

Valencia-Cibola County FSA Office

JUNE 1, 2009

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

THE NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP) IS INSURANCE YOU PURCHASE THROUGH THIS OFFICE THAT PROVIDES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PRODUCERS OF NONINSURABLE CROPS WHEN LOW YIELDS, LOSS OF INVENTORY, OR PREVENTED PLANTING OCCURS DUE TO A NATURAL DISASTER.

FINAL DATE TO PURCHASE 2009 NAP	
Garlic, Onions, Sod Grass	Sept. 1, 2009

CCC-576 NOTICE OF LOSS FILING REQUIREMENT

If a natural disaster occurs and you purchased NAP insurance, a notice of loss **MUST** be filed on a CCC-576, **within 15 calendar** days after the:

- Latter of the occurrence of prevented planting or the end of the planting period.
- Disaster occurrence or date damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent to the producer.
- An appraisal must be completed prior to destroying the crop or putting the crop to another use. Contact this office for an appraisal.
- If you have NAP coverage on **NATIVE GRASS**, production loss must be over 50% and **you must file a notice of loss within 15 days after the first freeze**
- For **Valencia County**, First Fall Freeze is October 18th. Notice of Loss **must be filed by Nov. 1st**.
- For **Cibola County**, First Fall Freeze is September 28th. Notice of Loss **must be filed by Oct 12th**.

NAP YIELD

Production records for individual crops need to be filed to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide prior years' production and acreage to establish a yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up to date.

Records submitted must be reliable and verifiable. Records need to show crop disposition. **All production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date.** If production records are not available, county average yields will be used.

HOLIDAY

The Agricultural Service Center will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2009, in observance of Independence Day.

NAP FEE INCREASE

For 2009 Crop Year, NAP Fees have increased as follows:

\$250 per crop
\$750 per county maximum

COC MEETING 2nd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Date	Time
June 10, 2009	9:00 a.m.
July 08, 2009	9:00 a.m.
*August 12, 2009	9:00 a.m.
September 09, 2009	9:00 a.m.
October 14, 2009	9:00 a.m.
**November 12, 2009	9:00 a.m.
December 9, 2009	9:00 a.m.

* Indicates meeting date held at the NRCS Office in Grants, NM

** November Meeting changed due to Veterans Day

UPDATING FARM/RANCH RECORDS

The COF will update your records if you have changes to your farming/ranching operation. Please contact the office for changes to the following:

Acreage Divisions	Change in Owner/Operator
Entity Type Changes	Sale or Purchase of Land
Acreage Combinations	Name and Address Changes
Death of Owner/Operator	Leases and /or New Leases
Direct Deposit information	

BUDGET CUTS

Due to Budget Cuts, the FSA County Office will not be hiring a Program Technician to fill the position vacated by the previous Program Technician.. Melinda Martin, Program Technician, and the CED will carry out all duties and administer programs for the four counties of Valencia-Cibola, and Bernalillo-Sandoval.

Due to medical reasons, Melinda Martin, will be on sick leave beginning June 10th and will continue for three weeks.

Your patience and consideration will be greatly appreciated.

DEFINITIONS AND APPLICABILITY

Socially Disadvantaged Group:

A socially disadvantaged group is a group whose members have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their

individual qualities.

A socially disadvantaged farmer/rancher is a farmer/rancher who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. These groups consist of American Indians, Alaskan natives, Asians, Blacks or African Americans, Native Hawaiians, or Pacific Islanders or Hispanics. Gender is not a covered group under the 1990 Farm Bill definition.

Applicability: Waiver for Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Program, Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, Farm Raised Fish, TAP, BCAP, CRP.

Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher

A Limited Resource farmer/rancher is a producer with a direct or indirect farm sale of not more than \$155,200.00 in both of the previous 2 years, and have a household income at or below the national poverty level (\$21,432.40 for Valencia County, \$21,200.00 for Cibola County) in each of the previous 2 years.

Applicability: Waiver for DCP 10-acre exception, CRP, ECP, NAP, Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Program, Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm Raised Fish, and TAP.

Beginning Farmer or Rancher

A Beginning farmer/rancher is an individual or entity who has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 consecutive years.

