



Important Dates calendar for FSA Programs

Final Availability Dates for 2009 Crop Loans and LDP's:

31-Jan	Peanuts, Wool, Mohair
31-Mar	Wheat, Barley, Oats, Honey, Sesame, Canola
31-May	Cotton, Corn, Grain Sorghum, Soybeans, Sunflower Seeds

NAP Insurance Sales Closing Dates:

1-Dec	Honey
31-Jan	All annually planted crops, both spring and fall
15-Aug	Perennial crops, forage crops for hay and grazing, carrots, and all value loss crops

Additional Program Deadlines:

Now	Inquire and Sign-up CRP Continuous Practices such as Riparian Buffers
Now	Emergency Conservation approved applicants -- report completed practices to FSA
1-Apr - 31-Aug	CRP Nesting Season
1-Jun	Deadline to report Tobacco planted acreage
1-Jun	Deadline to enroll into Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP)
15-Jun	The consent forms, CCC-927, "2009 and/or 2010 Consent To Disclosure of Tax Information-Individual," and/or CCC-928, "2009 and/or 2010 Consent To Disclosure of Tax Information-Legal Entity," should be mailed directly to IRS at the address given on the form
6-Jul	Deadline to file Application for Tree Assistance Program (TAP) benefits for 2008, 2009, and 2010 losses which occurred before May 7, 2010. For losses occurring on May 7 and later, the application must be filed within 90 days of the disaster event causing the loss.
15-Jul	Deadline to report Spring and Summer-seeded planted acreage
2-Aug (2010)	Deadline for requesting the reconstitution of a farm with crop bases
1-Nov	Deadline to initiate "Successor In Interest" transfers for Tobacco Transition Buy-out contracts with approved buyers as well as initiating contract transfers between immediate family members

NOTE: If the crop being reported has NAP coverage, the final date to timely report the acreage is 15 days PRIOR to the onset of harvest or grazing. It is important for producers to remember that crops with NAP coverage will usually have a NAP crop reporting date EARLIER than the regularly established reporting dates for crops without NAP coverage.

Present Emergency Loan Application Deadlines in Georgia:

1-June-10	Designation M1858, Amend. 6, in 24 counties due to severe storms and flooding
4-Aug-10	Designation S2946 in 57 counties due to severe storms and flooding
9-Aug-10	Designation S2953 in 6 counties due to excessive rain, extensive flooding and cooler than normal temperatures
23-Aug-10	Designation S2956 in 17 counties due to excessive rain, flooding and flash flooding
31-Aug-10	Designation M1870 in 4 counties due to severe storms and flooding
8-Sept-10	Designation M1870, Amend. 1, in 3 counties due to severe storms and flooding
29-Sept-10	Designation S2971 in 10 counties due to record cold weather, frost, and freezes
4-Oct-10	Designation M1871 in 1 county due to severe winter storms and flooding
2-Nov-10	Designation S2979 in 156 counties due to excessive rainfall
6-Dec-10	Designation S2988 in 1 county due to excessive rainfall

NOTE: All producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office for information specific to the Emergency Loan Program and to determine whether their counties are declared under a certain designation.



Director's Message



As of May 10, I have been with Farm Service Agency for nine months. Those nine months have been filled with excitement and awe.

...Excitement and awe in visiting the Service Centers and meeting with County Committees.

...Excitement and awe in getting to know many of my 364 fellow employees stationed in the 69 Services Centers and in our State Office.

...Excitement and awe as I witness the dedicated efforts of our employees to provide you, our farmers, the safety nets needed so you can produce the food and fiber so necessary for all of us.

...Excitement and awe in witnessing the County Committees' valuable input as new programs are implemented and established programs are administered.

...Excitement and awe when I listen to you producers as you talk about those things you do to produce more so the consumer has the safest and cheapest food of any County in the world.

Thank you!

Ribbon Cutting held for Ben Hill-Irwin Farm Service Center

The new Ben Hill-Irwin USDA Service Center held their official ribbon cutting on May 12. The new center, located at 163 Tech Pointe Drive, Fitzgerald, is home to USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Rural Development (RD).

