i>
DATE OF ELECTION IS 1st MONDAY OF DECEMBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR	

8. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> America Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White	GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
 - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
 - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
 - C. Willing to serve if elected.
- ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
- ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
- ITEM 4** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEM 8** Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 3.

NOTE: *The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 7 CFR Part 7. The information will be used to obtain nominees for County FSA Committee.*

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.



2009 CROP CERTIFICATIONS – JULY 15TH 2009! REQUIRED – DON'T DELAY!

All Farmers, Ranchers reminded to report acreages to Office **no later than July 15** for all crops, if not already done so! (Small grains, NAP Native Grass should've already been certified!) If Certs not submitted timely, late-file fees will apply. In order to accept late filed Certs, All of following apply: 1) Operator pays cost of Farm visit, verification & determination of crop acreage; 2) Physical existence of late-filed crop or crop residue for Crop Year being reported must exist, if applicable, acc Nat'l 2-CP Par 21, SubparE; 3) Crop's use can be verified; 4) Crop's acreage for specific crop year can be determined; 5) Spot checks must be performed on all late-filed crops.

Filing an accurate & timely Cert for all crops/land uses, inc failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA Programs. ALL cropland on Farm must be reported to retain benefits for DCP (Direct, Counter-Cyclical Program), Marketing Assistance Loans, LDPs. FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on Farm whether fallow (idle) or planted. Producers required to file reports by reporting deadlines below. Late-filed acreage reports are possibly subject to measurement services & applicable late-file fees. Crop certs may be revised any time if revised acreage can be verified by physical evidence to County Committee's satisfaction. (Exception – "Intended use")

Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after final official plant date for that crop. Failed acreage must be reported w/in 15 calendar days of Disaster event & before any disposition of crop' indeed must be filed before disposition or destruction of Crop, and producers must be able to establish to satisfaction of County Committee that crop failed & was prevented from being replanted thru normal plant period because of natural disaster conditions. Producers who request to report failed acreage must provide applicable docs to substantiate crop failure.

<u>VIP - DATES TO REMEMBER!</u>	<u><i>Producers must timely & accurately meet the following deadlines: All deadlines, requirements are Producer's responsibility!</i></u>
On Going!	Producers enrolled in NAP must file Notice of Loss within 15 calendar days of Disaster occurrence, or date damage to specific crop acreage apparent. Those covered by NAP on grass may file Notice when grazing losses occur, at any time during the 2009 Program Year, but prior November 1 st ea year.
FEBRUARY 14 TH EACH YEAR! (If covered by NAP)	Certify ALL Grazing lands including private/deeded, Forest Service, BLM Permits, State Leases, etc. Late-filed Certs may be possible.
MAY 15 TH EACH YEAR!	Certify Small grains inc, not limited to Wheat, Barley, Oats etc (DCP Producers take note!)
JULY 14TH!!! (Production Records required to establish individual approved NAP Yields, to avoid a "Zero Plug" for Crop Year)	NAP PRODUCTION RECORDS SHOULD BE TURNED IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER FINAL HARVEST. PRODUCTION RECORDS ARE MANDATORY PRIOR TO THE NEXT YEARS ACREAGRE REPORTING DEADLINE to AVOID 0.0 YIELD ASSIGNMENTS! 2008 PRODUCTION RECORDS DUE NOW, PRIOR TO 7/15/09.
JULY 15TH EACH YEAR!	Certify all "Other" crops such as Alfalfa, Mixed Hay, Fruits/Vegetables, Native Grass if not certified already. (Spring planted crops & CRP) Reports must be filed 15 days prior onset of harvest or grazing!
AUGUST 1ST EACH YEAR! Requests for RECONSTITUTION	Due purchase or sale of lands, new lease agreements, change in farm structure, etc! Failure to notify COF can result in loss of benefits!

IMPORTANT NAP (Non-Insured Assistance Program) INFORMATION

2008 NAP (NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) GRAZING LOSS ASSESSMENTS

NM FSA State Office has announced 2008 State Grazing losses for NAP Non-Irrigated Native Grass. State Office consulted, worked with BLM (Bureau of Land Management), NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service), Forest Service & State Land Office to complete 2008 State-wide, State-level Independent grazing loss assessments on NM Native Grass/Rangeland for NAP benefits purposes. The final percentage of loss for Santa Fe County was 39% grazing loss (61% of Normal). (Rio Arriba 15%, Taos 25%, San Miguel 8%, Torrance 13%, Sandoval 24% NAP payments do not "kick in" for losses until percentages reach over 50%. (A 51% loss would activate payments.) The COC, County Office is still seeking to challenge STO determination).

