



October 5, 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"*

[2011 DCP Final Payments](#) - DCP payments for 2011 participants will be issued sometime in October 2011. These payments will be deposited directly into participating producers' personal bank accounts. If there are any unearned payments, Commodity Credit Corporation will automatically subtract those amounts from the October Direct and Counter-cyclical Program payments you are about to receive.

[2012 DCP Signup](#) - Enrollment for the 2012 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) will begin on January 23, 2012 and will continue through June 1, 2012. Producers can make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or they can visit the FSA office to complete their 2012 DCP contract. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices.

[County Committee Elections](#) - Be watching your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot for LAA #3 (Mercer County and part of western Monmouth County) starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters starting on November 4, 2011. If, for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office. Completed and signed ballots will be due back in the county office by the close of business on December 5, 2011.

[Spousal Signatures](#) - Husbands and wives may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and Commodity Credit Corporation programs in which either has an interest. This option is automatically available unless a written request for exclusion is made to the county office staff by either spouse. There are exceptions to the rule, where spouses may not sign on behalf of each other for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations or other similar entities. Individual signatures are also required on certain Farm Loan Program and Farm Storage Facility Loan documents. For more clarification on spousal signature authority, feel free to contact your local FSA office.

[Remaining NAP insurance sales closing dates for 2012 crop year](#) - November 20, 2011 – Apples, Apricots, Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Grapes, Honey, Onions, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Scallions, Shallots, Walnuts. December 31, 2011 – Asparagus, Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Greens, Herbs, Horseradish, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce, Parsnip, Peas, Potatoes, Radishes, Rhubarb, Turnips. March 15, 2012- Beans, Brussel Sprouts, Cantaloupe, Celery, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Honeydew, Oats, Okra, Peppers, Pumpkins, Sorghum, Squash, Sunflower, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatillos, Tomatoes, Watermelons, Yams.

[Farm Loan Program Limits](#) - 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. Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan. Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000 starting on October 1, 2011. This makes the maximum combination of direct and guaranteed loan indebtedness \$1,514,000.

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans has increased from 1 percent to 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan, for loans obligated after October 1, 2011.

Monmouth-Mercer-Middlesex FSA
4000 Kozloski Road
P.O. Box 5033
Freehold, NJ 07728-5033



Marketing Assistance Loans - Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) are available for producers who share in the risk of producing the crop. To be eligible, a producer must maintain continual beneficial interest in the crop from harvest through the earlier of the date the loan is repaid or CCC takes title to the commodity. Once beneficial interest in a commodity is lost, the commodity is ineligible for loan — even if the producer regains beneficial interest. Commodity loan eligibility also requires compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements; beneficial interest requirements, acreage reporting and ensuring that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan. Producers do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical and/or ACRE Programs to be eligible for commodity loans.

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 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 by contacting: **Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers Claims Adjudication Process**, please visit: www.farmerclaims.gov or call 1-888-508-4429

African American Farmers Settlement Agreement (Pigford II), please visit: www.blackfarmercase.com or call 1-866-950-5547 or 1-866-472-7826

Native Americans Farmers Settlement Agreement (Keepseagle v Vilsack), please visit: www.IndianFarmClass.com or call 1-888-233-5506. All media calls can be forwarded to the USDA, Office of Communication at 1-202-720-4623.

E-Newsletter - In an effort to save money Farm Service Agency will be moving to an E-Newsletter in the future. If you would like to receive our Newsletter via email, please provide our office with your email address. Newsletters are also available on the State FSA Website.

December 8, 2011 - Next scheduled meeting of the County Committee (9:00 am). Please call the office if you would like to attend.

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, genetic information, political beliefs, 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, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer