



Santa Fe County USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY



CAPITAL FARM NEWS – APRIL 2010

OFFICE STAFF	SANTA FE COUNTY FSA	COUNTY COMMITTEE
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Allen Mackrain Farm Loan Manager	PH: (505) 988-6253 OPT 2 FAX: (505) 988-6615	John C Bassett, Vice-Chairman
		Richard Chang, COC Board member
		Becky King-Spindle, Minority Advisor
		Arnold Garcia, COC Minority Advisor

Santa Fe County FSA generally continues to operate as a One-Person County Office.  
Where-ever possible, PLEASE call ahead to make appointment prior to coming into town to be sure CED is available to assist you. PLEASE leave brief message when calling, so that we may return your call.  
Please note that going forward CED expects to utilize “Non-Work” day every other Friday of pay period.  
OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY.

Next County Committee Meeting scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup> '10, 10 a.m. – All producers welcome!  
 (Regular Sessions open to the Public, USUALLY held second Thursday each month.)

**\*\*\*PRODUCERS INVITED TO “INFORMATIONAL” MEETING PRIOR REGULAR COC MEETING TO DISCUSS 2010 COC NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS, and SURE PROGRAM PROVISIONS\*\*\***

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR LIVESTOCK/HONEYBEES EXTENSION! MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>!**  
**USDA Extends Sign-Up for Emergency Assistance to Eligible Producers of Livestock, Honeybees.** USDA has very recently announced that it will accept applications for Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees (ELAP) for losses that took place in calendar years 2008, 2009. ELAP sign-up ended Dec.10, 2009, for 2008 losses & on Feb 1, '10 for 2009 losses. However, because of changes to program eligibility provisions, the Farm Service Agency is accepting late-filed applications for 2008 & 2009 livestock or honeybees thru May 5, 2010.

ELAP, authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill, provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees & farm-raised fish that have losses due disease, adverse weather or other conditions, inc losses due blizzard & wildfires. ELAP assistance is for losses not covered under other Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance programs established by the Farm Bill, specifically the Livestock Forage Disaster Program, Livestock Indemnity Program and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program. ELAP is being implemented to fill in the gap and provide assistance under other conditions determined to be appropriate.

Eligibility provisions have been amended for both honeybee & farm-raised fish producers. Modifications inc allowing who did not replace honeybees or fish that were lost due to natural disaster to be eligible for ELAP payments based on fair market value of honeybees or fish that were lost. In addition, requirements to document losses for honeybee producers who suffered losses due to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) were modified to allow documentation by an independent 3rd party for losses in 2010 thru Sept. 31 2011. Producers can self certify losses due to CCD for '08 & 2009.  
Applying for ELAP. In addition to submitting an application for payment, producers who suffered livestock losses should submit a notice of loss to the local FSA service center that maintains the farm records for their business.

**DATES TO REMEMBER !!!**

<u>MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2010</u>	<u>DEADLINE EXTENSION FOR ELAP (see above)</u>	
<u>MAY 14<sup>TH</sup> - JULY 15<sup>TH</sup></u>	<u>ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINES (See below) INC CRP</u>	
<u>JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2010</u>	<u>ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR DCP/ACRE SIGN-UP.</u>	
<u>JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2010</u>	<u>DEADLINE TO PROVIDE CCC-927 OR CCC-928 FOR ALL PRODUCERS THAT RECEIVED PAYMENT IN 2009, 2010</u>	
<u>JULY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2010</u>	<u>PRODUCTION RECORDS DUE FROM CY 2009</u>	



## 2010 CROP CERTS. ACREAGE CERT DEADLINES – REQUIRED. DO NOT DELAY!

Filing accurate & timely certifications for all crops & land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA Programs. ALL cropland on Farm must be reported to retain benefits for NAP, SURE, 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 are required to file reports by reporting deadlines below. Late-filed acreage reports, if accepted, are subject to measurement services and applicable late-file fees. Producers must timely & accurately certify crop acreage on Automated FSA-578 by following deadlines:

FEBRUARY 14 <sup>TH</sup> EACH YEAR!	ALL Grazing lands including private/deeded, Forest Service, BLM Permits, State Leases, etc. Late-filed Certs may be possible.
MAY 15 <sup>TH</sup> EACH YEAR!	Small grains inc, not limited to Wheat, Barley, Oats etc
JULY 15 <sup>TH</sup> EACH YEAR!	All “Other” crops such as Alfalfa, Mixed Hay, Fruits/Vegetables **Note** Forage crops insured under NAP must be reported prior the first cutting of the season!

