Valencia-Cibola County FSA Office

MAY 4, 2010

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 2010 NAP	
Sod Grass, Onions, Garlic	**Sept. 15, 2010**

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**

DEFINING FORAGE CROPS

Forage Crops are considered ALFALFA when **more than 60%** of the plant population is alfalfa. Any forage crop with **less than 60%** of Alfalfa is considered mixed forage.

Coverage Period is the NAP coverage for forage acreage as commercially mechanically harvested (60% or more) is limited to the same number of years of productive longevity typically recognized by NM State University Cooperative Extension Forage specialists and FCIC coverage availability. NMSU data recognized that on average, alfalfa peaks around year 6 and then becomes not economically feasible to mechanically harvest and often terminated depending on its use.

New Mexico Established NAP Coverage Period is the set New Mexico State Committee policy in which NAP coverage may be obtained for stands of alfalfa if the crop meets the definition of an Alfalfa stand for years 2 through 6. NAP coverage cannot be purchased for Alfalfa regardless of quality of the stand in year 7 and up. Coverage after year 6, if purchased, would be considered Alfalfa Mix. A new APH would be established at that time.

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 production records are not available, county average yields will be used.

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. If production is not provided, a zero yield will be used.

Records submitted must be verifiable and reliable. **Verifiable Records** of production include contemporaneous records (calendar) provided by the producer that: may be verified by Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) through an independent source and are used to substantiate the amount of production reported. **Verifiable Records** must be dated, show disposition of the crop's production, including both quantity and price, be seasonal or crop specific for crops that are produced more than once in a calendar year, be provided if they exist: together with the producer's certification of production in support of any application for payment, and whenever a record of production is otherwise required by CCC. **Reliable Records** include: copies of receipts, ledgers of income, income statements of deposit slips, register tapes, invoices for custom harvesting, pick records. ***All production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop year's final acreage reporting date.***

NAP FEE

For 2010 Crop Year, NAP Fees are as follows:
$250 per crop
$750 per county maximum

HOLIDAY

The Agricultural Service Center will be closed on Monday, May 31, 2010, in observance of Memorial Day.

USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY WEBSITE

http://www.fsa.usda.gov

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:

	Direct Deposit Information
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

COC MEETING
2nd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Date	Time
May 12, 2010	**9:00 a.m.**
June 9, 2010	**9:00 a.m.**
July 14, 2010	**9:00 a.m.**
***August 11, 2010**	**9:00 a.m.**
September 8, 2010	**9:00 a.m.**
October 13, 2010	**9:00 a.m.**
November 10, 2010	**9:00 a.m.**
***December 8, 2010**	**9:00 a.m.**

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

CROP CERTIFICATION DATES

Producers are reminded to accurately certify their crops every year. If you do not certify your crops, you may be ineligible for FSA programs.

FALL SEEDED CROPS must be certified by **May 15th**.
SPRING SEEDED CROPS must be certified by **July 15th.**

If you did not purchase NAP insurance, ***the final date to certify grass*** is **July 15th.**

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.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/tool.asp

INFORMATION REQUESTED BY CED

In the event of a Natural Disaster, i.e. Hail, Snow, Freeze, Flood, I am requesting you, the producer, take pictures and put them on a Disk and mail them to me. This would help me know exactly what type of damage the disaster has caused. If you do not have a computer, pictures would be good. Please list the date and time of the disaster and any other information that would be pertinent. This would also help for those of you that have purchased Insurance, even though you file a loss within 15 days of the date the disaster occurred.

SURE PROGRAM

SURE provides benefits for 2008 through 2011 crop year farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. It is the 2008 Farm Bill's successor to prior ad hoc crop disaster programs.

For SURE, a farm is eligible when either: 1)a portion of the farm is located in a county covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration (USDA Secretarial Declarations only) or a contiguous county; or, 2) the actual production is less than 50% of the normal production. **NOTE**: A "farm" refers to **ALL** crop acreage in all counties that a producer planted or intended to be planted for harvest for normal commercial sale or farm livestock feeding.

For producers to be eligible for SURE, they must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for **ALL** crops through either the Federal Crop Insurance Act or FSA's Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). SURE does not require coverage for forage crops intended for grazing.

Producers must suffer a 10% production loss to at least one crop of economic significance on their farm in order to be eligible for SURE. For a loss to be a qualifying loss, it must be caused by a natural disaster. A crop of economic significance is one that contributes at least 5% of the expected revenue for a producer's farm.

The SURE guarantee is determined by totaling the calculated guarantee for each crop. FOR NAP crops, the guarantee is based on a formula that includes the yield, acreage, and price factors. The farm's SURE guarantee cannot exceed 90% of the expected revenue for the farm.

Signup for the 2008 SURE began January 2010. A signup deadline has not been announced.

