



November 15, 2011

Farm Service Agency

Serving Monmouth,
Mercer &
Middlesex Counties

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County Committee

Richard Bullock
Thomas Orgo II
Barry Taylor
Kathy Stattel, Advisor

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

[County Committee Elections](#) - Be watching your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot for Local Administrative Area (LAA) #3, which is Mercer County and a small part of western Monmouth County. The eligible nominees for which approved FSA-669A's were received are [Frank Jany](#) of Hamilton, [Barry Taylor](#) of Titusville, and [Christopher Pazdan](#) of Pennington, NJ. Voters will have until December 5, 2011 to return their ballots to the county office. Elected committee members and alternates will then take office on Jan. 1, 2012. 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. An eligible voter could also be a partner in a general partnership or a member of a joint venture that has an interest in a farm. A person may also vote if, regardless of age, 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. If you reside in this LAA and, for some reason, you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office.



[Emergency Conservation Program \(ECP\)](#) - Signup began for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) on November 2, 2011 and will continue for 60 days, ending December 31, 2011. ECP offers up to 75% cost-share to rehabilitate crop fields for physical damage due to natural disaster. ECP is currently available in Monmouth, Mercer, and Middlesex Counties for producers that have suffered physical damage due to the heavy rains and strong winds that started at the beginning of August and culminated with Hurricane Irene hitting New Jersey on August 28th. While funding for ECP is not yet available we encourage all producers that suffered physical damage to report it to the county office in case funding becomes available.



[Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program \(SURE\)](#) - The sign-up for 2010 losses begins Nov. 14, 2011 and will end June 1, 2012. The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that incurred in the crop year 2010. SURE is available to eligible producers on farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including Monmouth, Mercer, and Middlesex Counties, that have incurred crop production or quality losses, and includes all crops grown by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops. Also, any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production, because of disaster-related conditions, is 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.

[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, Brussels Sprouts, Cantaloupe, Celery, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Honeydew, Oats, Okra, Peppers, Pumpkins, Sorghum, Squash, Sunflower, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatillos, Tomatoes, Watermelons, Yams.

[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.

Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL's) - Marketing assistance loans provide producers interim financing at harvest time to meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are typically at harvest-time lows. MAL's are available for covered commodities including barley, corn, soybeans, oats, wheat, and honey. These loans are nine-month low-interest loans that can be paid any time before maturity. They are non-recourse because the commodity is pledged as loan collateral and producers have the option of delivering the pledged collateral to the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) in satisfaction of the repayment of the outstanding loan for the loan at maturity. The producer must retain beneficial interest in the commodity until sale. Please call the office for current interest rates and additional details.

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.

Dates to Remember !

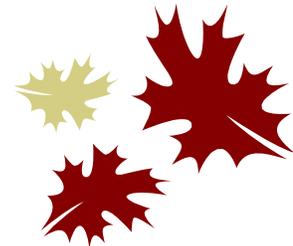
November 24, 2011 – Office is closed for Thanksgiving holiday.

December 8, 2011 - Next scheduled meeting of the County Committee (9:00 am), including the ballot count.

December 25, 2011 – Office is closed for Christmas holiday.

December 31, 2011 – End of Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) signup period.

January 23, 2012 – Signup begins for 2012 DCP and ACRE programs.



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