Pictured below cutting the ribbon are left to right - Mr. and Mrs. Louie Harper, builder; Cliff Fussell, FSA County Executive Director for Ben Hill-Irwin; Wesley Paulk, Vice-Chairman, Ben Hill-Irwin FSA County Committee; Teresa Lasseter, former FSA Administrator; Gerald Thompson, Mayor of Fitzgerald; Eddie Douglas, Rural Development; Hobby Stripling, FSA State Executive Director; Willard Lasseter, local business owner; Richard Barrett, NRCS Area Office; and Dot Harris, NRCS State Office.



Georgia State FSA Newsletter

State Executive Director
Hobby Stripling

Administrative Officer:
Kula C. Moore

Farm Loan Programs:
David F. Laster

**Production Adjustment/Conservation/
Common Provisions Section:** Brett M. Martin

Price Support/Compliance/GIS Section:
Clark E. Weaver

State Outreach Coordinator:
Neal C. Leonard, Jr.

Newsletter Editor:
Elaine P. McGarity

**For information, please first contact your
local FSA County Office.**

Georgia FSA State Office
355 E. Hancock Avenue
Mail Stop 100
Athens, Georgia 30601
(706) 546-2266

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) is the main source for information contained in this educational newsletter. Eligibility and participation for all FSA programs is determined in accordance with FSA rules and regulations. Contact your local FSA Service Center to determine program eligibility.

The Georgia Farm Service Agency State Newsletter is published by the Georgia FSA State Office. Contact your local USDA Service Center - Farm Service Agency listed in the phone book, weekdays 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. to obtain a free subscription, make address corrections, or be removed from the mailing list.

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Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in any meeting/event/function should contact Kula C. Moore, 706-546-2269.

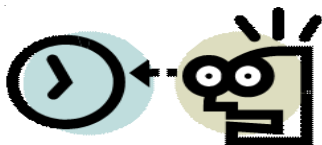
Clearing Up Land? Better Check First!

Many Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Offices have reported they are discovering producers are clearing up land to plant to crops without first discussing this activity with FSA or Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to insure they remain in compliance with the “Sodbuster/Swampbuster” provisions of the Farm Bill. The main problem is that the discovery is coming too late in many of cases to prevent these producers from losing FSA program benefits. If the land is cleared BEFORE the person files form AD-1026 with FSA and NRCS later determines the land in question is classified “converted wetland,” the producer is in violation of the 1985 Sodbuster–Swampbuster Act and could be ineligible for FSA benefits until the land is restored.

This problem is especially widespread in southeastern Georgia where a lot of land has been cleared to go into blueberry production. However, this does not mean that this area of Georgia is the only section of the state where this problem is occurring. It appears some producers are under the impression that since FSA and NRCS do not consider certain crops such as blueberries and grass, “an agricultural commodity which is planted and tilled on an annual basis,” there is no problem with clearing up this land if planted to grass or another crop that is not considered “an agricultural commodity.” This is NOT correct! In fact, there are some situations where the land might meet FSA and NRCS standards, but not those of the Corps of Engineers as they relate to the Clean Water Act.

Therefore, **anytime** a person is planning on clearing-up **any** land, they should come by their local FSA office and file form AD-1026 indicating what they intend to do, and where they intend to clear-up the land, **BEFORE beginning work**. NRCS will then make a farm visit and provide an “official” determination on whether the land is highly erodible or considered a “wetland-type” soil.

REMEMBER – Check First, To Be Sure!



How Important Is It to File Accurate and Timely Acreage Reports?

First of all, it is extremely important that program participants be aware their program benefits are directly tied to the filing of accurate and timely reports of acres for their crops.

In many cases, some programs require that all crop acreages on a farm must be to be reported in order to be eligible for

benefits. Examples of some of the programs requiring a total report of crop acreage are Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP), Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE), Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP), Marketing Assistance Loans (MALs) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs). For other programs, only certain crop acreages need to be reported; examples of some of these programs are Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), and Livestock Forage Program (LFP).

NOTE - The above referenced programs are only some examples, and are not to be taken as an all inclusive list of the programs requiring accurate and timely acreage reports.

In stressing “timeliness” when making an acreage report, it is important for producers to know that **if a crop is not reported by the established state reporting date, or the required NAP reporting date (if applicable), a “late-filing” fee will be assessed** and the crop can still be considered “timely” reported as long as there is physical evidence of the crop still remaining in the field.

