



USDA



Farm Service Agency

Granville County FSA

JULY, 2008

Granville County FSA
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**COUNTY EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

Email address:

Office Hours:
8:00am to 4:30pm M T TF
8:00am to 12:30pm W

County Committee
Wyatt Al Fuller,
Chairperson
Eugene Blackwell, Vice
Chairperson
Charles L. Currin Regular
Member
Willie Sherman Richards,
Advisor
Deborah Brogden,
Advisor

Staff
Nancy Newby, Acting CED
Jackie Jeffers
Shelley Noblin
Melba Hobgood
Chuck Norwood

Farm Loan Manager
Melissa Seaman

Reminders

A husband or wife can sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office.

2008 Cropland Certification

Reports must be filed for all cropland, whether idle or planted, on any farm from which USDA benefits are being received. The reporting deadlines are as follows:

August 15th for 2008 only – Corn, Tobacco, Soybeans, CRP, Hay, Pasture and all other land uses.

Failed acreage must be reported within 15 days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop. Prevent planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date. If you have a crop covered under crop insurance you need to file an acreage report with the Farm Service Agency and with your crop insurance agent. To avoid potential problems be sure the acreage reported to each office is the same.

FSA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE LOAN PROGRAMS

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and guarantees loans and provides credit counseling and supervision to farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit. These may mean beginning farmers who can't qualify for conventional loans because of insufficient net worth, or established farmers who have suffered financial setbacks as a result of natural disasters. These loans are tailored to a producer's needs and may be used to buy farmland and finance agricultural productions.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

Candidate nominations for the FSA County Committee election will be accepted June 15 through August 1st, 2008.

Producers who are residents in LAA 3 (Salem, Sassafras Fork or Oak Hill townships) 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 may 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 the close business on August 1, or postmarked by midnight August 1, 2008.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria:

- *Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA
- *Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
- *Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate

- *Not have been removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee; removed for cause from any public office; convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony; or be dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services.



NAP UPDATE

NAP participants are reminded to notify this office of any crop loss within 15 days of the grower's first observation of a loss. Once reported the FSA Office will arrange for a field inspection within 5 days of your loss notification. Producers are also encouraged to turn in production for this year crop as soon as possible in order to update actual productions history (APH).

September 1st, 2008 is the application closing date for coverage on strawberry and September 30, 2008 is the closing date for coverage on wheat, oats, barley, grazing (grass/mixed forage) and hay (mixed forage and grass). The fee is \$100 per crop not to exceed \$300 per administrative county. The coverage rolls over from one year to the next as long as you pay the fee by the subsequent year's closing date.

Livestock Compensation Program Ending Soon

Livestock producers have until July 18, 2008 to enroll in the 2005-2007 Livestock Compensation Program. The program provides aid to livestock producers who suffered eligible livestock or livestock feed losses between Jan. 1, 2005 and Dec. 20, 2007, because of natural disaster.

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program

The DCP sign-up period for the 2008 crop began June 25, 2008 and will end September 30, 2008. To be eligible for DCP payments, owners, operators, landlords, tenants, or sharecroppers must: share in the risk of producing a crop on base acres on a farm enrolled in DCP, and be entitled to share in the crop available for marketing from the base acres or would have shared had a crop been produced. A certification of the acreage of all cropland on the farm (FSA-578) is needed before final payments can be issued. Producers who participate in DCP may plant cropland in excess of the total base acreage on the farm to any commodity. A 2008 fact sheet will be available on FSA's website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; click on "find FSA fact sheets" or County FSA Office.

The 2008 Farm Bill provides that producers on farms with DCP base acres that total 10.0 acres or less will not receive a direct, counter-cyclical program payment, unless the farms is wholly owned by a socially disadvantaged or a limited resource farmer or rancher.

Final payments will be made beginning October 1, or as soon as practicable thereafter, after the end of the marketing year for the crop.

Tobacco Buyout Changes

November 1st, 2008 is the deadline to correct or transfer TTPP contracts to be effective for the 2009 payment.

Crop Disaster Program 2005 – 2007 (Quality Losses)

Eligible farmers who suffered crop losses that occurred before Dec. 31, 2007, can now apply to receive disaster payments beginning June 23rd, 2008. The Disaster Program provides benefits to farmers who suffered quality losses, due to weather, to 2005, 2006 or 2007 crops. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in more than one year will receive payments for the most beneficial year. Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for the year of loss will be eligible for Crop Disaster Program benefits. Producers must have suffered losses in excess of 25% to be eligible.

In determining affected production, participants must supply verifiable production records to substantiate the level of quality loss. All marketing contracts for a crop must be provided for production sold under a marketing contract.

Each farmer may receive no more than \$80,000 in CDP benefits. Producers may receive CDP benefits for only one crop year.