

FSA

Words of Windham

March 2009

A Newsletter For People Who Care About Agriculture



Appointments for New Forms

With the new farm bill came many changes in the forms needed to sign producers up for programs and issue payments. We are asking all producers to call the office and make an appointment to update and fill out the new forms. If we have not heard from you by March 9th then we will be calling you to set up a date and time to meet. No payments can be made until all forms are updated.

1099-G

During the last week of January, producers who have received payments from FSA should have also received a CCC-1099-G from the Kansas City Office. This is a report to the Internal Revenue Service about FSA payments made to you during the previous calendar year. The CCC-1099-G is a service to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participants responsibility to report income to the IRS. If you received a CCC-1099-G we recommend that you check the amounts shown with those in your records to see that the amounts are correct. If you have any questions please contact the office.

Advocate Position

The Eastern CT Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) is accepting applications for an "Advocate" position. Funding for this position is being provided to the town of Thompson from a CT Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Viability Grant.

The role of the Advocate will be to promote and foster an understanding of agricultural issues and methods to strengthen the "farm friendliness" of community regulations. In addition the Advocate will explore the concept of developing agricultural commissions in five to seven participating communities.

Applications are due by February 27th. Please contact Liz Rogers 860-774-8397 X 105

NAP Production Reporting

Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year you participated in NAP, you can provide production & 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. It is recommended that producers submit 2008 production records as soon as possible after harvest. *All production records must be submitted by the subsequent crop years final acreage reporting date.*

Women's Ag Conference

Women's Agricultural Business Planning Summit
Saturday, March 14, 2009
8:30 AM-3:30 PM
Maneeley's Banquet
65 Rye St, South Windsor, CT

Discussions will be broken down into four levels of experience; Dreamers, Starting Up, Moving Up & Transitioning. Each group will have discussion and information given on finding grants, credit options, & business planning. Groups will also have the chance to break and network with each other.

Registration is \$35.00 per person and discounts are given for students and same farm and family members. Registration includes breakfast, lunch and all materials. Any registration after March 5th is \$50.00.

For more information or to get a complete agenda; Dawn Pindell 860-774-8397 X 109; dawn.pindell@ct.usda.gov or Ross Eddy 860-688-7725; ross.eddy@ct.usda.gov

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Payment Limitation

For commodity & disaster programs under the new farm bill, the AGI limitation was reduced from \$2.5 million from all sources to a 3 year average non-farm AGI of \$500,000. Persons & entities will not be eligible for these programs if they exceed the limit. Also the individual or entity must have a 3 year average under or equal to \$750,000 per year to qualify for the Direct & Counter Cyclical program. For conservation programs the AGI limitation is \$1 million or less. However an individual or entity who has non-farm AGI in excess of \$1 million remains eligible for conservation programs if 66.66% or more of the AGI is derived from farming, ranching, & forestry operations. In addition the AGI limitation for conservation programs may be waived on a case-by-case basis if it is determined that environmentally sensitive land of special significance would be saved. For more information contact the office.

Help Wanted

Fairvue Farm: Looking for a dairy manager to oversee our 650 milking herd. Experience in labor management & team work. Spanish a plus. 860-928-9483 or millerlonghill@snet.net

Baldwin Brook Farm: Milker needed for a small family owned dairy farm. Approx. 25-30 hours a week. 860-546-2737 ask for Mavis

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P.O. Box 399, Brooklyn, CT 06234
PH: 860-774-8397 x 1,
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

OFFICE STAFF:

Dawn S. Pindell, County Executive Director x 109
Diane C. Holowaty, Program Technician x 111
Sarah M. Phaiah, Program Technician x110
Office Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Ron Clark, Farm Loan Manager
860-887-9941 x 105

COUNTY COMMITTEE:

Harold Bishop, Chairman
Betsy Molodich,
Vice-Chairman
Charles Tyler,
Regular Member



March



- 3-5 Women' Ag Summit Registration Due
- 3-9 Appointments made to complete all new forms
- 3-14 Women's Agricultural Business Planning Summit, South Windsor CT (article front page)
- 3-16 University of CT Dairy Conference, Bishop Center University of CT, Storrs CT
- 3-18 Ag Day at the Capital, Hartford CT
- 3-25 Ag Business Forum on Grants 9AM-2PM UConn Cooperative Extension Center, Haddam, CT

For Sale

Herd of 115 milking cows. Doug 860-456-4262