Generally speaking, the “statewide” acreage reporting deadlines are as follows:

March 1 – All winter grains and early-season fruits and vegetables already planted

May 31 (June 1 this year) – Tobacco

July 15 – All other spring and summer-seeded crops and land uses including CRP.

NOTE: Most crops insured under the Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) have acreage reporting dates earlier than the State established date. Producers with crop insured under NAP should contact their local FSA office to see what the “Final NAP” reporting dates are for specific crops.

Again, please remember..... accurate and timely acreage reporting helps insure you retain your program eligibility.

Table of Contents

State Executive Director	page 2
FSA Information	page 3
Farm Programs	page 4
Farm Programs	page 5
Farm Loan Programs	page 6
County Committee Elections	page 7

Farm Programs

Price Support/Compliance/GIS ~ Clark Weaver, Chief

Peanut Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) Repayments

Producers repay outstanding peanut MALs at the lesser of the principle plus interest or the National Posted Price (NPP). The NPP is posted every Tuesday at 3 PM and is effective on Wednesday at 12:01 am.

The handling and other associated costs (other than storage) that were paid when the peanuts were placed in the loan and the handling and associated cost will be recovered when the MAL is repaid. This is recovered by adding this cost back into the loan repayment amount.

The only repayment option for any person or legal entity with average adjusted gross nonfarm income that exceeds \$500,000.00 is repayment of the MAL at principle plus interest.

Peanut loans not repaid by maturity date will be forfeited to Commodity Credit Corporation after the loan maturity. The loan amount will be reported to the IRS via a 1099-MISC.

As of the writing of this news article, May 2010, Georgia has a total of 2,235 outstanding peanut warehouse loans representing an outstanding loan balance of \$228,519,824.52.

Please contact your local office if you have questions or concerns related to your peanut loan.

2010 Tobacco Buy-out (TTPP) Payments Issued

This past January just over \$40,000,000 in Tobacco Transition Payment Program (TTPP) payments were issued to eligible quota holders and producers. These payments resulted from contracts that were created in 2005 when the tobacco buy-out was authorized.

Most of the TTPP payments were made through the Direct Deposit system and were placed directly into the recipients' bank accounts, with the remaining payments being sent through the mail for persons that elected not to participate in Direct Deposit. Producers that continue to receive their TTPP payments through the mail are encouraged to inform their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office anytime there is a change to their mailing address. This past January there were numerous payments that were not delivered due to persons moving or changing their addresses and not notifying their FSA office of the change. When this happens, receipt of these payments may be delayed by 3 or 4 weeks, in addition to the possibility of their check being stolen from

their mailboxes. Theft of these checks could be a serious problem since these payments are disbursed each year around the same time and persons that know when the checks are being mailed could steal these checks from producers' mailboxes.

If you are a TTPP participant, please consider receiving your TTPP payment checks (as well as any other program payments) by Direct Deposit. If you already participate in Direct Deposit, please keep your local FSA office informed of any changes in your bank or bank account as any changes in your bank or account information will also delay receipt of your TTPP payments.



Sign-up Announced for Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (as amended) authorizes the Tree Assistance Program (TAP). TAP provides assistance to qualified orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines that were lost by natural disasters occurring on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.

To qualify for TAP, eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers must:

- Suffer qualifying tree, bush, or vine loss in excess of 15 percent (after adjustment for normal mortality) from an eligible natural disaster for the individual stand
- Have owned the eligible trees, bushes, or vines when the natural disaster occurred; however, eligible growers are not required to own the land on which the eligible trees, bushes, or vines are planted
- Replace eligible trees, bushes, or vines within 12 months from the date the application is approved
- Have obtained crop insurance or Non-insured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on **ALL farms and ALL crops they have interest in**, regardless of the location.

(Continued on page 8)

Farm Programs

Production Adjustment/Conservation/Common Provisions ~ Brett Martin, Chief

Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Verification Forms Should be Mailed by June 15, 2010 (Very Important for Participants in CCC Programs)

This is a reminder that the consent forms, CCC-927, “2009 and/or 2010 Consent To Disclosure of Tax Information-Individual,” and/or CCC-928, “2009 and/or 2010 Consent To Disclosure of Tax Information-Legal Entity,” should be mailed directly to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) at the address given on the form no later than **June 15, 2010**. Do not return the completed and signed forms to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office. No other forms other than CCC-927 and/or CCC-928 should be mailed to IRS.

