



USDA



Farm Service Agency

Orange-Durham County

DECEMBER
2007

Orange-Durham County USDA Service Center

Orange-Durham FSA Office

306 B-Revere Rd
Hillsborough, NC 27278
Phone: 919-732-4301
Fax: 919-732-7559
www.fsa.usda.gov

County Committee

Morris Shambley,
Chairperson
John H. Pope, Jr.,
Vice-Chairperson
Russell Hall, Member
James Ellis, Member
Wm H. Sparrow, Sr.,
Member
Kathryn Shambley,
COC Advisor
Larry D. Anderson,
COC Advisor

County Executive Director

Phyllis A. Ruth, CED

Program Technicians

Karen Beneville, PT
Tina Sturdivant, PT
Shannon Coleman, PT

Linda Riley, IT Specialist
Melissa Seaman,
Loan Officer

OFFICE HOURS

8:00am – 4:30 pm
Monday – Friday
Closed
Wed. 12:00pm – 5:00pm

2007 COC ELECTION RESULTS

Ballots were counted from all eligible voters in LAA 2, LAA 4 and LAA 5 with the following results:

LAA 2

James Clayton Lloyd – elected to FSA Committee
Howard McAdams Jr. – 1st alternate

LAA 4

William H. Sparrow Sr. – elected to FSA Committee
Marianna Thompson – 1st alternate

LAA 5

James Ellis – elected to FSA Committee
Roger Tilley – 1st alternate

The newly elected committee members will take office on Jan. 1, 2008. We wish to express our gratitude to all who voted.

CROP DISASTER PROGRAM (CDP)

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) signup began **Oct. 15, 2007**. The program provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006, or 2007 crops. Losses from natural disasters may qualify for financial assistance if the crop was planted before Feb. 28, 2007, or, in the case of prevented plantings, for crops that would have been planted before Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose **only one year** to apply for benefits. Producers may apply for benefits for losses to multiple commodities as long as the losses occurred in the same crop 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 CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for CDP.

NAP COVERAGE

January 1, 2008 is the deadline to apply for insurance coverage under the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) on **produce crops**.

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM (ECP)

Sign-up for the ECP Program began Nov. 15th and goes through Dec. 15th 2007. ECP could potentially provide some cost-share assistance for livestock producers that are currently having a problem with their water supply for their livestock. Cost share could be provided for expenses for hauling water to livestock, digging wells for livestock and developing springs as a source of water. Cost share assistance ranges between 50% and 75% of the cost associated with the practice. **Even though we have been approved to accept applications for this program, no money is currently available.** Producers should be aware that even if their application for cost share under this program is approved, they must pay the expenses associated with their practices out of pocket and they may receive cost share payments at a later date, depending on funding.

LOANS FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS

FSA has a number of loan programs available to assist applicants to begin or continue in agriculture production. Loans are available for operating type loans and/or purchase or improve farms or ranches. While all qualified producers are eligible to apply for these loans, the FSA has provided priority funding for members of Socially Disadvantaged Applicants. Please contact the FSA office for more details.

YOUTH LOAN PROJECTS

FSA offers loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.

TREE SEEDLINGS

Just a reminder that the N.C. Forestry Service has seedlings available to order. For more information, see their website, www.dfr.state.nc.us or call 1-888-628-7337.



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Orange-Durham County FSA Office
306 B-Revere Rd.
Hillsborough, NC 27278
Official Business

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CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture will soon conduct the 2007 Census of Agriculture, and we need your help to make it the most effective tool it can be! The Census is only conducted once every 5 years, but it provides valuable information which is used by communities like yours as they plan for their futures. Being a part of this Census is your opportunity to be heard and to make a positive impact on U.S. agriculture at both the local and national levels. You should receive your 2007 Census of Agriculture report form in early Jan. 2008. Your response to the Census of Agriculture is required and protected by law, Title 7, U.S. Code.

2008 TTPP PAYMENTS

The 4th installment of the TTPP payments will be made in Jan. 2008.

NEW MAPS

Beginning Jan. 1, if you would like a copy of the maps of your farm with the updated 2006 imagery, please stop by the office. For those with larger farms, a call ahead would be appreciated.

LAND OWNERSHIP CHANGES

In order to keep our records as accurate and up to date as possible, we ask that you report to us any land ownership changes that would affect your farm.

CONTINUOUS CRP SIGNUP

CRP is a voluntary program available to agricultural producers to help them safeguard environmentally sensitive land. Producers enrolled in CRP plant long term, resource conserving cover to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion, and enhance wildlife habitat. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost share assistance. Continuous CRP allows small, environmentally sensitive lands to be enrolled in CRP at any time for conversion to certain conservation covers. Offers are automatically accepted provided the land and producer meet eligibility requirements. Offers for continuous sign-up do not compete with other offers. Continuous sign-up contracts are 10 to 15 years in duration. For more information, contact your local FSA office or NRCS office.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 12/24/07 – Christmas Eve - CLOSED
- 12/25/07 – Christmas Day – CLOSED
- 1/1/08 – New Year’s Day - CLOSED
- 1/1/08 – Deadline for NAP coverage signup for produce
- 1/1/08 – Newly elected COC members take office
- 1/21/08 – Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday – CLOSED

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the Farm Service Agency county office staff, and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are necessary.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

On behalf of the FSA office staff and the County Committee, we would like to wish you and your family Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!!

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