



March 2009

# Navajo/Gila County FSA News

Holbrook, AZ  
USDA Service Center

Navajo/Gila County FSA  
51 W Vista Drive, #2  
Holbrook, AZ 86025

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**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
7:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M.  
Closed Legal Holidays

**County Committee**  
Robert T Adams, Chair  
Therman Susan, V-Chair  
Steven Flake, Member  
Elwood Saganey, Member  
Wilfred Stanley, Member

**Office Staff**  
Gregg W. Norton, CED  
Catherine Nez, PT  
Evangelene Shorty, PT

**Farm Loan Staff**  
Mike Miller, FLM  
Harriet Mann, FLO  
(928) 524-3214

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### WOOL/MOHAIR 2009 BENEFITS

It's that time of year again. Time to file your 633-EZ Page 1 so that your wool and mohair will be eligible for payment.

**DO NOT WAIT UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SELL TO SIGN THE FORM.** The form must be RECEIVED in this office before you sell your wool/mohair. Producers should complete page one of the EZ form as soon as possible. Once page one is completed, producers can request benefits any time **up until January 31, 2010.**

Page 1 of the 633-EZ was mailed to all wool and mohair producers that applied for benefits in prior years. **Please sign and return the form to this office as soon as possible so your wool and mohair is covered.**

When you sell your wool and mohair there is another form that must be completed.

We will begin making outreach visits to the chapter houses in April. We will send out the schedule in an upcoming newsletter.

### COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

Congratulations to Elwood Saganey! Elwood was reelected to represent farmers and ranchers from the Navajo Nation in Navajo county. The Committee is as follows:

**Robert T Adams**  
Chairperson  
**Therman Susan**  
Vice Chairperson  
**Steven Flake, Elwood Saganey, and Wilfred Stanley**  
Members

FSA appreciates all of the voters for taking the time to complete the election ballot. The County Committee system works only because of your participation.

### NON INSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

NAP benefits are based on a producer's individual crop losses and covers all non insurable, commercially grown crops produced for food and fiber. NAP is available to those producers who share in the risk of producing a crop. Crop losses must be as a result of a weather-related disaster condition such as: drought, hail, excessive moisture, freezing conditions, excessive wind, hurricane, or other related conditions. Coverage costs \$250 per crop per county, up to \$750 maximum for single county farmers or ranchers and \$1,875 for multi-county operators.

**Application filing dates for 2009 crops have passed. Filing dates for 2010 are as follows:**

- Native Rangeland- October 31, 2009*
- Small Grains (Wheat, Barley, Oats)- October 31, 2009*
- Alfalfa, Alfalfa/Mix, Sudan, and other forage crops- October 31, 2009*
- Coarse Grains (Corn, Grain Sorghum)- February 28, 2010*

Producers with NAP coverage are required to 1) file a Notice of Loss the earlier of 15 days of the date of a disaster or 15 days of when a loss is apparent, 2) timely file an acreage report (May 15- small grains, alfalfa and July 15- native range, coarse grains), and 3) keep track of harvested production using acceptable methods. **You must also provide land documentation (leases, deeds, grazing and land use permits).**

If you have any question, please contact the county office for more information.

**REMEMBER- Participation in NAP is required to be eligible for the other disaster programs authorized in the new farm bill.**



### **FARM LOAN PROGRAMS**

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, through Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and Guarantees agricultural loans; provides credit counseling and supervision to farmers and ranchers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.

FSA places special emphasis on outreach of underserved customers because we understand and recognize that certain groups have not participated in or have received limited benefits from USDA/FSA programs. Our goal is to increase the participation of the underserved customers, including limited-resource farmers, in FSA programs, with special emphasis on those who are socially disadvantaged or members of racial minority groups.

FSA lends money and provides credit counseling and supervision to eligible applicants who operate family-size farms.

All loans must meet qualifying criteria to be eligible.