This process ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Forms CCC-927 and/or CCC-928 may be obtained from local FSA and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offices or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov> . If you chose to print the forms from the website, do the following:

- click on Browse Forms to the left of the screen
- enter agency name from dropdown as Farm Service Agency
- enter program name from dropdown as Payment Limitations
- enter form number as 927 or 928
- click on search
- on next screen click on form number, CCC-927 (Individual) or CCC-928 (Legal Entity), whichever is applicable, to pull up form.

Written consent will be required from each **payment recipient** for 2009 and/or 2010 for the tax review process. To verify average AGI, USDA receives 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 in the report.** NRCS will be the only other USDA agency that will have knowledge of this

information since conservation programs administered by NRCS are subject to the \$1 million average nonfarm AGI for conservation programs.

Participants who choose not to submit a completed CCC-927 or CCC-928 will be determined non compliant with AGI limitations for the 2009 and 2010 crop programs and fiscal years (FY's). This may require refund of applicable payments received from FSA and NRCS for the years 2009 and 2010.

Duplication of Benefits with Farm Stored Facility Loans

The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program provides low interest financing for producers to build or upgrade farm storage and/or handling facilities. Commodity Credit has discovered some producers in Georgia may have received FSFL loan proceeds and grant/loans from other Government agencies for the same equipment. Farm Service Agency (FSA) regulations do not allow for duplication of benefits and all financial assistance must be disclosed when applying for the FSFL.

For example, USDA's Rural Development has a Renewable Energy Assistance Program (REAP) which provides grants for energy efficiency improvements to facility buildings or processes that will reduce energy consumption. This program or other similar programs have to be disclosed during the request for the FSFL if money is for the same structure or building. FSA will subtract the amount of the loan or grant received to determine the net cost for the facility loan. Failure to disclose could cause your facility loan to be called due and payable.

If you are interested in a FSFL and have received other assistance or will be applying for other assistance, please disclose at the time of your applications to prevent duplication of benefits or possibility of your loan being called at a later date.

Since 2007 up to present, Georgia FSA has funded 45 FSFL requests from Georgia producers with a disbursement total of \$3.45 million.

Contact your local FSA office with questions concerning Farm Stored Facility Loans and possible duplications.

Farm Loan Programs

David Laster, Chief

Emergency Loans Available

Emergency loans continue to be available for eligible family farmers in Georgia due to disaster types ranging from severe storms and flooding to record cold weather, frost and freezes. If you experienced a loss due to the disasters, please contact your local FSA office for applications and additional information. Both Presidential and Secretarial declared counties are eligible for FSA Emergency Loans. At the time of this writing, applications are being accepted under 10 declarations or declaration amendments.

The deadline for applying for emergency loan assistance is dependent on the date a county was designated. Applications must be received within eight months of the designation date. Please see the “Important Dates for FSA Programs Calendar” in this newsletter (cover page) for application deadlines. All producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA Service Center for specific information concerning the application deadlines applicable to their county or counties.

Emergency Loan Assistance (EM) Questions and Answers

What is an emergency loan? USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides emergency loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to flooding, drought, other natural disasters, or quarantine.

What can I use emergency loan funds for? Emergency loan funds may be used to:

- Restore or replace essential property;
- Pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year;
- Pay essential family living expenses;
- Reorganize the farming operation; and
- Refinance certain debts.

Who is eligible for emergency loans? Emergency loans may be made to farmers and ranchers who:

- Own or operate land located in a county declared by the President as a disaster area or designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as a disaster area or quarantine area;
- Are established family farm operators and have sufficient farming or ranching experience;
- Are citizens or permanent residents of the United States;
- Have suffered at least a 30-percent loss in crop production or a physical loss to livestock, livestock products, real estate, or chattel property;
- Have an acceptable credit history;
- Are unable to receive credit from commercial sources;

- Can provide collateral to secure the loan; and
- Have repayment ability.

What requirements must I meet? FSA loan requirements are different from those of other lenders. Some of the more significant differences are the following:

- Borrowers must keep acceptable farm records;
- Borrowers must operate in accordance with a farm plan they develop and agree to with local FSA staff; and
- Borrowers may be required to participate in a financial management training program and obtain crop insurance.