Prevented planting of crops must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final official plant date for that crop! Reports of failed acreage must be filed WITHIN 15 DAYS OF THE DISASTER EVENT and before disposition or destruction of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the County Committee that crop failed & was prevented from being replanted through normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.



## “SURE” PROGRAM (SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM)

ACT NOW!!!! FSA reminds producers that USDA has implemented a new Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) in accordance with the ‘08 Farm Bill. FSA County Offices began accepting producer applications for benefits since Jan 4, 2010 for crop production losses suffered during 2008 crop year. No sign-up deadline has been set for 2008 crop losses because FSA is waiting for automated computer software to be released. Until software is issued, FSA will accept manual applications & process payments manually so producers don’t experience delays in benefits.

The “SURE” Program provides benefits for farm revenue losses due natural disaster. Eligible producers who experienced crop production losses in crop year 2009 will not apply for SURE program benefits until Fall of 2010 as seasonal average market prices, a critical element in calculating program payments, will not be finalized until October at the earliest.

SURE provides Crop Disaster Assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. This Program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60% of the difference between the SURE Farm guarantee & total Farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible for SURE, Producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. Producers must have suffered at least a 10% production loss on a crop of economic significance. NAP coverage is no longer required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage. In addition, producers must meet Risk-management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

Producers can use USDA’s Self-Determination Tool to help determine if they qualify as “Limited Resource” for FSA disaster programs. Tool can be found @ <http://www.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/tool.asp>. In order to meet eligibility requirements as a Beginner Farmer or Rancher, producers must not have operated a Farm or Ranch for more than 10 consecutive years and materially and substantially participate in the operation of a farm. A Socially Disadvantaged farmer or rancher is a farmer or rancher who belongs to one of the following groups: American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander and Hispanic.

**“SURE” PROGRAM (SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) continued...**

In addition to meeting Risk Management purchase requirements, producers must have a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation. Regardless of a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if actual production on Farm is less than 50% of the normal production on farm due natural disaster. For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide. For more information on the new SURE program, please visit your nearest FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

- at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition (crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm)
- a county receives a disaster declaration by the Secretary of Agriculture, or is a contiguous county, and the producer shows proof of an individual loss of at least 50%. Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss.



**IMPORTANT NAP (Non-Insured Assistance Program) DEADLINES! No late-files!**

**All deadlines & Eligibility requirements are Producer's responsibility!**

Ongoing	REMEMBER – YOU MUST NOW OBTAIN NAP ON ALL PLANTED CROPS TO RETAIN ELIGIBILITY FOR THE NEW FARM BILL PERMANENT CROP DISASTER PROGRAMS! <u>PLEASE NOTE! Producers enrolled in NAP must file Notice of Loss w/in 15 days of Disaster occurrence or date damage to specific crop acreage is apparent! Producers who request to report failed acreage must provide applicable documentation to substantiate crop failure. This documentation must be reviewed by COC prior to acceptance of failed acres report.</u>
<u>MAY 15, '09</u>	<u>ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE – ALL SMALL GRAINS, SPRING-SEEDED CROPS</u> <u>Including WHEAT, Barley, Oats, Etc!</u>
JULY 15, '09	ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE – ALL REMAINING CROPS NOT YET CERTIFIED INC ALFALFA, MIXED FORAGE, FRUITS & VEGETABLES, ETC
MAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> !!!! JULY 14 <sup>TH</sup> !!! (2009 CROPS)	NAP PRODUCTION RECORDS SHOULD BE TURNED IN SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER FINAL HARVEST. PRODUCTION RECORDS ARE MANDATORY PRIOR TO THE NEXT YEARS CROP REPORTING DEADLINE! PLEASE TURN IN 2009 PRODUCTION IMMEDIATELY!

NAP is a federally funded program that provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occurs as result of natural disaster. Eligible producers must apply for NAP Coverage on Non-Insurable crops by submitting CCC-471 “Application for Coverage” & paying applicable Administrative fees at Admin County Office. Application fees must be filed by deadlines as listed above! There are NO late-file provisions for NAP. Due to passage of the 2008 Farm Bill, new Eligibility forms MAY be required to participate in NAP & essentially any other FSA program if not filed last year.