A producer can determine his status using their personal data at their State and County location by using the NRCS Limited Resource Farm and Rancher Online Self Determination Tool at the following website:

<http://www.lrfatool.sc.egov.usda.gov/tool.asp>

2008 NAP GRAZING LOSS UPDATE

The NM State Committee (STO) has approved the 2008 grazing losses for non-irrigated native grass, which were conducted by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and New Mexico State Land Office (SLO).

In order to issue 2008 NAP payments for Native Grass (GZ) the grazing loss percentage must be above 50 percent.

The following loss percentages were presented:

Valencia County: 16%

Cibola County: 24%

NRCS, BLM, and the NM SLO have served as the representatives to perform the independent assessments for the 2008 grazed forage acreage conditions.

All three independent assessments have been completed by forage specialists not having a financial interest in the outcome.

State Land Office – Assessment was determined using 2008 water year point precipitation data and specialists knowledge.

NRCS – Assessment was determined using local monthly precipitation totals from recording weather stations to augment precipitation information available in the Drought Management Calculator for the complete year.

BLM – Assessment was calculated taking the active Animal Unit Months (AUM's) permitted in each grazing district and the authorized AUM's in each grazing district to calculate a reciprocal of the authorized AUM's.

Based on the information submitted by the three independent sources, there will be NO Native Grass payments for 2008.

FARM LOAN PROGRAM UPDATES

FSA makes direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operating loans (OL) to family-size farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank, Farm Credit System institutions, or other lenders. FSA loans can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed, and supplies. Our loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements. For more information, contact Allen Mackrain at 575-384-2272 in Estancia, NM.

FSA would like to welcome Diane Wilson as the new Farm Loan Officer to the FSA loan staff which serves District I. Diane was in the Roswell Farm Loan Office before coming to the Estancia Farm Loan Office. She has her full loan approval and servicing authority for the position.

DIGITIZING CLU'S

New Mexico is converting all of the aerial maps in the county offices into digital images. Tract, Farm, and Field boundaries will form a digitized layer that is referred to as Common Land Unit or CLU. This digitized layer is part of the USDA's GIS (Geographical Information Systems) project. The farm tract and boundaries will be placed over satellite imagery, using special GIS software. The resulting image will show these boundaries for the entire county.

After the county is digitized, FSA will carefully review the CLU layer to make sure the fields are outlined correctly and the acreages are accurate. All edits and changes will be made to the digital layer and the paper maps will no longer be maintained. **VALENCIA COUNTY IS NOW COMPLETE. As part of the review process, each owner and operator will receive maps of all of their tracts. The maps will include field numbers and acreage. Once you receive these maps in the mail you have 30 days to contact the office and notify us of any changes.**

Eventually all crop reporting, compliance, and other programs will be conducted electronically using GIS and the CLU layer. In addition, the maps will eventually be linked to the e-authentication application, which will enable producers to view their map on-line.

USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY WEBSITE

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

ACREAGE CERTIFICATION

It's that time again. It is **IMPORTANT** that everyone certifies his/her acres.

Report your Spring Seeded Crops, such as Chile, Corn Grain Sorghum, Spring Oats, Spring Wheat, Sudan, Sudex, Vegetables, Fruits, and Alfalfa, by **JULY 15th**.

SHEEP PRODUCERS VOTE TO KEEP LAMB CHECKOFF

Sheep producers across the country recently voted to keep the lamb check off, which funds research and promotional activities, in place.

With the passage of the referendum, sheep producers, exporters, and feeders will continue to be assessed \$.005 (one half cent) per pound upon the sale of a live animal. First handlers, like packing plants, are assessed \$.30 per head upon the purchase of an animal for slaughter. These assessments fund the work of the American Lamb Board, which includes research, promotion, marketing, and industry communications.

NRCS WORKSHOP

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will be presenting a 2009 Producer Sustainable Workshop on How to Build Soil Structure and Healthy Soils. Topics include: Soil quality, salinity Management Irrigation Management, Best Management Practice, and more. The Workshop will be conducted on June 24, 2009 at the BIA Office located at 1001 Indian School Rd., Albuquerque, NM, Room 133. The Workshop will be conducted from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The afternoon session will be conducted at Joseph Ernest Jaramillo's Field, located at 300 Tribal Rd 90, in Isleta, NM.

