



U.S. Department of
Agriculture

**Caledonia/Essex
County FSA**
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St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

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1-800-862-1121
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www.fsa.usda.gov

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Burt Patenaude, Chair
Robert Porter, Vice Chair
William Nelson, Member
Michael Tanguay, Member
Darcy Smart, Advisor

**COC meets 2nd Thursday
of each month at 10:30 am**

**County Executive
Director**
Patricia Passut, ext 104
patricia.passut@vt.usda.gov

Program Staff
Patty Matte, PT, ext 100

Farm Loan Staff
**(802) 334-6090 or
1-866-241-2190** (toll free)
Brian Kuper, FLM
Diane Gilman, FLO
Dorcas McAllister, FLO

NRCS Staff
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Tim McKay, ext 109
Nick Comerci, ext 101
Roger DeKett, ext 111
Tom Burke, ext 118

NRCD Staff
Kerry O'Brien, ext 110
Tamara Stevens, ext 114
Brandon Carpenter, ext 106

Rural Development
www.rd.usda.gov
Steve Campbell, ext 102
Mark Koprovski, ext 120
Suzanne Smith, ext 112
Dianne Drown, ext 119

Farm Service Agency

FSA UPDATES

June 2008

Deadline Announced for Livestock Programs

Livestock producers have until **July 18, 2008**, to enroll in the 2005 – 2007 Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

LIP provides payments to eligible livestock owners and contract growers who incurred the death of livestock because of a natural disaster.

LCP provides payments to eligible producers who suffered feed losses as the direct result of excessive moisture/severe storms during the 2006 crop season. Eligible feed losses are pasture losses, of quantity or quality, and/or extra feed costs due to losses of feed normally produced. Eligible livestock must have been located in Vermont on May 1, 2006 and maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation. Other eligibility criteria required to participate in FSA programs are applicable.

For more information about LCP and LIP please call the local Farm Service Agency at 748-2641 or toll free in Vermont at 1-800-862-1121. → → **Sign-up ends on July 18, 2008.** ← ←

PROGRAM REMINDERS

Crop Acreage Reporting — Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of FSA programs. ALL cropland, whether idle or planted, on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from many USDA programs.

Please keep track of planting dates as we are required to enter this data into the system. Producers are required to file reports by **June 30th for small grains and July 15th for all other crops.**

Prevented Planted/Failed Acreage — If you were unable to plant crops this spring due to the weather, you should report these prevented planted acres

- To your crop insurance agent by the crop's established final planting date if the crop is covered by insurance.
- To the FSA office within 15 days of the crop's established final planting date to maintain eligibility for non-insured crops.

Producers should contact their crop insurance agent or the FSA county office staff for the final planting dates.

- Failed acreage must be reported before the disposition of the crop.
- **WARNING:** If you do not plan to take the crop to normal harvest, you must file a notice of loss and a loss adjuster will visit the affected acreage for an appraisal before you destroy the damaged crop.

Measurement Service — Farmers who would like a guarantee on their crop plantings and land use acreages can make it official by using the FSA measurement service. Producers must file a request with the county office staff and pay the cost of a field visit to have stake and referencing done on the farm. Incorrect acreage self-certification can result in reduced program payments, penalty, or loss of eligibility.

Direct and Guaranteed Loans

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are available now.



Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Loan funds can be made available. Producers are encouraged to apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner. Most of our loan programs have special funding available for minority, female and beginning farmers.

FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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County Committee Nominations Open June 15th

It's county committee election time, and nominations for candidates to run for the Farm Service Agency county committee election representing producers in a Local Administrative Area (LAA) will be accepted from June 15 through August 1, 2008.

The areas up for elections this year are:

- LAA #3 which includes the townships of Barnet, Danville, Groton, Peacham, and Ryegate
- LAA #4 which includes the townships of Averill, Avery's Gore, Bloomfield, Brighton, Canaan, Ferdinand, Lemington, Lewis, Norton, Warner's Grant, and Warren Gore

Producers who are residents in the LAA holding the election 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. Eligible voters can nominate as many candidates as they wish.

A nomination form, FSA-669A, is included with this newsletter. Additional forms may be picked up at your local FSA county office or downloaded from <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA>

For more information about county committee elections, contact the county office staff.

WHY RUN FOR OFFICE?

Committee members are local agricultural producers responsible for the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties and are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. By being elected, you become part of local decision making that helps deliver many FSA programs.

Dates to Remember

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| June 30 | Deadline to file acreage report for small grains |
| July 4 | Independence Day – Office closed |
| July 15 | Deadline to file acreage reports for all other crops
Deadline for producers with a 2007 NAP policy to report their 2007 mixed forage production |
| July 18 | Livestock Compensation Program deadline |
| August 1 | Deadline to submit nominations for COC election |
| Continues | Crop Disaster Program - quantity sign-up |
| Ongoing | Farm Storage Facility Loans
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program |
| Coming | Crop Disaster Program - quality sign-up |