



April 12, 2011

Farm Service Agency

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

County Committee
Richard Bullock
Thomas Orgo II
Barry Taylor
Kathy Stattel, Advisor

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



DCP and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Signup - Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) is ongoing and DCP contract signatures for enrollment are due by the signup deadline of June 1, 2011. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. Producers who are eligible for the DCP Program will also be eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program though June 1, 2011. The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on State revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year. Sign-up can be accomplished by making an appointment at your USDA Service Center.

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) - Signup for the 2009 SURE remain open through July 29, 2011. SURE provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. A farm enrolled in SURE is eligible when either a portion of the farm is located in a county covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration, which includes Monmouth, Mercer, and Middlesex Counties for 2009, or a contiguous county, or the actual production is less than 50% of the normal production.

Acreage Reporting - Timely and accurate annual reporting of acres for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for a variety of Farm Service Agency programs. All cropland on the farm must be reported to receive benefits from the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, Marketing Assistance Loans and Load Deficiency Payments. Conservation Reserve Program acreage must be reported to receive annual rental payments. Crop acreage for Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) must also be reported. Producers need to file their acreage reports by May 31, 2011 for Fall-planted crops and July 15, 2011 for



Spring-planted crops. Any prevented-planting acreage needs be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date. Reports of failed acreage must be filed before disposition of the crop, and producers must be able to establish to the satisfaction of the County Committee that the crop failed and was prevented from being replanted through the normal planting period because of natural disaster conditions.

Direct and Guaranteed Loans - The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need for your farm, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available. FSA employees will help you complete the necessary application and other forms, and help you understand what information is required, where to find it or who to contact to get it.

April 2011 Interest Rates:

Farm Operating – Direct	2.75 %
Farm Ownership & Conservation	5.00 %
Limited Resource – Farm Operating	5.00 %
Limited Resource – Farm Ownership	5.00 %
Farm Ownership – Direct and	
Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50 %
Emergency Loans	3.75 %

County Committee Elections - Each year, an election is held in a LAA to replace the committee member whose three year term is expiring. In offices with three LAAs, one seat is up for election annually. In combined counties in some years, two seats may be up for election. In 2011 the LAA #3 (Mercer County and a small part of western Monmouth County) seat is up for election. 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 available 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 the nomination period, August 1, 2011.



Hispanic and Women Farmers - A process to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who believe they were discriminated against when seeking USDA farm loans is being established. If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. For additional information on this and other settlement issues contact:

Hispanic and Women Farmer Claims Process, please visit:
www.farmerclaims.gov or call 1-888-508-4429;

Pigford – The Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation, please visit:
www.blackfarmercase.com or call 1-866-950-5547;

Keepseagle - The Native American Farmers Class Action Settlement please visit:
www.IndianFarmClass.com or call 1-888-233-5506.

Dates to Remember!

May 4, 2011 - Next scheduled meeting of the County Committee (7:30pm)

May 31, 2011 - Small Grains Reporting deadline

June 1, 2011 – DCP and ACRE signup period ends for 2011.

July 29, 2011 - SURE program signup closes for 2009 losses.

August 1, 2011 – Final date for County Office to receive COC Election nominations.



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).