#### **TYPES OF LOANS AVAILABLE**

Farm Ownership (FO)

Farm Operating (OL)

Emergency (EM)

A Direct or Guaranteed loan provides funds to purchase farm or ranch land; repair buildings and other fixtures; promote soil and water conservation.

Farm Operating loan funds may be used to purchase or lease items needed such as livestock, farm equipment, feed, seed, fuel, farm chemicals, insurance or other operating expenses.

#### **LOAN AMOUNTS**

Direct loans can be made up to \$300,000.00

Guaranteed loans can be made up to \$1,094,000.00

#### **SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM**

Funds are available for socially disadvantaged applicants (SDA) to buy and operate family-sized farms and ranches. The SDA program

- Targets direct and guaranteed loan assistance to socially disadvantaged persons;
- Discovers and removes barriers that prevent full participation of those persons in FSA's farm loan programs;

and

- Provides information and assistance to applicants to help them develop sound farm management practices, analyzes problems, and plans the best use of available resources essential for success in farming or ranching.
- For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

The program offers assistance to SDA applicants so that they may develop:

- sound farm management practice
- ability to analyze problems
- plans for the best use of available farm resources

Operating loans can be repaid within 1 to 7 years.

Farm Ownership loans cannot exceed 40 years.

**For additional information contact the Farm Loan Team at the phone number given in this newsletter.**

### **YOUTH LOANS**

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.

#### **Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:**

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Reside in a rural area, city or town with a population of 50,000 or fewer people
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-



- producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office for help preparing and processing the application forms. The FSA staff can help you with questions you may have about a particular program.

### ***FOREIGN BUYERS NOTIFICATION***

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

### ***FSA PAYMENT RECORD (1099-G)***

During the last week of January, producers who have received payments from FSA should have also received a CCC-1099-G from the Kansas City office. A CCC-1099-G is a report to the Internal Revenue Service about FSA payments made to you during the previous calendar year. The CCC-1099-G is a service to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participant's responsibility to report income to the IRS.

If you received a CCC-1099-G, we recommend that you check the amounts shown with those in your records to see that the amounts are correct. Refunds will no longer be reported on the 1099-G, but will be available online from the FSA Financial Inquiries (FSA-FI) web-based

database. Program participants with eAuthentication user ID's and passwords can access their refund information at FSA-FI and select "Inquiry Type 1099/Refund Reports". Refund amounts are displayed on the Producer's Year-to-Date Activity web page.

If you have a question concerning the 1099-G refund information, you may contact your local FSA office for assistance locating the correct payment data. If you choose to visit the office, bring your CCC-1099-G with you.

### ***PAYMENT LIMITS & DIRECT ATTRIBUTION***

For commodity and disaster programs under the new farm bill, the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) limitation was reduced from \$2.5 million from all sources to a three-year average **non-farm AGI of \$500,000** such that a person or entity shall not be eligible for such programs if the non-farm AGI exceeds \$500,000.

For conservation programs, the average nonfarm AGI limitation is \$1 million or less for eligibility. However, an individual or entity who has non-farm AGI in excess of \$1 million remains eligible for conservation programs only if 66.66 percent or more of the total AGI is derived from farming, ranching and forestry operations. In addition, the AGI limitation for conservation programs may be waived on a case-by-case basis if it is determined that environmentally sensitive land of special significance would be protected.

Program payments are limited by direct attribution to individuals or entities. A legal entity is defined as an entity created under Federal or State law that owns land or an agricultural commodity, product or livestock. Through direct attribution, payment limitation is based on the total payments received by the individual, both directly and indirectly. Qualifying spouses are eligible to be considered separate persons for payment limitation purposes, rather than being automatically combined under one limitation.



*United We  
Stand!*

Now Open For  
Fun and Games



**FSA Kids**

[www.fsa.usda.gov/fsakids](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/fsakids)

### ***SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS***

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the county FSA office staff directly or by phone.

The U.S. 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, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for persons with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call Gregg W. Norton, CED, at (928) 524-3214