

April/May 2009

Issue #1

GENESEE/SHIAWASSEE INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

USDA Announces Second Opportunity to “Buy-In” for 2008 Insurable and Non-Insurable Crops.....

May 18, 2009 is the final date for producer’s who did not purchase crop insurance and/or Non Insurable Program (NAP) insurance for their 2008 crops to qualify for the newly enacted “SURE” program.

Farm Bill provisions no longer allow Ad Hoc disaster program payments for production and/or quality losses of crops beginning with the 2008 crop year. The newly enacted “SURE” program qualifies producer’s who suffer losses on their crops due to natural disasters to qualify for payments, providing all crops of economic significance were insured either through private crop insurance companies qualified to sell USDA, Risk Management policies or insure the non-insurable crops such as; forage, vegetables, fruits through Farm Service Agencies, Non Insurable Program.

The “Buy-In” fee of \$100.00 per crop, not to exceed \$300.00 per county or \$900.00 per multi-county applicant allows producer’s the opportunity to qualify for the 2008 SURE provisions.

Both Genesee and Shiawassee were declared “Secretarial” disaster designations due to three different qualifying disasters throughout the 2008 crop year. With this declaration, producer’s who suffered losses on production and/or quality may qualify for additional disaster benefits.

Contact Farm Service Agency for additional details.

FARM CROP CERTIFICATION DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING

Even though warmer weather hasn’t arrived yet, the crop certification deadline of June 30th for fall planted small grains and July 15th for spring planted crops will be here before we know it. Please do not delay in certifying your crop acreages timely. Contact the FSA Office as soon as all crops are planted to schedule an appointment. **Planting dates are required for each crop certified.**

DIRECT AND COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM ENROLLMENT still underway....

Enrollment into the 2009 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program is well underway and the county office encourages everyone to schedule appointments for enrollment as soon as possible. The deadline to enroll has been extended to August 14th, however heavy workload in the county offices after the original June 1st deadline will increase due to the requirement of certification. Producers are required to complete all new payment eligibility paperwork at the time of enrollment. This requirement has lengthened the time the producer's are in the office to complete the necessary tasks.

ACRE Program enrollment begins April 27th, with an August 14th deadline.

FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND/OR QUESTIONS REGARDING ANY PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY FARM SERVICE AGENCY, PLEASE CALL THE RESPECTIVE COUNTY OFFICES OF; Genesee (810) 230-8766, Ext. 2 or Shiawassee at (989) 723-8263, Ext 2.

Thank you for your patience and "Be Safe" during the upcoming planting season.

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