

Farm Service Agency

June 2008 Cochise County Newsletter

Cochise County USDA Service Center

Cochise County FSA 658 N Bisbee Ave Willcox, AZ 85643 PH: (520) 384-3588 FAX: (520) 384-2735 www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours of Operation Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

County Committee

Mark Cook, Chair Twila Shelton, Vice Chair Alan Seitz, Member

Staff

Carol Case, CED Rebecca Burright, PT Sharina Terry, PT Tonya Ayala, PT Maggie Rorbach, PT

Farm Loan Staff

David Toll, FLM Jonna Darnell, FLO Cissi Graves, FLO Dee Haupt, PT

The Farm Bill has been passed! Watch your newsletters for upcoming details.



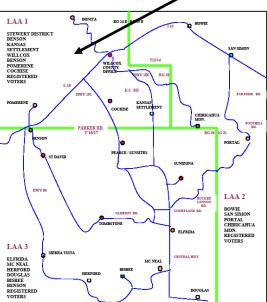
County Committee Election Time is Here!

The Cochise County FSA Office will begin taking nominations to fill a seat for LAA1 starting on **June 15, 2008** and will end on August 1, 2008. Any eligible producer can be nominated. The elected individual will begin their elected 3-year term on January 1, 2009.

Committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

For more information, contact your local FSA Office or visit: http://www.fsa.usda.gov and

look under News & Events/County Committee Elections.



Crop Certifications

Acreage reporting is still ongoing. Please remember that most programs offered through FSA require filing an accurate acreage report for all cropland, even if the land is fallow, to prevent loss of program benefits including payments.

The deadline to certify acreage reports is **July 15, 2008**. Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.

For more information or to schedule an appointment to certify, contact your FSA Office.

LCP Sign Up Deadline is Set!

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) is still underway for all eligible livestock producers who suffered feed/pasture losses due to the drought in 2006 or 2007. The sign up period began on September 10, 2007 and will end on **July 18, 2008** at the close of business. There are no late file provisions for this program.

LCP offers financial assistance to eligible producers based on the value of the livestock and the value of the pasture as of January 1st of the applicable year. The lesser value is what will be paid. Eligible livestock include beef, dairy, buffalo/beefalo, sheep, goats, equine, deer, swine, elk, poultry, and reindeer.

For more information on LCP or to schedule an appointment, contact your FSA Office.

United States Department Of Agriculture Cochise County Farm Service Agency 658 North Bisbee Avenue Willcox, Arizona 85643

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER June 15th Nomination Period Begins for County Committee Election 26th County Committee Meeting (Tentatively Scheduled) July 4th Closed in Observance of Independence Day 15th Acreage Reports Due 17th County Committee Meeting (Tentatively Scheduled) 18th LCP Sign Up Period Ends August Ist 1st Nomination Period Ends for County Committee Election

Do you know a youth needing financial assistance for a 4-H or FFA project?

FSA offers operating loans to eligible youth to assist in financing nearly any kind of income producing project up to \$5000 to buy livestock, equipment even supplies. Contact the loan department for further details!

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: As a participant in or applicant for programs, activities operated or sponsored by USDA, you have the right to be treated fairly. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of your race, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability or marital or familial status, you may file a discrimination complaint. The complaint should be filed with the USDA Office of Civil Rights within 180 days of the date you became aware of the alleged discrimination. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 326-S.W., Whitten Building, Stop 9410 Washington DC 20250-9410 Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.