Do I need collateral? All emergency loans must be fully collateralized. The specific type of collateral may vary depending on the loan purpose, repayment ability, and the individual circumstances of the applicant. If applicants cannot provide adequate collateral, their repayment ability may be considered as collateral to secure the loan. A first lien is required on property or products acquired, produced, or refinanced with loan funds.

What is the loan limit? Producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production or physical losses, to a maximum amount of \$500,000.

What are the terms of an emergency loan? Loans for crop, livestock, and non-real estate losses are normally repaid in 1 – 7 years; depending on the loan purpose, repayment ability, and collateral available as loan security. In special circumstances, terms of up to 20 years may be authorized. Loans for physical losses to real estate are normally repaid within 30 years. In certain circumstances, repayment may be made over a maximum of 40 years.

What is the interest rate? The current interest rate for emergency loans is 3.75 percent.

What about application deadlines? Applications for emergency loans must be received within eight months of the county’s designation date.

What do you mean by temporary assistance? Borrowers who receive temporary assistance are expected to return to conventional credit sources. Emergency loans are a temporary source of credit, and borrowers are reviewed periodically to determine whether they can return to commercial credit.

How do I obtain more information? Further information on the emergency loan program is available from your local USDA Service Center.

County Committee Elections

2010 County Committee Nomination and Election

The election of responsible agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will offer. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

Nominations for candidates to run for the Farm Service Agency county committee election representing producers in various Local Administrative Areas (LAA's) will be accepted from June 15 through August 2, 2010. Producers who are eligible to vote in these LAA's and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program and are of legal voting age may be nominated to serve on their 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. A blank nomination form (FSA-669A) is enclosed in this newsletter and is also available at all local FSA offices and online at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=newsroom&subject=landing&topic=cce>

LAA's are elective areas. Elections are held each year to replace a member whose three-year term will expire. All counties will be holding an election for a person to represent different LAA's. Please review the list of LAA's per county that are eligible for election which is contained on this page.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 5 and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by December 6, 2010. All producers are encouraged to participate. The county committee provides a local input on commodity price support loans and payments; establishes allotments and yields; conservation programs; disaster assistance payments and programs.

More information on the elections is available at the county office or online at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=newsroom&subject=landing&topic=cce>

IMPORTANT COC ELECTION DATES

June 15, 2010: Nomination period begins. Nomination forms (FSA-669A) are available from your local FSA Office or online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=newsroom&subject=landing&topic=cce>.

August 2, 2010: Last day to file nomination forms at the local FSA Office.

November 5, 2010: Ballots mailed to eligible voters.

December 6, 2010: Last day to return voted ballots to the local FSA Office.

January 1, 2011: Elected committee members and alternates take office.

Georgia LAA's Conducting Elections in 2010

County	LAA	County	LAA	County	LAA
Appling	1	Grady	3	Pierce	4
Atkinson	3	Hall	2	Pierce	5
Atkinson	5	Hall	3	Putnam	1
Bacon	3	Hart	4	Putnam	4
Baker	3	Hart	5	Randolph	1
Ben Hill/Irwin	1	Henry	3	Randolph	4
Ben Hill/Irwin	2	Henry	5	Screven	2
Ben Hill/Irwin	3	Jackson	2	Seminole	3
Ben Hill/Irwin	4	Jackson	3	Sumter	3
Berrien	2	Jeff Davis	2	Sumter	4
Bleckley	2	Jefferson	1	Tattnall	2
Bleckley	5	Jefferson	2	Tattnall	4
Brooks	1	Jenkins	1	Telfair	3
Bulloch	3	Lamar	3	Telfair	4
Burke	3	Lamar	4	Terrell	2
Calhoun	3	Laurens	1	Thomas	2
Calhoun	5	Laurens	2	Tift	2
Candler	3	Lee	1	Toombs	1
Carroll	3	Lowndes	2	Turner	3
Carroll	5	Lowndes	4	Union	3
Coffee	2	McDuffie	2	Union	5
Colquitt	3	McDuffie	3	Walker	1
Cook	3	Macon	1	Walker	2
Crisp	3	Marion	3	Walton	1
Decatur	2	Miller	2	Walton	5
Dodge	3	Mitchell	3	Washington	2
Dooly	1	Montgomery	3	Washington	3
Early	3	Montgomery	5	Wayne	2
Effingham	1	Morgan	1	Wayne	3
Elbert	2	Morgan	3	Webster	1
Elbert	4	Oconee	2	Webster	4
Emanuel	3	Oconee	4	Wilcox	2
Floyd	4	Peach	1	Wilkes	3
Floyd	5	Peach	2	Worth	3
Gordon	1	Peach	3		
Gordon	3	Peach	4		