2009 WOOL & MOHAIR PRODUCTION

Are you preparing to shear your livestock? Will you sell, trade, give away, or process your 2009 fiber immediately after shearing? If so, stop in the office and apply for an LDP. Request to sign a CCC-633EZ form. **You must request the LDP before the LDP payment can be issued.** **For 2009, you can request the LDP now and when you lose beneficial interest, you can bring in your sales slip for payment.**

You will receive the LDP rate in effect on the day your receipt indicates you transferred control or processed your fiber. If you will maintain interest in your wool or mohair for a period of time after shearing, you have the option of selecting the day you want to apply for an LDP. Unshorn pelts are also eligible for LDP.

GAME COMMISSION ACQUIRES PROPERTY ALONG RIO GRANDE

The NM Game Commission has purchased 188 acres of property along the Rio Grande, south of Belen, in an ongoing effort to protect and improve the state's riparian zones.

The property was acquired through provision of the Natural Lands Protection Act, which provides for joint acquisition of unique and ecologically significant land in New Mexico. The \$800,000 purchase used a special appropriation for land conservation during the 2005 Legislation.

The Trust for Public Land initially acquired the property and assisted the Game Commission in completing the purchase for conservation purposes. Under the purchase agreement, the Commission owns 51% interest in the property. The Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District, which will be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the property, owns 49%.

The property includes about 1.5 miles of Rio Grande frontage with potential to be restored as wildlife habitat for species including the endangered southwestern willow flycatcher and the Rio Grande silvery minnow. It initially will be fenced and rested to promote recovery of riparian vegetation. The area will be included in the system of state wildlife areas that are managed for a variety of wildlife conservation purposes, including wildlife-associated recreation consistent with the area's purpose and resource.

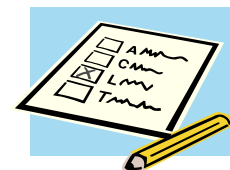
COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nominating Petitions will be accepted through August 3, 2009. Producers who are residents in the LAA holding the election and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Also, organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates. To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected. The completed nomination form must be returned to the county office by close of business on August 3rd or postmarked by midnight the same day.

Elections will be held for Local Administrative Area (LAA) #2, which covers Hob Road East of the Rio Grande and Miller Road West of the Rio Grande to the Socorro County Line in Valencia County and LAA #4, which covers the Acoma, Laguna, Seboyeta, Cubero, San Fidel, and surrounding areas in Cibola County.

Nominating Petitions can be obtained at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>, in person at the FSA Office located at 2600 Palmilla Rd., Suite A, Los Lunas, NM 87031, or by Telephone at 505-865-4641 x 2.

NOMINATE A CANDIDATE OF YOUR CHOICE BY AUGUST 3rd.





Barbara J. Zellers, County Executive Director

Valencia-Cibola County FSA Office
 2600 Palmilla Rd, Suite A
 Los Lunas, NM 87031

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	United States Department of Agriculture	FARM SERVICE AGENCY	Valencia-Cibola County 2600 Palmilla Rd., Suite A Los Lunas, NM 87031 (505) 865-4643 EXT. 2 (505) 866-0662 FAX
County Committee: Vicki Husbands, Chairperson Kenneth Monday, Vice-Chairperson Rex Salvador, Member Juan D. Sanchez, Jr., Member Rex L. Robinson, Member		FSA Office Staff: BARBARA J ZELLERS, CED MELINDA MARTIN, PT Office Hours Monday-Friday: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	

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To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

El Departamento De Agricultura de los Estados Unidos De America (USDA por sus siglas en Ingles) Prohibe la discriminacion en sus programa y actividades en cuanto a raza, color, nacionalidad, sexo, religion, edad, impedimento fisico o mental, afiliacion politica, estado civil o condicion social (No Todas las basas aplican a todos los programas.) Las personas con algun tipo de impedimento que requieren metodos alternos de comunicacion para obtener informacion sobre los programas (Brail, letras de imprenta grande, cintas de audio, etc.) Deben comunicarse con el USDA Target Center al (202) 720-2600 (Voz Y TDD)

Para registrar una queja, deben escribirle a el director, oficina de derechos civiles, Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, oficina numero 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 marque (202) 720-5964 (Voz Y Tdd). USDA es un patrono que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades de empleo.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in a meeting/event/function at the Los Lunas Service Center, should contact Barbara J. Zellers (barbara.zellers@n.m.usda.gov) by email or telephone, 505-865-4641, ext. 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339, two days prior to the day of event so accommodations can be prepared.