



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE  
**FARM SERVICE AGENCY**  
**GUILFORD COUNTY**  
**COMMITTEE**

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Ted Richardson, Member  
Laura Smith, Advisor  
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Tom Simmons, Farm Loan Mgr

**Farm Service Agency**  
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**FSA Office Hours**  
**Monday – Friday**  
**7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

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## Guilford County Farm Service Agency Newsletter

Number 4

June, 2010

### **2010 FSA County Committee Elections**

The election of agricultural producers to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established, with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA County Committees are a link between the agricultural community and the US Department of Agriculture.

Each year, an election is held in a local administrative area or LAA to replace the committee member whose three-year term is expiring. **This year's election is LAA 3 – Julian, Pleasant Garden, Climax, and southern Greensboro.**

### **Nominations**

Producers who are residents in LAA 3, 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 of business on **August 2**, or postmarked by midnight **August 2, 2010**.

Candidate nominations for the FSA county committee election will be accepted **June 15** through **August 2, 2010**. Request nomination forms from the local USDA Service Center or obtain online at: [http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/fsa0669a\\_committeeelectform.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/fsa0669a_committeeelectform.pdf).

### **Candidate Eligibility**

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

### **Voting**

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning **November 5, 2010** and must be returned to the county office by the close of business on **December 6**, or postmarked by **midnight December 6, 2010**.

Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote.

No one can be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

For additional clarification about county committee elections, contact the Guilford County FSA Office.

### **REMINDERS**

- June 30, 2010 – Deadline to report flue-cured tobacco, corn & soybean
- July 15, 2010 – Deadline to report burley tobacco

## **CROP REPORTING DEADLINES**

The following crop acreage should be reported to the Farm Service Agency by **June 30, 2009**:

***Flue-Cured Tobacco***

***Corn***

***Soybeans***

***Vegetables for Commercial Use***

***Grain Sorghum***

***Hay Crops***

***Pasture***

***Silage Crops***

***Turf Grass Sod***

***Ornamental Nursery***

***Burley Tobacco Deadline Date is July 15<sup>th</sup>.***

Operators and/or owners are required to report their acreage to remain eligible for Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program benefits, Conservation Reserve Program benefits, Federal Crop Insurance and for Noninsured Assistance Program benefits. The producer must file a complete acreage report for all cropland.

Fruits, vegetables, hay crops, silage crops, floriculture, ornamental nursery, turf grass sod, and industrial crops are required to report crop acreage for Noninsured Assistance Program benefits.

Conservation Reserve Program participants must file acreage reports to be eligible for annual rental payments.

Acreage reports must account for **ALL CROPLAND** on the farm.

## **NONINSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PRODUCTION REPORTING**

Production records for individual crops need to be filed with the Farm Service Agency to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield. If you participated in NAP in previous years, you must report your production and acreage on a yearly basis to keep your yield up-to-date. Records submitted must be reliable and verifiable. Records need to show crop disposition. **All production records must be submitted prior to the reporting of the 2010 crop.**

## **2008 SURE(DISASTER PROGRAM) SIGN UP UNDERWAY**

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) sign up is now underway for the 2008 year. The SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disaster that incurred in the crop years 2008 through September 30, 2011. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. However, crop insurance or NAP coverage is no longer required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage.

Eligible farmers and ranchers who meet the definition of Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, or Beginning Farmer or Rancher are exempt from the risk management purchase requirement.

The following are the conditions that trigger SURE payments:

- at least one crop of economic significance must suffer a 10% production loss due to an eligible disaster condition
- crop of economic significance is a crop that has contributed or would have contributed at least 5% or more of the total expected revenue from all crops on the farm
- producers in counties declared disaster counties by the Secretary of Agriculture, or in contiguous counties, or those who show proof of an individual loss of at least 50% are eligible to receive SURE payments for crop producer or crop quality losses. Losses are measured with consideration to the whole-farm revenue, which includes crop insurance indemnities

and commodity program payments, so that producers are not paid more than once for the same loss.

A SURE calculator is available at: [http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/sure\\_calculator\\_2008.xls](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/sure_calculator_2008.xls). The calculator is not official, but is intended for educational use. A fact sheet and backgrounder are also available online.

Producers who had a loss in 2008 should contact the Guilford County Farm Service Agency for additional information. Please call prior to visiting the office so that we can review with you the information that you will need to file a 2008 SURE application.

## **2010 LOANS\LDP's FINAL DATE**

Loans or Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's) on 2010 Barley, Oats, Wheat, Wool, Corn, Grain Sorghum, and Soybean crops are available through the Farm Service Agency. To be eligible for a loan or LDP, the 2010 crops must have been produced on a farm by a producer who has filed a crop acreage report for 2010 and the farming operation must be in conservation compliance. The final date to request a 2010 Barley, Oat, or Wheat crop loan or LDP is **March 31, 2011**. The final date to request a 2010 Corn, Soybean, or Grain Sorghum loan is **May 31, 2011** and the final date to request a 2010 Wool loan is **January 31, 2011**.

## **2010 Loan Rates:**

Corn	2.15 per Bushel
Grain Sorghum	3.70 per Cwt
Soybeans	5.09 per Bushel
Barley	1.75 per Bushel
Oats	1.37 per Bushel
Wheat	1.84 per Bushel

The June interest rate is 1.375 percent.