



Farm Service Agency

SAN JUAN/GRAND COUNTY FSA NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST 2006

County Information

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Staff: Doug Christensen, CED Karla Eberling, PT Shirley Provance, PT Carla Sorrell, FLO	Office Hours: Monday – Friday 7:00 am-4:30 pm
County Committee: Raymond Chief Bob Barry Tammy Taylor Juan Hansen Stephen Meyer	Positions: Chairperson Vice-Chairperson Member Member Member



Emergency Grazing on CRP Authorized

Because of the continuing serious drought conditions in San Juan County, Emergency Grazing on CRP acreage has been authorized. Those interested in grazing CRP need to do the following:

- Identify the acreage to be grazed on aerial photos.
- Sign and date emergency grazing agreement.
- Obtain a revised conservation plan from NRCS—including the stocking rate for the acreage to be grazed.
- Receive approval from FSA before grazing begins.

There will be a 10 percent payment reduction assessed on all CRP acreage that is grazed. We are authorized to graze CRP acreage up through September 30, 2006.

AgrAbility of Utah

AgrAbility of Utah is part of a national program administered through the USDA. AgrAbility focuses on promoting independence for members of the agricultural community who have disabilities resulting from injury, illness, age or other causes. AgrAbility offers opportunities to persons of all ages and connects individuals to a network of service providers, product suppliers, and product manufacturers in order to provide education, information, services and support.

AgrAbility of Utah is administered by the Utah State University's Agricultural Systems Technology and Education Department, USU Extension, the Center for Persons with Disabilities, and the Association for Independent Living of Utah.

Types of assistance available include:

- Agricultural work-site analysis.
- Farm/Home accessibility survey.
- Environmental modifications.
- Equipment adaptation and modification.
- Information and referral
- Facilitation of independent living.
- Individual advocacy
- Peer support
- Coordination of community service
- Education
- Agricultural safety workshops to prevent further injuries.

If you or someone you know could use come assistance in making your farm or ranch operation easier because of a disability, please contact this office or:

Rhonda L. Miller, PhD
Project Director
(435) 797-3772
1-877-225-1860 toll free
(435) 797-4002 fax
rlmiller@cc.usu.edu email

Emergency Conservation Program

Hauling Water for Livestock

San Juan County has been approved for the Emergency Conservation Program, ECP). This program provides cost share assistance to producers during periods of severe drought to supply emergency water for livestock.

Cost sharing is only authorized in the situation where livestock water is normally available, but is not currently available due to drought conditions.

The following practices are available:

EC6-Drought Emergency Measures

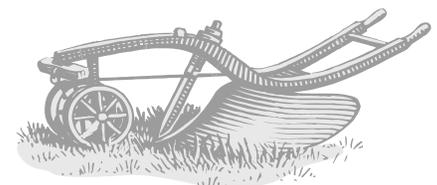
- Construction and deepening of water wells for livestock.
- Developing springs or seeps for livestock water.
- Pipelines for livestock water.

EC7-Other Emergency Measures (Hauling Water for Livestock)

- Contractor cost for hauling water to livestock/per gallon.
- Portable and permanent holding or storage tanks
- Troughs
- Personal delivery of livestock water.

The cost share rate is 50% of the actual cost for all permanent practices and 75% of the actual cost for all temporary practices not to exceed an amount to be determined by the County Committee.

The County Committee has established a sign-up period from June 19th through August 4, 2006. Interested producers should contact the county office for additional



Be Counted! On the 2007 Census of Agriculture

The 2002 Census of Agriculture counted 2.2 million farms and ranches in the United States. That was down 15% from the 2.6 million farms and ranches counted in 1974. What changes are in store for the future of agriculture in our county? It is important that all operators are again counted in the 2007 Census of Agriculture to show their contribution to the entire U.S. agricultural industry.

Every farm and ranch in the nation can expect to receive a mailed Census questionnaire in December 2007. To get an accurate count for 2007, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service must receive a completed report for every farm and ranch in the U.S. The Census is the only source of uniform agricultural data for every county in the U.S. and provides a complete statistical picture of U.S. farms and ranches every five years. How can YOU benefit from responding to the Census of Agriculture? Here are some possibilities:

- Producers can negotiate for more competitive market prices because they have the same facts as buyers.
- Farm organizations use the data to evaluate and propose policies and programs that help the agricultural producer.
- Farm service providers can anticipate needs and be more responsive to producers.
- Colleges and universities use census data in research programs aimed at increasing agricultural production and profitability.



- State departments of agriculture use census data to better serve farmers and ranchers during drought and emergency outbreaks of diseases or infestations of pests.
- Rural electric companies use census data to forecast future energy needs for the agricultural producer and the communities they live in.
- USDA uses census data to help evaluate participation of farmers and ranchers in its programs and services.
- Elected representatives use the data to develop farm policies and programs to protect and promote U.S. agriculture.
- Public and private analysts make extensive use of census data in projecting and evaluating results of agricultural programs and events.

The information you provide on the Census is kept confidential by law, Title 7, U.S. Code, and will not be disclosed to any other government or private entity.

For more information about the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) or the Census of Agriculture, including complete results of the 2002 census, visit our website at www.nass.usda.gov or call NASS's Utah Field Office in Salt Lake City at 1-800-747-8522.

2006 COC Elections

FSA's relationship with farmers and ranchers goes back to the 1930's. At that time, Congress set up a unique system under which Federal farm programs were to be administered locally. Farmers and ranchers who are eligible to participate in these programs elect a three to five person County Committee, which reviews county office operations and makes some of the decisions on how to apply the programs. The grassroots approach gives farmers and ranchers a much needed say in how Federal actions affect their communities and their individual operations. After more than 60 years, it remains a cornerstone of FSA's efforts to preserve and promote American Agriculture

- August 1, 2006:** Last day to file nomination
August 4, 2006: Complete review of FSA-699A
November 3, 2006: Ballots mailed to eligible voters.
December 4, 2006: Last Day to return voted ballots.

This year the area representatives that we are electing will be from Areas 2, Monticello North, which is the area north of Highway 491 and Area 4, Blanding.

If you have any questions, please call the FSA

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