Producers must have the following to signup:
1) Acreage and production records, if not already provided for crop insurance purposes.
2) Information to establish your farm (deeds, leases) if not already provided.
3) Other information requested by FSA

Payments will be issued for SURE payments once all eligibility forms are approved, SURE program determinations are made, and National Average Market Prices have been obtained.

CCC-927, CCC-928 – CONSENT TO DISCLOSURE OF TAX INFORMATION FOR AN INDIVIDUAL OR A LEGAL ENTITY

Many of you have been receiving Form CCC-927, Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information for an Individual or Form CCC-928, Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information for a Legal Entity. FSA is now required to send these forms to any individual or entity who received a payment for 2009 and who will receive a payment for 2010.

USDA has worked with the Internal Revenue Service to develop an electronic information exchange process strictly for the purpose of average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). This process electronically looks at certain line items on tax returns filed for the applicable three-year period, performs a series of calculation to arrive at the average amounts; and then compares these values to the average AGI limitations. USDA received the results of these comparisons with indicators of whether the participant appears to exceed or not exceed the average AGI limitation amounts. No actual tax data will be included. USDA county office personnel will not view tax return information at any time during this process.

IRS required written consent from the individual or legal entity to provide USDA verification of the average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for that individual or legal entity. This written consent is provided by using the forms CCC-927 for an Individual or CCC-928 for a legal entity.

These forms allow the selection of 2009, 2010, or both years. Selection of "2009" on the form authorizes IRS to perform the average AGI calculations for the 2005, 2006, and 2007 tax years. Selection of "2010" on the forms authorizes IRS to perform the average AGI calculations for the 2006, 2007, and 2008 tax years. These forms must be completed by an individual or legal entity that is required to complete the CCC-926, Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Form.

If you received a 2009 payment from FSA, or will receive a 2010 payment for 2010, please complete the form and return it to the IRS address listed at the top right of the form. DO NOT RETURN THE COMPLETED AND SIGNED FORM TO FSA.

The form must be mailed to IRS no later than June 15, 2010. If you received a payment from NRCS, they should also be mailing you the form for completion. Failure to provide the written consent may require refund of applicable payments received from FSA and NRCS for the years 2009 and 2010.

IRS will only use this information and data for this specified purpose. The data and information utilized for AGI compliance and verification purposes is not subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nominating Petitions will be accepted through August 2, 2010. 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 many 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 2nd or postmarked by midnight the same day.

Elections will be held for Local Administrative Area (LAA) #5, which covers the Fence Lake and Ramah Areas of 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 2nd.

Barbara J. Zellers, CED

2010 WOOL & MOHAIR PRODUCTION

If you will be selling wool or mohair during the summer of 2010, be sure to complete and sign Form CCC-633EZ before you sheer and sell the wool. This form is available at the FSA Office.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) NEWS

NRCS will be conducting a Sustainable Agriculture Workshop on June 9, 2010. The soil health workshop will be held from 8:00 am through 4:00 pm at the Tome Dominguez Community Center in Tome, NM with afternoon field demonstrations. The Tome Community Center is located across from Church Loop Rd on Hwy 47 and 2.4 miles north of the Larry Sanchez farm. Please RSVP for lunch. For more information contact the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District (VSWCD) Administrator in Los Lunas, NM at 505-865-5807.

Soil Health is simply defined as "the capacity of a specific kind of soil to function". What factors help soil function like it should? What factors actually keep a soil from functioning correctly? Which of these factors can farmers control or correct? The answers lie within the relationships between the chemical, physical, and biological components of the soil. All this and more will be explained at the workshop.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT (RD) NEWS

USDA-Rural Development is accepting applications for grants and loan guarantees in the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) until June 30, 2010. The Rural Energy for America Program provides funds to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements.

Eligible projects include installing renewable energy systems such wind turbines, solar, geothermal, biomass, anaerobic digesters, hydroelectric, and ocean or hydrogen systems. Funding may also be used to purchase energy-efficient equipment, add insulation, and improve heating and cooling systems. In fiscal year 2009, this program helped fund 1,485 REAP projects in 50 states, the commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Western Pacific Islands.

The Rural Energy for America Program enables owners of small rural business, farms and ranches to reduce energy consumption, part of President Obama's effort to reduce our reliance on foreign oil and the destabilizing effects of a changing climate. Through this program, farmers, agricultural producers and small business owners will be able to upgrade or replace outdated, inefficient systems in their operations. That not only saves money, it supports job creation.

For more information contact Thelma Dibartolomeo at 505-865-4643 x 114 at USDA-Rural Development, 2600 Palmilla Rd., Suite C, Los Lunas, NM 87031.

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

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). 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 compliant 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, afliacion politica, estado civil o condicion social (No Todas las basas applican a todos los programas.) Las personas con alguin tipo de impedimento que requiren metodos alternos de comunicacion para obtener informacion sobre los programas (Brail, letras de imprenta grande, cintas de audio, etc.) Deben communicarse 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.