

FSA Louisiana State Office
For Immediate Release

Contact: Willie F. Cooper, SED
ph# 318-473-7721

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

Louisiana FSA Public Website address:
www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/

DCP DEADLINE APPROACHES

The sign-up period for 2013 DCP ends September 3, 2013. The 2013 DCP program provisions are unchanged from 2012. Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office before the September 3, 2013 deadline for an appointment to sign up or for more information about DCP. [Click here to Read more about DCP and ACRE.](#)

FARM RECONSTITUTIONS

Producers, who have bought, sold or are renting different land, need to report changes to their local FSA office as soon as possible so farm records can be updated. For farm ownership changes, producers will need to provide a copy of the document that transferred ownership. Some changes will require a farm reconstitution, the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. To be effective for the current year, a reconstitution must be requested by August 1 for farms enrolled in specific programs.

LOANS AVAILABLE FOR YOUTH, SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED AND BEGINNING FARMERS

FSA loans are available for young people from 10 to 20 years of age to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H Clubs, FFA, or other similar organizations. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization's supervisor, produce sufficient

income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. FSA loans are also available for socially disadvantaged (SDA) individuals who want to purchase or operate a family-size farm. This program provides direct and guaranteed assistance in the form of farm operating and farm ownership loans for members of such groups as women, African Americans, American Indians, Hispanics, Asian and Pacific Islanders and Alaskan natives. Limited resource loans are available to an applicant who is a farmer or rancher and is an operator of a small family farm. This includes a new operator with a low income who demonstrates a need to maximize farm or ranch income. A limited resource applicant must meet the eligibility requirements for a farm ownership or operating loan but, due to low income, cannot pay the regular interest rate on such loans. Interested persons should contact this office as soon as possible in order to initiate the loan making process.

OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Farm Service Agency administers farm commodity and conservation programs and makes loans to farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain conventional credit. The FSA Outreach Programs Staff coordinates and implements Agency-wide outreach activities to people, especially the underserved, who can benefit from the Agency's programs and services. The staff's goal is to increase the participation of underserved customers in its programs, with special emphasis on those who are socially disadvantaged, limited resource farmers and members of racial minority groups. More information about FSA's programs and outreach projects is available at this office.

FOREIGN LANDOWNER NOTIFICATION

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign individuals who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government offices, real estate agents, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

Dates to Remember

Farm Recon Request Deadline....08/01/2013

DCP Signup Ends.....09/03/2013

Continues.....Continuous Conservation Reserve Program



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