

Serving   
Monmouth,  
Mercer &  
Middlesex Counties

4000 Kozloski Road  
P.O. Box 5033  
Freehold, NJ 07728

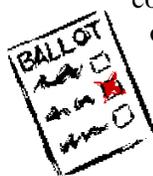
Phone:  
(732) 462-0075  
Fax:  
(732) 462-5274

Office Hours:  
8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
or visit us at:  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

County Committee  
Richard Bullock  
Thomas Orgo II  
Barry Taylor  
Kathy Stattel

*"dedicated to achieving  
an economically and  
environmentally sound  
future for American  
Agriculture"*

**County Committee Elections** – The nomination period for the County Committee election ended on August 2nd. This year's election covers Local Administrative Area (LAA) #2, and encompasses all of Middlesex County and extends across the Middlesex/Monmouth boundary line into central Monmouth including all land north of Sweetmans Lane and Hwy 33, extending to the Garden State Parkway. The eligible nominees for which approved FSA-669A's were received are Patrick DePalma (vegetables; herbs; nursery) of Hazlet, and Thomas Orgo (grain; hay; pumpkins) of Colts Neck. The next step in the process is the mailing of the ballots, which will happen by November 5th. Voters will have until December 6, 2010 to return their ballots to the county office. Elected committee members and alternates will then take office on Jan. 1, 2011. To be eligible to vote a person must be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either an owner, operator, tenant, or sharecropper. A person may also vote if they supervise and conduct the farming operations on an entire farm or if they are eligible to participate in any FSA program that is provided for by law. No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.



**SURE Signup Deadline** - Producers have until Thursday, Sept. 30, 2010, to submit an application for payment under the 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program. Applications not filed by COB September 30, 2010, regardless of the reason why, will not receive a payment because of lack of funding. SURE provides financial assistance for crop production and or quality losses due to a natural disaster.

**CRP General Signup** - A general sign-up is open for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and will continue through August 27, 2010. During the sign-up period, farmers and ranchers may offer eligible land for CRP's competitive general sign-up. CRP provides conservation practices that preserve the soil, clean water, and restore wildlife habitat. Producers enrolling in CRP can plant long-term, resource-conserving covers in exchange for

annual rental payments, cost-share, and technical assistance. Participants voluntarily remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production by entering into long-term contracts for 10 to 15 years.



**Landowners** – A reminder to those landowners transferring property into trusts. USDA regulations require FSA to record revisions when land changes hands, even if it's from an individual to his or her trust. FSA requires proof of ownership to update farm records. This ensures that FSA program contracts list the correct landowner. If you're to the point of recording deeds in your trust's name, contact FSA immediately. Program payments may be delayed if information is not kept current.

**Fraud Prevention** – Any producer found to have committed crop insurance fraud will be ineligible for a number of programs administered by FSA and CCC. A producer found to have committed fraud will receive a notice and will have an opportunity for a hearing on the record. The person may be disqualified from receiving any benefits under a number of programs for a period of up to 5 years. Other sanctions may also apply.

[Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers of Catfish, Shrimp and Asparagus](#) - Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers (TAAF) of catfish, shrimp and asparagus has recently been announced. Producers have until September 23, 2010, to apply for the program that will provide technical training and cash benefits to eligible producers whose crops have been adversely impacted by foreign competition. Catfish and asparagus have been certified nationally and shrimp has been approved for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Texas. The FSA County Offices will accept application packets through September 23, 2010, on all three commodities. FSA Form 229-1 and other needed documentation must be submitted by the closing date. Late applications will not be approved.



[NAP insurance sales closing dates for 2011 crop year :](#)

September 1, 2010 – Christmas Trees, Aquaculture, Flowers, Turf Grass, Nursery.

September 30, 2010 – Barley, Clover, Mixed Forage, Rye, Wheat.

November 20, 2010 – Apples, Apricots, Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries, Cranberries, grapes, honey, Onions, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Scallions, Shallots, Walnuts.

December 31, 2010 – Asparagus, Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Greens, Herbs, Horseradish, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce, Parsnip, Peas, Potatoes, Radishes, Rhubarb, Turnips.

March 15, 2011- Beans, Brussel Sprouts, Cantaloupe, Celery, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Honeydew, Oats, Okra, Peppers, Pumpkins, Sorghum, Squash, Sunflower, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatillos, Tomatoes, Watermelons, Yams.

[Help Available to Stressed Farmers](#) - Recently, the economy, inclement weather, and other factors have hurt some farming operations around the country. These events can push a producer to the emotional breaking point. Watching your livelihood being threatened is difficult for farmers and ranchers, especially for those whose income is solely dependent on agriculture. The National Suicide Prevention Hotline is available to help. If you know a farmer or rancher who is under stress and is reluctant to ask for help, or if you just need to talk to someone, call 1-800-273-TALK (8255). Your call will be routed to the crisis center nearest you, where trained staffers are available 24/7. This nationwide service is free and confidential. Help is just a phone call away. For more information, go to <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>. This service is not affiliated with the United States Department of Agriculture.

The U.S. Dept of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

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).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer