

# Lenoir County FSA News

## CROP REPORTING

The annual requirement of reporting to the FSA office can be referred to as crop reporting, acreage reporting, or crop certification. Filing an accurate and timely report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs, marketing assistance loans and Loan Deficiency Payments. The certification form FSA-578, Report of Acreage, must account for all cropland on a farm, whether idle or planted. **The producer certification deadline for all cropland is Wednesday, June 30, with the exception of burley tobacco, which is Thursday July 15.** Failed acreage must be reported on form FSA-576 before disposition of the crop. Producers must be able to establish that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted because of natural disaster conditions. Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments and crop acreage for Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported.

## COC ELECTION

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers 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 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in Lenoir County. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of Lenoir County producers. The elections process begins with the nomination of eligible candidates. To become a nominee, eligible individuals

must sign nomination form FSA-669A. This form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected and is available at the Lenoir County FSA Office. **Nomination forms for the 2010 election must be postmarked or received in the Lenoir County FSA by close of business on August 2, 2010.** Individuals may nominate themselves and organizations representing minority and women farmers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer's farm records. The position open this year on the Lenoir County FSA Committee is LAA-1 (Institute, Mosley Hall, Trent I and Trent II townships). Mr. Charles M. Sutton currently represents LAA-1 and is eligible for reelection. Mr. Sutton produces corn, wheat, soybeans and tobacco and has served on the FSA County Committee for six years. For more information about FSA county committees, visit the Lenoir County FSA or the web site at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

## COMPLIANCE

Compliance and spot checks will once again be utilized during the 2010 crop year. Instead of locally selecting farms, contracts, deficiency loans, for spot check and review, a nationwide selection of producers is used to achieve a statistical sampling of participating producers. Spot check selections are to be conducted based on a producer's participation in FSA Programs. State and county offices shall view and print their producer spot check lists as posted on the designated web site. For more information about the new spot check selection procedure, feel free to contact the Lenoir County FSA office for additional clarification.

## FARM RECONSTITUTIONS

For FSA program purposes, tracts having the same owner and the same operator are grouped under one farm serial number.

## USDA

### Lenoir County FSA

2026 Hwy. 11/55  
Kinston, N.C. 28504  
Phone: (252) 523-0524  
Fax: (252) 523-0038

### Office Hours

Mon. Tues. Thurs. Fri.  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. 8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

### County Committee

Charles Sutton, Chairman  
Nelson Dawson, Vice-Chair  
Mike Smith – Member

### Advisor

Ervin Ray Cobb

The Committee meets at 8:00 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. Meetings are open to the public.

### Staff

Patricia A. Brigham  
Lisa E. King  
Dallas H. Stroud

### Farm Loan Manager

Sue Smithwick

### Acting County Executive Director

Allyson P. Perry

### District Director

James Davenport

Special accommodations will be made, upon request to the Acting CED, for individuals with disabilities and vision or hearing impairment.



Dates to Remember	
Continuous	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program Signup
June 20, 2010	Fathers Day
June 30, 2010	Report ALL Crop Acreages
June 30, 2010	Submit 2009 NAP Production
July 5, 2010	Office Closed – Independence Day
Aug 2, 2010	Request Reconstitutions for 2010
Aug 2, 2010	COC Nomination Forms Due
Selected Interest Rates – May 2010	
Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.875%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	5.00%
Farm Storage Facility Loans (7-yr term)	3.000%
Commodity Loans	1.5 %

### PAYMENT LIMITATIONS

Anyone that plans to participate in 2010 programs is required to have a completed CCC-902, CCC-926, CCC-901, if applicable, for payment eligibility and payment limitation purposes. All partners, stockholders, or members with an ownership interest in the legal entity must make a contribution, whether compensated or not compensated, for active personal labor, active personal management, or the combination of the two. There are exceptions for spouses.

#### PERSON/ LEGAL ENTITY PAYMENT LIMITATION

PROGRAM PAYMENT TYPE	LIMITATION
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#### COMMODITY PROGRAMS

Counter-cyclical except peanuts	65,000
Counter-cyclical on peanuts	65,000
Direct payments on covered commodities	40,000
Direct payments on peanuts	40,000

#### CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

CRP (annual rental payment	50,000
EQIP for FY 2009-2012	300,000
GRP (Grassland Reserve Program)	50,000
WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program)	50,000
WRP (Wetlands Reserve Program)	50,000

#### DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

SURE (Supplemental Revenue Assistance)	100,000
LIP (Livestock Indemnity Program)	
LFP (Livestock Forage Disaster Program)	
ELAP (Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-Raised Fish)	
NAP (Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance)	100,000
TAP (Tree Assistance Program)	100,000

LDP (Loan Deficiency Payments)	No limits
MLG (Marketing Loan Gain)	

#### VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

When changes in ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution, or recon, is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by **August 1** for farms enrolled in specific programs.

### FARM RECORDS

To keep our system running smoothly, it is crucial that you report any changes in farm ownership, operator change, addresses, and banking information. This will insure continued uninterrupted service of payments to you and will help us keep our mailing addresses up to date to insure you receive all possible information regarding USDA programs and services.



### FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

The Lenoir County FSA offers loans for farmers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural operations. FSA loan programs are designed to help producers who are temporarily unable to obtain private or commercial credit. In many cases, applicants are beginning farmers who have insufficient net worth to qualify for financing through a commercial lender. In other instances, borrowers might have suffered setbacks from natural disasters or might be persons with limited resources. Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000.00 each. Guaranteed loans can reach a maximum indebtedness of \$1,094,000.00. Emergency loans are always direct loans for farmers who may have suffered physical or production losses in disaster areas designated by a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration. Rural Youth Loans, Loans to Beginning Farmers and loans for socially disadvantaged applicants are available through FSA. For details contact the Lenoir County FSA and schedule an appointment with Sue Smithwick, our farm loan manager.

### SODBUSTER REGULATIONS

Program benefits may be lost if highly erodible or wet lands are used without proper conservation plans. Please file form AD-1026 before you plow, clear or prepare areas not presently under crop production for planting.

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