To maintain Eligibility for any Permanent disaster program benefits (SURE Program) during 2010 Crop Year, you MUST purchase minimum CAT (Catastrophic) coverage for all crops grown by Closing date. If insurance is not available for a crop thru insurance provider, you must purchase NAP coverage thru local FSA by closing date. One key (!) provision of new Disaster bill is that ALL crops on ALL farms by Operator be covered! Means if producer normally purchases insurance for grain but doesn't cover his corn, He now needs buy coverage for BOTH crops to maintain disaster program eligibility on either or both of crops. The Agency is anxious is that many will learn details the “hard way” when seeking assistance

**2008, 2009 NAP (NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) GRAZING LOSSES**

As previously reported, Santa Fe County was permitted to re-submit “request” package for 2008 NAP Grazing loss on Non-Irrigated Native Grass. At December's State Committee, Approval was granted to SFe County for a 61% loss for 2008. Counties were authorized to immediately begin issuing payments to those producers with a timely Notice of Loss & Application for Payment on file. **Call this CED should you have any questions about your file status.** Furthermore, at its January meeting, the NM FSA State Committee approved Santa Fe for 47% loss on grazing for CY '09. Please remember Producers must “suffer” first 50% loss of production before NAP benefits apply, thus 47% loss determination will not result in any payments being issued for 2009 grazing year @ this time.

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Official Business

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### 2010 DCP (DIRECT & COUNTER-CYCLICAL) PROGRAM – DEADLINE JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>!

All deadlines & eligibility requirements are Producer's responsibility! No extensions!

**2010 sign-up available ONLY until June 1<sup>st</sup>!!** In order for producers/landowners to be eligible for 2010-2012 DCP, Producers MAY be required to fill out eligibility forms & sign 2010 CCC-409 Contract. ANY new rental, share agreements also need be submitted. Any CHANGES to Farm Ownership needs be communicated. Under Farm Bill all Fed lands will have bases terminated until leased. 10.0 base acre rule will apply. Fruits & Vegetable reductions will be similar as before. ***There are NO late-file signup provisions as there've been under past Bills! Advance payments of 22% may be requested at time of sign-up & will be issued after all other program & payment eligibility requirements are satisfied. Producers must apply for DCP on an Annual basis.***

DCP provides payments to eligible producers on farms enrolled for the 2008 ~ 2012 crop years. There are two types of DCP payments: Direct, and Counter-Cyclical payments. USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm.

### 2010 "ACRE" PROGRAM – AVERAGE CROP REVENUE ELECTION

Producers can now elect & enroll in ACRE Program instead/versus 'DCP' since April 2009. ACRE provides eligible producers a State-level "Revenue guarantee"; based on 5-year State Olympic average yield & 2-year National average price. Payments are made when both State & Farm-level triggers are met; i.e. Acre payments issued when both the State & the Farm have incurred revenue loss. Producers who elect ACRE on a Farm agree to 1) Forgo Counter-Cyclical DCP payments; 2) Accept a 20% reduction of DCP Direct Payments; 3) Accept a 30% reduction in "loan rates".

### KEEP YOUR 2009 AND 2010 PAYMENTS – SUBMIT AGI VERIFICATION FORMS TO IRS

EACH INDIVIDUAL & ENTITY who received 2009 payments or who requests 2010 payments must complete a Consent form and provide it to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) so compliance with Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) requirements can be verified. It is important that Consent form is completed correctly, is signed & dated. If you submit an incomplete form, it will be returned to you. Forms must include complete Social Security #s for an individual, Employer Identification number for a legal Entity. For Entities, Consent forms must be submitted by the Entity itself & by each shareholder in such entity, to the "Fourth level" of ownership. Individuals must file CCC-927 and Entities use form CCC-928. Forms are available online at <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov> or may be obtained from any FSA Office. Submit completed forms directly to: Internal Revenue – USDA, PO Box 24033, Fresno, CA 93779.

Failure to provide this consent form to IRS will result in ineligibility for future FSA payments and refund of payments already received. While FSA can assist you with understanding the form, FSA is NOT authorized to accept completed consent forms and FSA is NOT authorized to submit these forms to IRS on your behalf. **FORMS MUST BE MAILED TO THE IRS NO LATER THAN JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2010!**

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