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Visit our Website at:
www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

Greene & Webster County

July 2011

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

It's county committee election time. Since this only happens once a year, here is an election refresher. County Committees (COC) are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They direct the delivery of FSA farm programs at the county level and work within national guidelines to help programs fit the needs of their communities.

For election purposes, counties are divided into *local administrative areas*, or LAAs. Each LAA has one producer serve a three-year term on the Farm Service Agency county committee. Webster & Greene counties are divided into three LAAs in each county.

Each year, an election is held in a LAA to replace the committee member whose three-year term is expiring, one seat is up for election annually. The three steps in the election process are the call for nominations, the election and installing the new committee member.

Election Timetable

- Aug. 1 Deadline to submit nomination forms.
- Nov. 4 Ballots mailed to eligible voters.
- Dec. 5 Last day to return ballot to the FSA office.

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.

A nomination form, FSA-669A, is included in this newsletter. Additional forms and details may be picked up at your local USDA Service Center.

Eligible voters can nominate as many candidates as they wish.

To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected, and returned to the FSA county office by the close of business on Aug. 1, or post-marked by midnight Aug. 1, 2011.



2011 Nomination Areas

Greene County: Entire Western section of the County (Willard, Cave Springs, Bois D'arc, Walnut Grove areas).

Webster County: West Central, Central and East Central section of County (Marshfield, East Ozark, West Ozark, High Prairie, Northview townships).

Aerial Photography From Your Computer:

<http://ims.missouri.edu/moims2008/>



FSA EALERTS

Missouri County FSA offices will **no longer mail postcard reminders** for upcoming program sign ups and deadline, due to budget restraints. You will still receive your FSA newsletter for program information. FSA program reminders will be sent via e-mail or text. You can sign up for email or text at your County Office or by simply calling.

Always refer to your county office newsletter for program information and bookmark www.fsa.usda.gov/mo to check back frequently for program deadlines and information.

NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) is a federally-funded program that helps producers reduce their risk when growing food and fiber crops, specialty crops and crops for livestock feed.

- **Production records for all crops insured in 2010 are due July 31.**
- **Weight tickets are required for Hay policies.**
- **NAP Losses must be reported within 15 days of a disaster event or the date the loss becomes apparent.**

LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)

LIP provides assistance to producers for livestock deaths that result from natural disaster. LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including loss due to lightning, floods, blizzards, diseases, wildfires, extreme heat or extreme cold.



The LIP program ends Oct. 1, 2011. A notice of loss must be filed with FSA within 30 days of when the loss of livestock is apparent. Producers should file a LIP application as soon as possible to avoid a delay in processing and receipt of disaster assistance.

ACREAGE REPORTING

Filing an accurate acreage report at your local FSA office can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. DCP, CRP and NAP producers are required to file a FSA-578 certification by the final reporting date of July 31 each year. It is good practice for all farmers to file an acreage report of their land use each year. The acreage report is the core of our programs and can be helpful if emergency disaster programs were to become available, for example droughts, flooding, tornado, or livestock feed.

PROCESS TO RESOLVE DISCRIMINATION CLAIMS OF HISPANIC AND WOMEN FARMERS ANNOUNCED

As part of continued efforts to close the chapter on allegations that discrimination occurred at USDA in past decades, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and Assistant Attorney General Tony West announced the establishment of a process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who assert that they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans.

The claims process offers a streamlined alternative to litigation and provides at least \$1.33 billion in compensation, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers. This announcement follows the Obama Administration's settlement of longstanding litigation brought by African American farmers and Native American farmers.

In conjunction with this announcement, USDA is launching an outreach effort to potential claimants that will include a call center for farmers and ranchers, a website, public service announcements, and in-person meetings around the country. Individuals interested in participating in the claims process may register to receive a claims package, or may obtain more information, by visiting www.farmerclaims.gov. Beginning February 25, 2011, individuals can register to receive a claims package by calling the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429. USDA cannot provide legal advice to potential claimants. Persons seeking legal advice may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider.

FSA-669A
(03-31-11)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)		TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION: <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i>		5. COUNTY	
		6. LAA	7. STATE
<input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.		8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION: <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		<i>(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).</i>	

9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY	RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)	GENDER
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
 - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
 - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
 - C. Willing to serve if elected.
- ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
- ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. *(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)*
- ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2011.

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-5. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE**

PREVENTED & FAILED ACREAGE

If you were unable to plant all the acres you intended or your acreage failed, action is necessary. Report those acres as prevented or failed when you file your acreage report. Prevented requires intent to plant such as fertilize and seed tickets. Failed acres must be filed before disposition of the crop. If you have crop insurance, talk to your agent immediately to find out if these acres are covered under your policy.

Got Hay? Need Hay?



Producers are encouraged to use Hay net to buy or sell their hay. This service allows producers with hay and those needing hay to post ads to make connections. Hay net is a popular site for farmers and ranchers who have an emergency need. Individual ads can be posted **free** of charge by producers who complete a simple online registration form the first time they use the site. Go to:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet>

Final Dates Approaching

Action Required	
July 31	2010 NAP production due
Aug 1	Report 2010 NAP production for hay, soybeans, wheat, seed, pumpkins, all NAP
Aug 1	Report 2011 crops including hay, pasture, CRP, NAP, corn, soybeans
Aug 1	DCP Contract enrollment

Selected Interest Rates for July 2011

Farm Operating Loans — Direct	2.375%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct	4.75%
Farm Ownership Loans — Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7-year term	2.375%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 10-year term	3.00%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 12-year term	3.250%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.250%

Visit our website at: www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).