Producers are reminded when they have an address change due to 911 upgrades or relocation, to please contact your local FSA office to update your address.

Sign-up Announced for Tree Assistance Program (TAP) *(Continued from page 4)*

There are other specific eligibility and policy provisions that must be met in addition to the “basic” requirements previously shown. Interested producers should inquire at their local FSA office for details.

Sign-up began on Monday, May 10, for producers wishing to apply for benefits under TAP. **Applications and supporting documentation must be submitted by Tuesday, July 6, 2010 for any losses suffered in calendar years 2008, 2009 or prior to May 7, 2010, in order to be considered “timely filed.”** Any loss occurring on May 8, 2010 or later must be filed within 90 days of the date of the disaster event causing the loss.

County Committee Elections



FSA Counts on You:

Transition Incentives Program (TIP)

The Transition Incentives Program (TIP) is a new program under the Conservation Title of the 2008 Farm Bill that allows retired or retiring owners to transition their land to beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers. Signup for the new program, which began May 17, 2010, allows land owners that have land under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to receive two additional years of CRP payments from USDA if they agree to sell or lease the acreage under a long-term contract to a new or minority farmer.

To be eligible, TIP requires that the retired or retiring farmer:

- Have land enrolled in the CRP that is in the last year of the contract.
- Agree to allow the beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer make conservation and land improvements.
- Agree to sell, or have a contract to sell, or agree to a long-term lease on the land (a minimum of 5 years) to a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer by October 1 of the year the CRP contract expires.

To learn more about this new program, please contact your local USDA County FSA Office, or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

FSA-669A
(03-24-10)**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**
Farm Service Agency**NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION**

This form allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate. If additional forms are needed, this one may be copied or may be obtained at the County FSA Office or obtained electronically at <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov>. Each form submitted must be:

- A. Limited to one nominee.
- B. Signed and dated by the nominee in Item 3. Nominee must sign if willing to have his/her name placed on the ballot and agrees to serve if elected.
- Note:** Name shown on ballot will appear exactly the same as in Agency records.
- C. Delivered to the County FSA Office or postmarked no later than August 2, 2010.
- D. Signed and dated as a write-in candidate if elected as a member and willing to serve on the COC.

The County FSA Committee is responsible for reviewing each form to determine the eligibility of nominees. A person who files this form and is found ineligible will be so notified and have an opportunity to file a challenge.

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County FSA committee member if the producer resides in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) in which the election is to be held and is eligible to vote.

Federal regulations may prohibit County FSA Committee members from holding certain positions in some farm, commodity, and political organizations if such positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties. The positions include functional offices such as president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer; and positions on boards or executive committees. Conflict of interest restrictions also apply to employees, operators, managers, and majority owners of tobacco warehouses. Questions concerning eligibility should be directed to the County FSA Office.

A candidate has the option to request that all voted ballots for an individual county committee election be returned to the respective State Office in lieu of being returned to the county office. This request must be in writing and submitted to the local County Executive Director prior to the announced end of the nomination period.

The duties of County FSA Committee members include:

- A. Administering farm program activities conducted by the County FSA Office.
- B. Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of the FSA programs.
- C. Keeping the State FSA Committee informed of LAA conditions.
- D. Monitoring changes in farm programs.
- E. Participating in county meetings as necessary.
- F. Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FSA-669A
(03-24-10)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)		TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		5. COUNTY	
		6. LAA	7. STATE
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION: <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.		8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION: <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).	

9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY	RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)	GENDER
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

ITEM 1 Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:

- A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
- B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
- C. Willing to serve if elected.

ITEM 2 Enter the nominee's current address.**ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.**ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.**ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)**ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 2, 2010.**

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**