FSA CCC-471 NAP BP (NAP Basic Provisions) is now available to all producers thru County Office or thru FSA's forms website @ <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>. On Disaster Assistance Programs Home Page click on "View NAP Basic Provisions". CCC-471 BP provides general info inc basic terms & conditions for NAP for producers filing 2009 Crop Year or later CCC-471 NAP "Application for Coverage". If you signed up for NAP but did not receive this document, please contact County Office & we will definitely mail you one. ***"All you ever needed to know about NAP!"***

Santa Fe County Farm Service Agency
1911 South Fifth Street, Suite 211
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Official Business

PRSRST STD
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FARM SERVICE AGENCY
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NRCS (NATURAL RESOURCE & SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE) WORKSHOP JULY 15TH!

NRCS is partnering with Santa Fe Farmers Market, Santa Fe/Pojoaque Soil & H2O Conservation, Santa Fe County Extension, & FSA to facilitate "Producer Sustainable Workshop" for Farmers & Ranchers July 15th from 8-4pm. "How to Build Soil Structure & Healthy Soils", topics to include Soil quality, Salinity management, Irrigation management, Best practices. Workshop at Santa Fe Farmers Market & Loomis Farm. For more info or to RSVP, call NRCS 988-6253, Opt 3.

DCP(DIRECT, COUNTER-CYCLICAL) PAYMENT PROGRAM-SIGN-UP DEADLINE AUG 14TH! Don't delay!

All deadlines & Eligibility requirements are Producer's responsibility! In order for producers to be eligible for 2009-2012 DCP, Producers will be required to fill out all new Eligibility forms & sign CCC-409 Contract. New rental, lease/share agreements also need submitted. Any(!) changes to Farm Ownership, Operating needs be communicated. Fruits/Vegetable reductions similar as before. **2009 DCP contracts deadline inc all supporting docs AUG 14, '09.** All Owners/Operators on Farm must sign contract by Aug 14th. There will be NO late-file signup provisions as there've been under past Bills! **Advance payments (22%) may be requested at sign-up & will be issued after all other program & payment eligibility requirements are satisfied.** DCP provides payment to eligible producers on farms with established base acres enrolled for 2008~2012 crop years. There are two types of DCP payments: Direct & Counter-Cyclical payments. Direct Payments are guaranteed by Program & CC payments are based on market conditions. Both calculated using established base acres & payment yields for eligible farm. To remain eligible for payments, Owners/Operators, Landlords, Tenants, sharecroppers must: 1) Share in risk of producing crop on base acres on farm enrolled in DCP or would have shared had crop been produced; 2) Annually report use of farm's cropland acreage (**Don't forget the July 15th Reporting deadline!**) 3) Comply with Conservation & Wetland protection requirements on all lands, 4) Use base acres for Ag or Ag-related purposes & 5) Protect all crop acreage base acres from erosion inc providing sufficient cover & controlling weeds.

NEW! 2009 "ACRE" PROGRAM – AVERAGE CROP REVENUE ELECTION – Signup available April 27th!

Producers can now elect & enroll in ACRE Program instead/versus 'DCP' beginning April 27. ACRE provides eligible producers a State-level "Revenue guarantee"; based on 5-year State Olympic average yield & 2-year National average price. (Optional "ACRE" program provides safety net based on State Revenue losses.) ACRE payments are made when both State & Farm-level triggers are met; i.e. Acre payments issued when both State & Farm have incurred revenue loss. Producers who elect ACRE on Farm agree to: 1) Forgo Counter-Cyclical DCP payments; 2) Accept a 20% reduction of Direct Payments; & 3) Accept 30% reduction in loan rates for all commodities produced on Farm. ACRE was created to give producers an option in lieu of traditional DCP. If producers choose to elect ACRE, it will bind that farm to ACRE thru Farm Bill thru CY 2012. Please contact CED if interested in ACRE for more info. CED will be mailing info on ACRE to all eligible DCP producers. Total # of planted acres for which ACRE is paid must not exceed total base acres on Farm. Both Owner & all Operators on Farm must each agree to enroll in Acre vs. DCP. Website available to help you decide if ACRE is more beneficial for you: <http://afpc.tamu.edu/models/acre/index.php>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its Programs & Activities on basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, & where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (Voice & TDD). To file complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider & employer." **REASONABLE ACCOMODATIONS** – Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate @ meetings or events should contact County Office at (505) 988-6253. USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY WEBSITE: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>